This class involves reading all of Beowulf in the original Old English.

Grading:

Two translation quizzes 40%
Translation project 20%
Oral Report 20%
Class participation 20%

Text:

You should have a good edition of Beowulf for this class. You may use Benjamin Slade’s on-line edition if you like. Otherwise, the Klaeber 4th edition is the best.

Robert Fulk, et. al. editors, Klaeber’s Beowulf, 4th edition, Univ. of Toronto.

If this will strain your budget, please consider purchasing the much less expensive third edition:


Late work can only be accepted in the case of genuine and compelling emergencies beyond your control. Late work must be received within one week of the due date and will be subject to a full grade penalty, i.e. A to B, B to C.

You may work together outside of class as much as you want, but your oral project, quizzes, translation project and class translations must be your own. Oral reports will be given throughout the semester. I will provide a sign-up sheet and suggested topics.

Schedule of Classes:

Jan 22 Introduction
27 Lines 1-52, Scyld Scfing
29 53-188 Voyage to Denmark
Feb
3  189-285 Grendel
5  286-455 Coastguard, Hrothgar’s Court
10  456-558 Hunferth, Breca
12  559-710 Grendel’s attack
17  711-837 Grendel’s attack
19  837-924 Lay of Sigmund
24  925-1049 Rejoicing in the Court
26  1050-1191 Lay of Finnsburh

Mar
3  1192-1320 Wealtheow, Grendel’s Mother
5  1321-1472 Aeschere’s death discovered
10  1473-1556 Voyage to the Mere  QUIZ
12  1557-1650 Beowulf fights Grendel’s Mother
17  1651-1816 Heremod
19  1817-1962 Beowulf departs

March 23-31 Spring Break

Apr
2  1963-2069a Hygelac, Heathobards
7  2069b-2220 Beowulf tells his story, becomes king
9  2221-2311 The dragon attack
14  2312-2459 The Swedish wars
16  2460-2602 Beowulf attacks the dragon
21  2603-2693 Wiglaf’s bravery  TRANSLATION PROJECTS DUE
23  2694-2820 Death of the dragon
28  2821-2891 Death of Beowulf
30  2892-2945 Wiglaf berates the survivors

May
5  2946-3057 Swedish wars continued  QUIZ
7  3058-3136 Wiglaf’s eulogy
12  3137-3182 Beowulf’s funeral