Monmouth College: Fall 2009

CLAS-225-01 Scientific Terminology, 2 credits

TTH 12:30-1:20, Hald 120 Instructor: Dr. Wine, office WH 16 x2332; MW 10:30-11:00, T 1:30-2:00

Course Description:

This course examines Greek and Latin word elements in a variety of scientific language contexts, including medicine, biology, chemistry, and physics. It also considers ways to use technical dictionaries in order to understand and use scientific terminology and the Greek and Latin roots on which it is based. The course enables students to become more conscious of words and their history, to increase their English vocabulary through their study of how words are formed, and to practice using a dictionary effectively.

Texts:

Ayers, Donald M. Bioscientific Terminology: Words from Latin and Greek Stems. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1972. 978-0-8165-0305-6

Taber's Cyclopedic Medical Dictionary. 21st ed. Philadelphia: F.A. Davis Company, 2009. 978-0-8036-1559-5

Class Goals, Format, and Evaluation:

Weekly quizzes count as 25% of the final grade, daily homework and participation as 15%, the midterm and a final exam as 40% of the final grade, the final presentation/review (5 minutes) as 10%, and attendance at both diagnostic exams as 10%.

Quizzes may be made up within two weeks for half credit. Quizzes taken on time may be corrected for half credit on points lost.

Participation in class doesn't require all correct answers, but does require attendance and responding to questions.

Extra credit points are available for attendance at the archeology lectures noted on the schedule (3 points per 1-2 page of summary and comments for each) added onto the final average.

Grading scale: A (100-91), B (90-80), C (79-68), D (67-57).

Schedule: The following schedule shows when material will be covered in class. The instructor may make modifications announced in class, however, as necessary, based on class needs and preferences; it is the student's responsibility to be aware of changes made in class.

Week 1. LATIN bases, prefixes

Tu/ Aug 25. introduction: combining forms

Th/ Aug 27. diagnostic exam #1

Week 2. Latin prefixes

Tu/ Sep 1. 21-24

Th/ Sep 3. quiz

Week 3. Latin suffixes

Tu/ Sep 8. 25-28

Th/ Sep 10. quiz

Week 4. more Latin suffixes

Mo/ Sep 14. 7:30, Morgan Room: "Jordanian Archaeology"

Tu/ Sep 15. 29-32

Th/ Sep 17. quiz

Week 5. Latin verb suffixes

Tu/ Sep 22. 33-36

Th/ Sep 24. quiz

Week 6. Latin nouns and adjectives

Tu/ Sep 29. 37-40

7:30, Augustana College: "Romans in North Africa"

Th/ Oct 1. quiz

Week 7.

Tu/ Oct 6. review

Th/ Oct 8. midterm

Week 8. GREEK bases, prefixes, alphabet

Tu/ Oct 13. 1-2

Th/ Oct 15. 3-4

Week 9. Greek suffixes

Tu/ Oct 20. Fall break

Th/ Oct 22. quiz

7:30, Morgan Room: "Art and Society in Early Greece"

Week 10. more Greek suffixes

Tu/ Oct 27. 5-8

Th/ Oct 29. quiz

Week 11. Greek noun-forming, diminutive, and verb-forming suffixes

Tu/Nov 3.

9-12

Th/ Nov 5.

quiz

Week 12. Greek plurals and words from mythology

Tu/ Nov 10.

13-16

Th/ Nov 12.

quiz

Week 13. changes of meanings and in forms

Mo/ Nov 16. 7:30

7:30, Morgan Room: "Excavating in Romania"

Tu/ Nov 17.

17-20

Th/ Nov 19.

quiz

Week 14.

Tu/ Nov 24.

review

Th/ Nov 26.

Thanksgiving

Week 15

Tu/ Dec 1.

presentations

Th/ Dec 3.

presentations

Week 16

Tu/ Dec. 9.

Review: diagnostic #2

Final Exam: Friday, December 11, 1:00; reschedule for 9:00 or Monday (14th)?

Honesty and Plagiarism:

Students are encouraged to do their homework together (identical work which is submitted should be acknowledged). All other classwork, especially quizzes and exams, must be the student's own work. Plagiarism, i.e., copying someone else's work without giving credit, is to be avoided. Such copying--from a book, another classmate's paper, or any other source--is dishonest. Any student submitting plagiarized work will receive a failing grade for that assignment. If two papers with identical or nearly identical work are submitted by different students, both papers will receive a failing grade.