

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Seminar 1 : History of English (2AN1141)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier principal M A - sciences du langage et de la communication	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5
Pilier secondaire M A - sciences du langage et de la communication	Séminaire: 2 ph	Voir ci-dessous	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante

Samuel Bourgeois

Contenu

This class surveys the journey of the English language from its Germanic roots of the Angles, Saxons, Jutes, and Frisians to the world language that it is today. In this seminar, we will discuss the major periods of the English language: the Old English Period, the Middle English Period, the Early Modern English Period, the Late Modern English Period, and Contemporary English. The focus of this class will also broaden outside of the British Isles and look at how colonialism and the language contact that came with it have also influenced the development of the English language. Beyond the discussion of these broad periods, this course will also explore the effects of the standardization of English due to a variety of factors. Some of these factors that will be discussed in this seminar include the invention of the printing press, the developments towards a more literate society due to mass education, and the explosion of popular media (press, radio, television) ending with the advent of the digital age from the end of the 20th century.

Forme de l'évaluation

Regular in-class participation is required. This seminar will be evaluated based on two assignments. 30% of the final grade is based on an in-class presentation that will be given on a subject that is related to one of the class sessions. Students will be expected to pick their presentation date by the second session of this seminar. Further details will be given on the first day of class. The final 70% comes from an individual term paper (3000 words for BA students, 4500 for MA students) on a subject that is relevant to the themes touched upon in class. A minimum of 4.0 is required to pass this course.

If a final grade of a 4.0 is not reached, it will lead to a rattrapage of an additional paper on a new subject. The subject of the rattrapage paper must be approved by the instructor.

Documentation

The primary Textbook for this course is Algeo, John. 2010. The Origins and Development of the English Language, 6th Edn. Boston: Wadsworth, Cengage Learning.

All other materials will be provided on Moodle.

Pré-requis

Students must have taken an introductory linguistics class prior to taking this course. As this course is given in English, a minimum of a B2 level is required.

Forme de l'enseignement

This seminar will require active student participation during discussions and student presentations.

Objectifs d'apprentissage

Au terme de la formation l'étudiant-e doit être capable de :

- Carry out independent research
- Synthesise research findings

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Seminar 1 : History of English (2AN1141)

- Describe and discuss different linguistic theories of language change
- Interpret empirical data
- Differentiate and evaluate different theoretical frameworks of historical (English) linguistics
- Extract the most important information from published research articles

Compétences transférables

- Communicate in a second language
- Apply knowledge to new situations
- Generate new ideas
- Design and manage independent projects