ENGLISH WORDS: HISTORY AND STRUCTURE

Course type: Elective (advanced) linguistics seminar 1
Course code: BBNAN14600
Time and place: Thu 16:00-17:30, Amb114 (Piliscsaba)
Teacher: Kristó, László
Teacher’s email: kristo.laszlo@btk.ppke.hu
Office hour: Thu 13:30-14:15, Amb132 (Piliscsaba)

Course contents
This course – as suggested by its title – is an introduction to the morphological structure of English words, mostly from a historical perspective. Our investigation will be based on the following book:


The book focuses on the learned vocabulary of English, i.e. words borrowed from the classical languages (Latin and Greek) as well as French. The book will be supplemented by some extra material provided in class.

Requirements and grading policy
Since this is a seminar course, regular attendance and (active) participation is required. You are allowed to miss no more than three (= 3) classes; if you miss more than three, you will not be given a signature or a valid mark.

Grading (marking) will be based on two in-class tests (= “zéhá”). The first (mid-term) one is due on October 27th (before the autumn break), while the second (end-term) test is due on December 15th. Please make sure you do not miss either of these tests; if you do miss one of them, you will be given a fail (elégtelen) for the particular test. Should you miss both tests, you are bound to fail the entire course.

The mean (average) of your two test results will serve as the basis for your final grade (for example, if your first test result is ‘3’ and the second one is ‘5’, your final grade is ‘4’).
Please note the following:

(i) Regular, active (and, of course, intelligent) preparation and participation in discussions may modify your final grade (in a positive sense, of course). For instance, if the mean of your test results is 3.5, your final grade will be 4, not 3, if you have made intelligent and active contribution to in-class discussions.

(ii) The mean of your two test results must not be below 2. Practically speaking, should you fail either test, you will be expected to score at least a 3 on the other test.

Should you have any question, feel free to contact me (see above for my availability).