

# ***LING 110 Chapter I & II: Introduction & Linguistic Change and the Structure of Language***

- **Introduction to Linguistics**
  - Linguistics is the study of the human facility to use language.
  - This course uses English vocabulary to illustrate some concepts from Linguistics
- Exploration and explanation of English Vocabulary
  - To understand how English or any other language works, we need concepts and tools from linguistics.
- Develop analytic skills.

# Themes

## Structure

- *antidisestablishmentarianism*
- *understand*
- *nest = ni + st*

## Change

- *snow < OE snaw < PIE \*sneigw*
- *fish < OE fisc < PIE \*pisk*

# *Why study words?*

- Illustrate linguistic concepts
- Increase one's vocabulary
- Religious discourse often hinges on the meanings of words
- The etymology of words often enriches appreciation of literature
- Business needs new words for new products
  - Ex.: *Viagra* suggests vitality and vigor

# *Different Types of Systems con't*

## 2. Ideographic

- A symbol represents a concept, abstract or concrete.
- Advantages:
  - 1. Greater expressiveness.
  - 2. Understandable by speakers of different languages.
  - 3. It is possible to read literature in an Ideographic system.

# ***Old English vs. Middle English***

Old English (pg. 7): Few people could understand or even identify Old English.

It is much easier to understand the Middle English of Chaucer.

Aspects of Old English that make it different from Middle English:

1. Orthography
2. Phonetics
3. Morphology

# ***Old English vs. Middle English con't***

4. Lexicon
5. Syntax
6. Semantics