Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU) Munich
Department of English and American Studies
Organisers: Kerstin Majewski and Hans Sauer

Call for Papers
"Historical English Word-Formation"
Munich, 17–18 February 2023

In its development from Old English to today, the English vocabulary underwent a radical restructuring due to an enormous influx of (complex) lexemes from Latin, Anglo-Norman, French, Greek, and other languages. Even though historical linguistics has traced and investigated many aspects of the complex mechanisms of language contact involved in all levels of language, studies on historical word-formation are comparatively rare (cf., e.g., Kastovsky 1968 and 2007; Faiß 1992; Sauer 1992; Ciszek 2008; Fisiak/Bator 2013; see also further below). For this reason, our 2023 symposium at Munich University focuses on English word-formation from the earliest texts to the Late Modern English period. We invite studies in Old, Middle, and/or Early and Late Modern English with a specifically historical perspective, working with different theoretical and methodological approaches – functional, semantic, socio-pragmatic, sociolinguistic, cognitive, computational, etc.

Contributions may address questions such as:
• Which new insights into the frequency and productivity as well as the rules and restrictions of word-formation units and patterns are gained from studying historical sources? For instance, how, why, and when do native (Germanic) and non-native (Romance) elements, patterns, and levels of word-formation compete or overlap (e.g., Middle English hybrid-formations with a Germanic base and a Romance affix such as know-able vs. borrowed, stem-based forms such as charit-able; or derivational affixes like fore- vs. ante-, -ness vs. -ity; cf., e.g., Säily 2018).
• How and why do phrasal and prepositional verbs and other multi-word lexical items emerge (cf., e.g., Thim 2012; Rodríguez-Puente 2019) and what is their relation to inherited and borrowed vocabulary?
• Which roles do regional, social, and medial factors as well as text-types and genres play in historical English word-formation (cf., e.g., Terasawa 1994; Gardner 2014; Säily 2014)?
• Which current approaches and methodologies applied to Modern English word-formation research can be made fruitful for investigating past language stages (cf. Lloyd 2011; Müller et al. 2015–2016)?
• How have electronic (historical) corpora and the Digital Humanities enhanced the study of Old, Middle, and/or Early Modern English word-formation (cf., e.g., Dalton-Puffer 1996; Markus et al. 2012)?

General information
Abstracts of 250 words (bibliography excluded) should be sent to
kerstin.majewski@anglistik.uni-muenchen.de by **13 June 2022**.
The symposium will take place at the Fachbibliothek Philologicum, Ludwigstr. 25, 80539 München. If this should not be possible, we will hold the conference in a hybrid-format or as an online video conference.

Registration and fees
The conference fee includes coffee, tea, and non-alcoholic beverages as well as snacks during the symposium.
Regular attendance: EUR 50,-
University students' attendance: EUR 25,- (LMU students free)
Registration and payment methods will be announced in September 2022.
Important dates
Deadline for abstract submissions (250 words): 13 June 2022
Notification of acceptance: 11 July 2022
Registration deadline: 30 January 2023

Symposium: 17–18 February 2023

Any questions about the event may be directed to Kerstin Majewski: kerstin.majewski@anglistik.uni-muenchen.de

For further information, see:

https://www.anglistik.uni-muenchen.de/abteilungen/sprachgeschichte/aktuelles/international-symposium-2023/index.html

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