

Linguistics 110  
Introduction to Historical Linguistics

I. Introduction

1. Language change as constant, natural, and spontaneous
  2. Linguistic variation & language change: “chicken & egg” problem
  3. Linguistic variation as natural and ubiquitous
  4. Attitudes toward language change
  5. Language change (or maintenance) as deliberate/conscious
- Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 1

II. Phonetic Change

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapters 2&3

III. Phonological Change

1. Structuralist Phonemic Change
  2. Generative Rule Change
- Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 4  
Homework Exercise 1

IV. Morphological Change

1. Analogy & Associated Problems
  2. Other Non-Phonetic Formal Change
- Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 10

V. Syntactic Change

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 12

VI. Semantic Change

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 11.1-2

VII. Lexical Change

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 11.3-4

**Midterm Examination**

VIII. Genetic Relationship

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 1.1

VIII. The Comparative Method

Reading: Crowley, Chapter 5  
Homework Exercises 2&3

IX. Subgrouping & Alternatives to the Comparative Method

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapters 6 and 8

X. Challenges to the Comparative Method

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 9

XI. Internal Reconstruction

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 7

XII. Language Contact

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 14

XIII. Causes of Language Change

XIV. Language Change in Progress

Reading: Crowley-Bowern, Chapter 13

Required Textbook: Terry Crowley-Claire Bowern, *An Introduction to Historical Linguistics*, fourth edition, Oxford University Press, 2010.

Outside Assignment: exercise on English etymology, handed out February 9, **due March 9**.

Final Exam: **Tuesday, March 17, 2015, 11:30-2:30.**

Grading: midterm after unit VII (30%); cumulative final (50%); outside assignment (20%).

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All course materials also posted on CCLE course site.