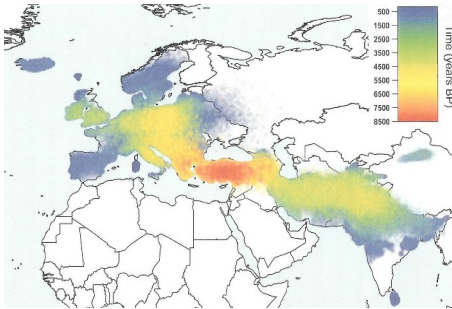


**GRADUATE HISTORY OF ENGLISH**  
**BRIDGET DRINKA,**  
**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT SAN ANTONIO**



**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Fæder ure þu þe eart on heofonum;  
 Si þin nama gehalgod  
 to becume þin rice  
 gewurþe ðin willa  
 on eorðan swa swa on heofonum.  
 urne gedæghwamlican hlaf syle us  
 todæg  
 and forgyf us urne gyltas  
 swa swa we forgyfað urum gyltendum  
 and ne gehelð þu us on costunge  
 ac alvs us of vfele soþlice

**OLD ENGLISH PHONOLOGICAL CHANGES**

1. Umlaut: vowels followed by i or y in the next syllable are fronted or raised
2. Voicing assimilation: fricatives > +vce in voiced environment
3. Palatalization: /k/ → [ç] in environment of /g/ → [j] front vowel
4. Place assimilation: /x/ → [ç] “ “
5. Gamma rule: /g/ → [ɣ] in environment of back vowels or at the end of a word

**2. PRONOUNS: THOU AND YOU (HAMLET 1.2.64-125)**

HAMLET Ay, madam, it is common.  
 QUEEN If it be,  
 Why seems it so particular with thee? [...]  
 KING 'Tis sweet and commendable in your nature,  
 Hamlet,  
 To give these mourning duties to your father.  
 But you must know your father lost a father, [...]  
 And we beseech you, bend you to remain  
 Here in the cheer and comfort of our eye,  
 Our chiefest courtier, cousin, and our son.  
 QUEEN Let not thy mother lose her prayers, Hamlet.  
 I pray thee, stay with us. Go not to Wittenberg.  
 HAMLET I shall in all my best obey you, madam.  
 KING Why, 'tis a loving and a fair reply.

**6. DO-SUPPORT**

I can go.  
 Can you go?  
  
 I have seen.  
 Have you seen?  
  
 I am going.  
 Are you going?  
  
 I walk.  
 Walk you? > Do you walk?

(From “cuphuistic do”)

This course examines the history of English in depth, beginning with its Indo-European origins down to the modern British and American dialects. Students will gain familiarity with Old and Middle English, and will learn to date texts and to identify their geographical provenance. We will take an in-depth look at such issues as the contribution that Shakespeare and his contemporaries made to the language, the role of prescriptivist attitudes in shaping Standard English, and the place that various social and economic factors have had in moving the language along certain paths. We will also explore what poets and writers instinctively know about the history of their language, and how this history is expressed in literary form.

Thursday 21 November 10,30-12,30; Aula 410

- Indo-European foundations: Phylogenetics, Comparative Method, Areal Considerations
- Features of Germanic Languages and Germanic Poetry: *Grimm's* and *Verner's Laws*; Stress shift; Implications for language and literature: *Cædmon's Hymn*.

Friday, 22 November 10,30-12,30; Aula 410

- Old English: Structure of OE; Conversion, Invasions, Effects; *Beowulf*.
- Middle English: Norman Conquest and its far-reaching effects; Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*; Connections with Italian literature.

Thursday, 28, November 10.30-12,30; Aula 410

- Early Modern English: Shakespeare's language; The influence of Latin; Do-support.
- *Hamlet* and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; *Sonnets* and Shakespeare's debt to Petrarch.

Friday 29 November 10,30-12,30; Aula 410

- Modern English: Innovation, Migration, and Contact.
- British and American Dialects; African American English
- Summary and Conclusions.

**Texts:**

A. Baugh – T. Cable (eds.), *A History of the English Language*, Routledge, 2012 (6th ed.);  
 C. Watkins (ed.), *The American Heritage Dictionary of Indo-European Roots*, HarperCollins, 2011 (3rd ed.);  
 W. Shakespeare, *Hamlet* or *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (any edition).  
 Hand-outs will be provided.