

San José State University
English Department
English 140A, Old English, Fall 2020

Course and Contact Information

Instructor(s):	Nancy Stork
Office Location:	Faculty Offices Building 218 and ZOOM
Email:	Nancy.Stork@sjsu.edu
Office Hours:	Tuesdays 12noon – 1:15 pm, Wednesdays 12 noon – 1 pm and by appointment
Class Days/Time:	TR 1:30 – 2:45 pm
Classroom:	ZOOM
Prerequisites:	Upper Division Standing

Course Description

An introduction to Old English, the language spoken and written in England from 597 – 1100 CE. Linguistic particulars, historical context, prose and poetry.

Course Format

Hybrid

Course assignments will be available and submitted via CANVAS. Class will be held at regularly scheduled hours via ZOOM.

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. *Translate texts from Old into Modern English*
2. *Recognize the unique poetic form of Old English poetry*

Required Texts/Readings

Introduction to Old English, Peter S. Baker, 2nd or 3rd edition.
(Second edition is available in paper, third edition in paper or on-line.)
See also related website: <http://www.oldenglishaerobics.net/>

Course Requirements and Assignments

Please read the assigned chapters and do the relevant translations in advance of class. You will be called on to translate every day.

“Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of 45 hours over the length of the course (normally three hours per unit per week) for instruction,

preparation/studying, or course related activities, including but not limited to internships, labs, and clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.”

Final Examination or Evaluation

Transcription Project – involves transcribing a selection from an original Anglo-Saxon manuscript, as well as translating and commenting on the text.

Grading Information

Grading will be determined as follows:

Five translation quizzes:	50%
Class participation:	20%
Transcription Project:	30%

Late work can only be accepted in the case of genuine and compelling emergencies. No penalty if work is turned in by the next class with a documented excuse. Work can be turned in up to one week late for a full grade penalty, no documentation needed.

Please see me if you need Accessibility or Disability Accommodations or have an unalterable university commitment that conflicts with an exam date.

All work must be your own, particularly exams. I do not mind if you study and prepare classwork with another student or as part of a study group.

English 140A, Fall 2020, Course Schedule

Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines <i>(If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</i>	
1	8/20	Introduction	
1	8/25	Chapters 1 and 2	
2	8/27	Chapter 3	
2	9/1	Chapter 4	
3	9/3	Chapter 5, Translate Mini-Text A	
3	9/8	Chapter 6, Translate Mini-Text B	Reading QUIZ
4	9/10	Chapter 6	
4	9/15	Chapter 7 Translate Mini-Text C	
5	9/17	Chapter 7	

Week/Lesson /Module	Date	Topics, Readings, Assignments, Deadlines <i>(If appropriate, add extra column(s) to meet your needs.)</i>	
5	9/22	Chapter 8, Translate Mini-Text D	
6	9/24	Chapter 9, Mini-Text E	Reading QUIZ
6	9/29	Chapter 10 Mini-Text F	
7	10/1	Chapter 11, Mini-Text G	
7	10/6	Chapter 12, Mini-Text H	
8	10/8	Chapter 13, Mini-Text I	Reading QUIZ
8	10/13	Chapter 14, Mini-Text J	
9	10/15	Adam and Eve	
9	10/20	Adam and Eve	
10	10/22	Voyages of Ohthere and Wulfstan	
10	10/27	Voyages of Ohthere and Wulfstan	Reading QUIZ
11	10/29	Bede's Account of the poet Cædmon	
11	11/3	Bede's Account of the poet Cædmon	
12	11/5	Wanderer	
12	11/10	Wanderer	Reading QUIZ
13	11/12	Wanderer	
13	11/17	Selections from Battle of Maldon, 1-61, 309-319	
14	11/19	Wulf and Eadwacer	
14	11/24	Workshop on Transcription Project	
15	11/26	Thanksgiving	
15	12/1	Workshop on Transcription Project	
16	12/3	Final reading quiz	
Final Transcription Project		Due on CANVAS Wednesday, December 9, 1430 (2:30 pm)	