ENGL 4310  History of English: Global Focus  
Fall 2013  
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This course explores the forms and functions of English in various parts of the world today and critically examines the linguistic, sociolinguistic, cultural, literary, pedagogical, and political implications of the spread of the language that is now called an international/global language. We will briefly cover Old English, Middle English, and Early Modern English, then move to focus predominantly on Modern English, Post-colonial era and current issues around the spread of English, how English alters in the process, how English has become English, and what are the consequences. Topics addressed in the course include, but not limited to, language change, language and power, language and identity, language teaching, literary creativity, language and technology, linguistic imperialism, and the ownership of English.

Required textbook

Other Tentative Resources

The Status of English, Terminology, and Definition

Attitudes toward English

Post-Colonial Englishes (the Outer Circle)
Englishes in the Expanding Circle


Intelligibility of Englishes


Englishes and English Language Teaching


Englishes and Technology


Models and Assessment


Linguistic Imperialism or Linguistic Empowerment?


Linguistic Creativity