



**SCHOOL OF ENGLISH, FILM, THEATRE, AND MEDIA STUDIES
ENGLISH PROGRAMME**

**ENGL 215 OLD ENGLISH LITERATURE
TRIMESTER 2 2009
13 July to 15 November 2009**

Trimester dates

Teaching dates: 13 July to 16 October.

Study week: 19 to 23 October.

Examination/Assessment period: 27 October to 14 November.

This course does not have a Final Examination.

Name and contact details

Christine Franzen, course co-ordinator: VZ 919, 463-6805, christine.franzen@vuw.ac.nz.

I am always happy to see students: email me for an appointment.

Class times and location; course delivery

Classes are held from 3:10 to 4:00 on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday in Hunter 113.

All classes are conducted as tutorials.

Communication of additional information

Any changes to the course programme or additional information will be announced in class and posted on Blackboard.

Course content

The course attempts, through a close study of set texts, to introduce characteristic forms and themes of Old English literature, especially poetry. Although a short period of intensive language learning is necessary to provide a reading knowledge of Old English, the course is essentially literary in approach.

Learning objectives

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- demonstrate some proficiency in translating Old English prose and poetry;
- show an awareness of the characteristic forms and themes of Old English poetry;
- be responsive to the detail of the set texts;
- critically discuss the texts in a formal academic essay;
- demonstrate good work habits by coming to class having prepared the set work for each day; and
- in general, demonstrate a good standard of accuracy and attention to detail in reading, translating, analysing, and presenting written work.

Expected workload

You may expect to spend a minimum of 15 hours per week on this course (including the time spent in class). As in any course with a language component, good work habits are essential.

With a consistent 2 hours per day of work outside class hours, most students (even those with

no previous background in language study) should have no difficulty coming to terms with the grammar, vocabulary, and translation. The time commitment is likely to be greatest in the weeks immediately prior to tests and essay submission dates.

Readings

Set texts, to be purchased (second-hand copies are fine):

Needed at the beginning of the course:

ENGL 215 *Introductory Grammar* (Student Notes).

ENGL 215 *The Lives of the English Saints* (Student Notes).

Needed from Week 5 onwards:

John C. Pope, ed. *Eight Old English Poems*, 3rd edn., 2001.

(A secondhand copy of *Seven Old English Poems* (2nd edn.) is also fine.)

ENGL 215 *Background Reading* (Student Notes).

ENGL 215 *Running Glosses* (Student Notes).

Students with a particular interest in language may find useful:

Randolph Quirk and C. L. Wrenn, *An Old English Grammar*, 2nd edn., 1957.

For the first two weeks of trimester all undergraduate textbooks and student notes will be sold from the Memorial Theatre foyer, while postgraduate textbooks and student notes will be available from the top floor of VicBooks in the Student Union Building, Kelburn Campus. After week two all undergraduate textbooks will be sold from VicBooks and student notes from the Student Notes Distribution Centre on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or they can be picked up from the shop. Customers will be contacted when they are available. Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: 463 5515.

Assessment requirements

The course is internally assessed: there is no final examination. Assessment is based on four pieces of work: two tests and two essays. The tests are designed to assess your ability to translate Old English prose and poetry and to ensure that your understanding of basic Old English grammar and vocabulary is sufficient to appreciate the texts in their original form. The poetry test and the essays test your ability to appreciate the characteristics and themes of Old English literature and to write coherently and intelligently on them. Essay topics will be distributed well in advance. Essays must be produced in accordance with the School's *Guidelines for SEFTMS Students*. Note particularly the University's statement on academic integrity and plagiarism, below.

Prose Translation Test: Friday, 21 August, in class on *The Life of St Edmund* and an unseen passage, with some grammar and vocabulary. (20%).

Essay on *The Life of St Edmund* and *The Battle of Maldon*. **Due Tuesday, 22 September, in class.** Approximately 1500 words (30%).

Poetry Test: Tuesday, 13 October, in class on passages from *The Battle of Maldon*, *The Dream of the Rood*, *Deor*, and *The Wanderer*: this is basically a comprehension test, with short answers and some translation, critical commentary, scansion, and vocabulary. (20%).

Essay on *The Dream of the Rood, The Wanderer, Deor, and Wulf and Eadwacer*. Due **Friday, 16 October, 5:00 p.m.** but may be handed in up until 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 21 October without penalty. Approximately 1500 words (30%).

Penalties and extensions

If work is handed in late, then one grade is subtracted and no comments are offered. If you require an extension, you must complete an extension request form (available on your course Blackboard site) prior to the assignment due date and submit it to the Course Co-ordinator. This must be accompanied by relevant documentation (e.g. a doctor's certificate) where appropriate.

Mandatory course requirements

The minimum course requirements which must be satisfied include completion of all internal assessment as detailed above and a minimum of **70%** attendance (that is, 34 out of 48 classes).

Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

General University Policies and Statutes

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar or go to the Academic Policy and Student Policy sections on:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy>

The AVC(Academic) website also provides information for students in a number of areas including Academic Grievances, Student and Staff conduct, Meeting the needs of students with impairments, and student support/VUWSA student advocates. This website can be accessed at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/Publications.aspx>

ENGL 215 Old English Literature: Course Content and Schedule (2009)

1	July	M	13	Introduction	
		T	14	Introductory grammar	
		Th	16	“	
		F	17	“	
2		M	20	“	
		T	21	“	
		Th	23	“	
		F	24	“	And beginning <i>The Life of St Edmund</i>
3		M	27	“	“
		T	28	“	“
		Th	30	“	“
		F	31	<i>The Life of St Edmund</i>	
4	August	M	3	“	
		T	4	“	
		Th	6	“	
		F	7	“	
5		M	10	“	
		T	11	“	
		Th	13	“	
		F	14	Introduction to poetry	
6		M	17	<i>The Battle of Maldon</i>	
		T	18	“	
		Th	20	“	
		F	21	PROSE TRANSLATION TEST	
Mid-term break					
7	Sept	M	7	<i>The Battle of Maldon</i> (continued)	
		T	8	“	
		Th	10	“	
		F	11	“	
8		M	14	“	
		T	15	<i>Deor</i> and scansion	
		Th	17	“	
		F	18	<i>The Dream of the Rood</i>	
9		M	21	“	
		T	22	Anglo-Saxon art	FIRST ESSAY DUE
		Th	24	<i>The Dream of the Rood</i> (continued)	
		F	25	“	
10		M	28	“	
		T	29	<i>The Wanderer</i>	
		Oct Th	1	“	
		F	2	“	
11		M	5	“	
		T	6	“	
		Th	8	<i>Wulf and Eadwacer</i> and <i>The Seafarer</i> (in translation)	
		F	9	“	
12		M	12	Revision	
		T	13	POETRY TEST	
		Th-F	15-6	Wrapping up and Sutton Hoo	SECOND ESSAY DUE 16/10