Course description:

ENGL 223. Historical Linguistics. 3.0 Spr.
Prerequisites: ENGL 121 (or equivalent) or permission of instructor.
Evaluation and interpretation of similarities among languages. Methods of investigating and reconstructing the past history of languages (including those for which no significant earlier written record exists). Examining and evaluating the linguistic evidence for its insights into the earlier culture, migration patterns, and linguistic contacts of the speakers.

Required materials:


A disk of materials to be distributed to those taking the course (from me).

Course requirements:

1. Tests. Three mid-terms and a final will be given. These examinations will include both objective and essay style questions covering not only the class discussions but also the other assignments. (100 points each)

2. Homework. Regular homework assignments will be given. Those who choose not to do this homework regularly will contribute significantly to the ease with which a class ‘curve’ can be established. (15 @ 10 points each = 150 points)
   Note that the homework and the discussion of the homework constitutes a major part of learning how to understand and how to do historical linguistics.

3. Attendance. Two absences are excused. For each additional absence, regardless of the reason, 10 points are deducted.

Final: Tuesday 10:00-11:50