COURSE DETAIL

HISTORY OF ENGLISH
Country Japan
Host Institution Waseda University
Program(s) Waseda University
UCEAP Course Level Upper Division
UCEAP Subject Area(s) Linguistics English
UCEAP Course Number 121
UCEAP Course Suffix
UCEAP Official Title HISTORY OF ENGLISH
UCEAP Transcript Title HISTORY OF ENGLISH
UCEAP Quarter Units 3.00
UCEAP Semester Units 2.00

Course Description

This is an intermediate English Historical Linguistics course which should be taken after studying the basics of linguistics offered in *CO201 Introduction to Language Studies and/or CO202 Introduction to English Linguistics* at this school or anything equivalent to these anywhere.

Building on the knowledge from these introductory courses, this course investigates the internal linguistic development of the English language from a synthetic to an analytic language, i.e. loss of inflections, depending on a more fixed word order, and emerging periphrases and function words such as auxiliaries and prepositions in constructing sentences. It also delves into the external influences on the English language throughout its history, namely, lexical borrowings from Greek, Latin (Classical and Medieval), Old Norse, and (Norman-)French words.

The course first studies selected features of pronunciation, spelling, and grammar of English from its earliest stage of development. It also considers the cultural, social, and political aspects of the external history of English, especially in terms of vocabulary.

By the end of the course one will have understood why the English language has become the lingua franca of the world but, for many speakers of it, whether native or non-native, ‘”English is among the easiest languages to speak badly, but the most difficult to use well’ (C. L. Wrenn, The English Language, 1977, p.9).

Language(s) of Instruction
English

Host Institution Course Number
LNGH204L

Host Institution Course Title
HISTORY OF ENGLISH

Host Institution Course Details
https://www.wsl.waseda.jp/syllabus/JAA104.php?&pKey=210CO3120051202 3210CO312002...

Host Institution Campus
Waseda University

Host Institution Faculty

Host Institution Degree

Host Institution Department
SILS -Linguistics

Course Last Reviewed
2023-2024

Print