

Subject card

Subject name and code	Introduction to Historical Linguistics for Teachers, PG_00210553						
Field of study	English Studies						
Date of commencement of studies	October 2026		Academic year of realisation of subject		2027/2028		
Education level	Bachelor's studies		Subject group		Obligatory subject group in the field of study Optional subject group Subject group related to scientific research in the field of study		
Mode of study	full-time studies		Mode of delivery		at the university		
Year of study	2		Language of instruction		English		
Semester of study	4		ECTS credits		2.0		
Learning profile	academic		Assessment form		exam		
Conducting unit	Division of Corpus Linguistics and Glottodidactics -> Institute of English and American Studies -> Faculty of Languages -> Rector						
Name and surname of lecturer (lecturers)	Subject supervisor		dr hab. Mikołaj Rychło, prof. UG				
	Teachers						
Lesson types	Lesson type	Lecture	Tutorial	Laboratory	Project	Seminar	SUM
	Number of study hours	30.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	30
	E-learning hours included: 0.0						
Learning activity and number of study hours	Learning activity	Participation in didactic classes included in study plan		Participation in consultation hours		Self-study	SUM
	Number of study hours	30		2.0		18.0	50
Subject objectives	The aim of the lectures is to familiarize students with the origin and development of English from Proto-Indo-European to modern times. Each of the main periods of language development will be illustrated with original texts so that after the course the student should understand how English has evolved over the centuries.						

Learning outcomes	Course outcome	Subject outcome	Method of verification
	[FAL3_W05] He / she has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus in the field of linguistics, including in particular those applicable in the study of the English language.	The student has advanced knowledge of the basic conceptual and terminological apparatus in the field of historical linguistics, in particular those applicable to research on the English language.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[FAL3_U02] Properly uses the acquired subject knowledge to identify, analyze, interpret and explain facts, phenomena and processes in the field of English, linguistics and English-language literature, using concepts and methods in the field of linguistics and literature	The student is able to properly use the acquired subject knowledge to identify, analyze, interpret and explain facts, phenomena and processes in the field of English and historical linguistics, using linguistic concepts and methods.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAL3_U03] Applies tools of linguistic and literary analysis, formulates and solve complex analytical and interpretative problems concerning the English language, linguistics and English-language literatures, using linguistic and literary methodological and theoretical approaches.	The student is able to use tools of linguistic analysis, formulate and solve complex analytical and interpretative problems regarding and historical linguistics, using linguistic methodological and theoretical approaches.	[SU1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SU4] test/exam - oral or written
	[FAL3_W07] Has advanced detailed knowledge of selected topics in the field of linguistics, including, in particular, research into the English language.	The student has advanced detailed knowledge of selected issues in the field of historical linguistics, in particular research on the English language.	[SW4] test/exam - oral or written [SW1] oral statement/ conversation/discussion
	[FAL3_K01] Is prepared to critically evaluate the extent of their knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of the English language, linguistics and English-language literature.	The student is ready to critically assess the scope of his knowledge and skills, in particular in the field of historical linguistics.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
	[FAL3_K02] Is prepared to recognise the importance of knowledge and skills in English-language linguistics and literature, auxiliary and related academic disciplines, and English in solving cognitive and practical problems, and is prepared to seek expert advice in the event of difficulties in solving these problems.	The student is ready to recognize the importance of knowledge and skills in the field of English-language historical linguistics, in solving cognitive and practical problems, and is ready to seek the opinion of experts in case of difficulties in solving these problems independently.	[SK1] oral statement/conversation/ discussion [SK3] text preparation/written work
Subject contents	The aim of the lectures is to familiarize students with the origin and development of English from Proto-Indo-European to modern times. Each of the main periods of language development will be illustrated with original texts so that after the course the student should understand how English has evolved over the centuries. The topics include: basic information about the Indo-European language family, with particular emphasis on the development of the Germanic group. Indo-European and Germanic features of English. Origin and development of the English consonant and vowel system in the basic periods of language development. Characteristic features of individual periods of language development. Main phonological changes between periods (among others, Grimm's and Verner's laws, I-umlaut, palatalizations, early Middle English shortening and vowel lengthening, the Great Vowel Shift, etc.). Development tendencies of Old English inflection and syntax. Historical causes of contemporary irregularities. The main sources of foreign vocabulary in English. Etymologies of selected words from the discussed texts.		
Prerequisites and co-requisites	Passing the courses "introduction to linguistics" and "descriptive grammar: phonetics, phonology and morphology", unless (in justified cases) the coordinator decides otherwise. Knowledge of English at B2 level.		
Assessment methods and criteria	Subject passing criteria	Passing threshold	Percentage of the final grade
	test/egzamin - ustny/pisemny, prezentacja	51.0%	100.0%

Recommended reading	Basic literature	- Algeo, John and Thomas Pyles. 2010. The Origins and Development of the English Language. New York: Harcourt, Bruce & World. - Hogg, Richard and David Denison (eds). 2008. A History of the English Language. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. - Mitchell, Bruce and Fred C. Robinson. 2007. A Guide to Old English. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing. - Reszkiewicz, Alfred. 1998. Synchronic Essentials of Old English. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN. - Rychło, Mikołaj. 2014. Ślady prawa Grimma w angielszczyźnie w zestawieniu z polskimi wyrazami pokrewnymi: pie. *p > pgerm. *f. Język Polski XCIV (3), s. 200-211, 2014. - Rychło, Mikołaj. 2015. The philological element in the education of a language teacher: Understanding the similarity between English and Polish. [W:] Janczukowicz, Karolina, Mikołaj Rychło: General Education and Language Teaching Methodology: The Gdańsk School of ELT. Peter Lang.
	Supplementary literature	- Baugh, Albert C. & Thomas Cable. 2002. A History of the English Language. London: Routledge. - Brinton, Laurel J. and Leslie K. Arnovick. 2006. The English Language: a Linguistic History. Ontario: Oxford University Press. - Fennell, Barbara A. 2001. A History of English. A Sociolinguistic Approach. Malden, Oxford: Blackwell Publishing. - Hoad, T.F. (ed.). 1993. The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology. Oxford: Oxford University Press. - Lass, Roger. 1994. Old English: A historical linguistic companion. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. - Mugglestone, Lynda (ed.). 2008. The Oxford History of English. Oxford: Oxford University Press. - Reszkiewicz, Alfred. 1996. A Diachronic Grammar of Old English. Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Naukowe PWN. - Welna, Jerzy. 2003. A brief Outline of the History of English. Warszawa: Wydawnictwa Uniwersytetu Warszawskiego.
	eResources addresses	
Example issues/ example questions/ tasks being completed		
Work placement	Not applicable	

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