

Origins of English 2

Module convenor: Dr Mark Faulkner

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ECTS weighting: 5

Year: JF

Term taught: Hilary Term

Assessment: Continuous assessment (50% short questions, 50% creative translation / analysis of a published translation)

Note: As this module involves language teaching it has additional tutorials. Please check module Blackboard for the exact schedule.

Brief description:

This module continues from Origins of English 1, but may be made available to students who have not taken this module if they have a suitable linguistic background (please contact the course co-ordinator). Together, Origins of English 1 and 2 offer an introductory course in Old English, the form of English used in England between the fifth and eleventh century beside languages like Celtic, Old Norse and Latin. In Origins of English 2 you will read a number of prose and poetic texts in the original language with the help of various aids. Central themes of the module are the emergence of traditions of poetic and prose composition in English, the role of translation in Old English literature, and how texts written in Old English relate to later periods.

Learning outcomes:

On successful completion of this module, students should be able to

- translate Old English texts with the help of a grammar and glossary
- deploy a basic knowledge of Old English morphology and syntax
- place a range of Old English texts in their historical, literary, cultural and linguistic contexts
- analyse and evaluate translations of Old English texts

Reading:

Textbook: Peter S. Baker, *Introduction to Old English*, 3rd edn (Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012)

Additional texts and translations: Elaine Treharne (ed.), *Old and Middle English c. 890-c. 1450*, 3rd edn (Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell, 2012)

Primary texts: *Adam and Eve* (from Ælfric's translation of the Book of Genesis), the story of Caedmon, *Judith*, *The Wanderer*, *Beowulf* (extract)