ENGL 507 Fall 2014
Pinterest Assignment #1

BY NOON ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 1—YOU MUST

1. If you do not already have a Pinterest account, go to www.Pinterest.com and set yourself up a free account.

2. Find the board http://www.pinterest.com/ProfessorKoster/engl-507-alternate-alphabets/ and "follow" the board.

3. Send Dr. Koster an e-mail (kosterj@winthrop.edu) and tell her that you (1) have followed this board and (2) what your Pinterest username is (some of you may use names like "TruBelieber" rather than your own name).

   Dr. K will give you permission to post on this board, so you can add pins to the collection.

-- **THEN BY FRIDAY 9/5 by MIDNIGHT** -----------------------------------

4. Read Algeo chapter 3, "Letters and Sounds: A Brief History of Writing," which is in the Course Library.

5. Pin at least two, but no more than ten, images to the board that illustrate ways of representing languages, not just English. This will build the "corpus" (a/k/a 'collection', but "corpus" is what linguists call a body of information gathered to analyze a particular topic, so start using the word!) for your analysis.

----------------------------------- **THEN BY TUESDAY 9/9 by MIDNIGHT**--

6. Go into the blog for our class on Blackboard and post an entry (or respond to a classmate's entry) in the blog thread for "Representing Writing Systems and Languages." This entry should be at least 600 words, and should analyze what you notice about the corpus—about trends in influences, and/or how your notions of writing systems fits or doesn't fit with your classmates' images, or with Algeo's, etc. Refer specifically to at least four pins on the board as you develop your post; they can be your own pins or the pins of your classmates.The goal here is for all of us to have a conversation about the cultural signals that 'say' "writing systems" to us as we begin our explorations of the English language. The time deadline will allow me to read all your responses at least once so that I am ready for class on Thursday!

If you have questions or run into problems, e-mail Dr. Koster at kosterj@winthrop.edu. I may have limited wifi access while I'm at the conference, but I will do my best to respond within 24 hours.

Grading Points: Total of 10 points for the entire assignment; up to 3 extra credit points may be awarded if you post more than the minimum number of pins (extra credit will be awarded for both the quantity and the **quality** of your pins).

Pinterest note: Pinterest can **only** be used on pages that have a picture. Find the page that you want to pin, insert the URL into Pinterest, and the possible pictures should come up—choose the one you want to show up on your "Pin." I will demonstrate this in class for you.