

	<p><i>School of Arts & Science</i> SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENT</p> <p>ANTH 232-001 Language, Culture and Communication 2014 Fall</p>
---	--

COURSE OUTLINE

This course is about the interdisciplinary field of anthropology known as linguistic anthropology. The central premise in linguistic anthropology is that language is a set of social practices. This means that everything we say, write, or sign not only has literal or denotational meaning, but also points to social meanings like class, ethnicity, gender and so on. The goal of this course is to introduce you to some key concepts such as performance, communicative competence, and language ideologies, as well as some popular subjects, such as language contact, language endangerment, multilingualism, gender, and ethnicity. We will start by examining the question 'what is language?'

1. Instructor Information

(a)	Instructor:	Tara Tudor		
(b)	Office Hours:	Tuesday 10:30-11:20 Thursday 1:00-2:00, or by appointment		
(c)	Location:	Young 207		
(d)	Phone:	370-3368		
(e)	Email:	tudor@camosun.bc.ca		

2. Intended Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. List the characteristics of language and distinguish between language and other animal communication systems.
2. Explain and give examples of the relationship between language and culture.
3. Describe the formal (morphological and phonological) properties of language.
4. List the key elements of the ethnography of communication.
5. Apply key concepts such as performativity, indexicality, practice, and habitus to speech use
6. Outline why language preservation is important for cultural survival.
7. Explain and give examples of nonverbal communication.
8. Describe how language variation is linked to social factors such as gender, age, race and ethnicity.

3. Required Materials

(a) Texts

Ahearn, Laura

2012 Living Language: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology. Oxford: Wiley-Blackwell.

4. Basis of Student Assessment (Weighting)

(a) Assignments (45%)

1. Seminar Discussion Leader & Participation (16%)

Your participation mark will come from your involvement in the seminars throughout the semester (8%), your role as a discussion leader (3%), and a critical article review (5%). In order to fully contribute to these discussions it is imperative that each student complete the course readings and come prepared to contribute.

Each student will play the role of discussion leader for one seminar class in the term. A sign-up sheet for discussion leaders will be distributed in the first week of class. As discussion leader you will be expected to lead the class by summarizing the main points of the reading(s), comment on what you found interesting, confusing, or troubling, identify how the article relates to the course material, and pose two questions for class discussion. You will be marked on the thoroughness of the presentation, your careful thinking about the article, and your presentation skills. Students will not be permitted to become the discussion leader on another day if they miss the date they have sign-up for. The critical article review to be handed in on the same day you are discussion leader. Students will not be permitted to become the discussion leader on another day if they miss the date they have sign-up for. Please see handout for more information about the critical article review to be handed in on the same day you are discussion leader.

2. Labs (6%)

There are two labs during this course. One lab is on phonology, the other on morphology. You must come to the lab classes in order to get credit for the lab assignments. If you miss the lab classes I will be happy to give you a copy of the lab to do in your own time, but it will not be graded.

3. Techno-linguistic autobiography (23%) Due November 27th

Using the ethnographic method of participant observation, students will observe an on-line community of practice and write a paper about the relationship between identity and language. More information about these assignments will be provided in class and in a handout.

(b) Exams (55%)

Both exams must be written in order to receive credit for Anthropology 232. Exams must be written during the scheduled times unless a physician's medical certificate is presented to the instructor. **There will be no exceptions without a medical certificate.** Students will not be permitted to write an additional make-up exam in order to improve a grade. The schedule for final exams is not posted until early October. DO NOT make travel plans for the Christmas break before you have seen your exam schedule as you will not be permitted to write your exam early.

Midterm Exam:	Oct 21st	(25%)
Final Exam:	Exam Period	(30%)

5. Course Content and Schedule

Week	Tuesday	Thursday	Readings
Week 1: Sept 2 & 4	Introduction to linguistic anthropology	Seminar 1	Ch. 1 & 2 Ahearn and Spitulnik from reader
Week 2: Sept 9 & 11	Language acquisition and socialization	Seminar 2	Ch. 3 from Ahearn, and Ochs and Schieffelin from reader
Week 3: Sept 16 and 18	Language, culture and thought	Seminar 3	Ch. 4 Ahearn, Lakoff and Johnson, and Cohn from reader
Week 4: Sept 23 & 25	Phonology	Lab 1	The Phonological Component: Phonetics from reader
Week 5: Sept 30 & Oct 2	Morphology	Lab 2	The Morphological Component from reader
Week 6: Oct 7 & 9	Multilingualism & globalization	Seminar 4	Ch. 6 Ahearn and Garcia-Sanchez from reader
Week 7: Oct 14 & 16	Documentary "The Linguists"	Review for midterm	No readings
Week 8: Oct 21 & 23	Midterm Exam	Open seminar	Ch. 11 Ahearn
Week 9: Oct 28 & 30	Language death & revitalization	Seminar 5	Muelman and Patrick from reader
Week 10: Nov 4 & 6	Language & identity: gender	Seminar 6	Ch. 10 Ahearn, and Cameron and O'Barr & Atkins from reader
Week 11: Nov 11 & 13	Remembrance Day – No Class	Guest Speaker	
Week 12: Nov 18 & 20	Language & identity: race & ethnicity	Seminar 7	Ch. 9 Ahearn, and Bucholtz and Lee from reader
Week 13: Nov 25 & 27	Sign Language & Deaf culture	Seminar 8 Term Paper/Project Due	Ch. 12 (p. 265-72), and Le Master from reader
Week 14: Dec 2 & 4	<i>Documentary: "Sound and Fury"</i>	Review Class	

6. Grading System

Standard Grading System (GPA)

Percentage	Grade	Description	Grade Point Equivalency
90-100	A+		9
85-89	A		8
80-84	A-		7
77-79	B+		6
73-76	B		5
70-72	B-		4
65-69	C+		3
60-64	C		2
50-59	D	Minimum level of achievement for which credit is granted; a course with a "D" grade cannot be used as a prerequisite.	1
0-49	F	Minimum level has not been achieved.	0

The University of Victoria describes their grading as follows:

A+ A A-	9 8 7	Exceptional, outstanding and excellent performance. Normally achieved by a minority of students. These grades indicate a student who is self-initiating, exceeds expectation and has an insightful grasp of the subject matter.
B+ B B-	6 5 4	Very good, good and solid performance. Normally achieved by the largest number of students. These grades indicate a good grasp of the subject matter or excellent grasp in one area balanced with satisfactory grasp in the other area.
C+ C	3 2	Satisfactory, or minimally satisfactory. These grades indicate a satisfactory performance and knowledge of the subject matter.
D	1	Marginal Performance. A student receiving this grade demonstrated a superficial grasp of the subject matter.

University of Victoria (2011) Undergraduate Grading. Retrieved June 23, 2011, from <http://web.uvic.ca/calendar2011/FACS/UnIn/UARe/Grad.html>

7. Recommended Materials or Services to Assist Students to Succeed Throughout the Course

LEARNING SUPPORT AND SERVICES FOR STUDENTS

There are a variety of services available for students to assist them throughout their learning. This information is available in the College calendar, at Student Services or the College web site at camosun.ca.