LING 233
ANTH 233/COMM 233
INTRODUCTION TO LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY
Spring 2020

Instructor: Dr. Betsy Evans
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Office Hours: via Zoom, 8:30- 9:30 Monday, Wednesday and by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION
This course provides an introduction to the study of language in culture and society and raises awareness of the role of language in the development and formation of society and the individual within it. There are no prerequisites for this course. LING/COMM/ANTH 233 will engage in a systematic observation and critical discussion of linguistic phenomena. Students are encouraged to consider critically current issues and debates, and to apply theoretical arguments to real language data drawn from a variety of sources. This course will acquaint students with the many levels of meaning communicated in our everyday use of language, with special attention to issues such as Standard language, language maintenance, dialects of American English, the social ramifications of language diversity, multilingualism, and language planning.

Learning Objectives
The LEARNING OBJECTIVES are the skills and knowledge that the course aims for each student to acquire by the end of the quarter. The Learning objectives for LING/COM/ANTH 233 are:

- Students will identify and describe systematic observations of linguistic variation (social, historical, geographical, stylistic)
- Students will relate linguistic variation to the functions of language in marking identity, status, group solidarity and cultural values
- Students will identify and describe the role of language in the creation and maintenance of social and political power

Textbook
Wolfram, Walt and Natalie Schilling. 2015. *American English* (3rd edition). Malden, MA: Blackwell. Note that the 2015 edition is different from the earlier 1st and 2nd editions.

- Students are expected to read the assigned chapters from this text.
- The text is available as an e-book or on closed reserve at Odegaard library.
- We will occasionally watch segments from a PBS documentary titled “Do You Speak American?”. This DVD series is available for viewing at online and at the Media Center in Suzzalo.

Canvas
This course uses Canvas, an online learning management system at the University of Washington. You can find your assignments and tests quickly using the "Modules", "Syllabus" or “Calendar" buttons on the toolbar on the left-hand side of the main page. Other important information about the course can be found in the "Pages" button (also in the toolbar on the left-hand side of the main page). If you have problems using Canvas, you can get help at help@uw.edu.

GRADING

Assignments and Tests are meant to evaluate your progress toward the learning objectives of this class. The LEARNING OBJECTIVES are the skills and knowledge that the course aims for each student to acquire by the end of the quarter. The Learning objectives for LING/COM/ANTH 233 are:

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Grades

Your final grade will be comprised of the following activity:

1. Tests 75%
2. Assignments 25%

1. *Tests (75% of course grade)*

a) **Chapter Tests (40%):** Throughout the quarter, 9 tests will be administered online to assess your knowledge of the readings, lecture content, and class discussions. The format of the tests will be multiple choice and short answer. The lowest chapter test score will be dropped.

Due to the large size of this class, make-up tests, where appropriate, will be scheduled only for reasonable circumstances (e.g. serious illness, previously scheduled university-sponsored activity). This circumstance must be communicated to the instructor or TA in a timely manner. Please see the UW policy directory on examinations. Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy. Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form.

b) **Final exam (35%):**

The final exam will cover material from the text, lectures and sections.

1. The final exam will cover content from the entire course.
2. The final exam will be on Canvas and must be taken on the date scheduled by the UW Registrar.

2. *Assignments (25% of course grade)*

A series of weekly online untimed assignments will test your ability to apply the knowledge and skills gained within each course topic. The format of the assignments may include both objective-style questions (e.g., multiple choice, matching, etc.) as well as short-answer and longer, multi-part, analysis questions involving data sets or language problems. You will have a week to work on each of these assignments, during which time you will be able to work on it at your leisure, save your progress, and return to it later. (However, to get full credit for the assignment, you *must* click "submit" at some point before the assignment's closing date/time). You may also consult with the instructor or TA about the assignment during this time.

Because you have a week to complete these assignments, there will be NO opportunities to make up missed Assignments, however, the lowest score from this category will be dropped for the final grade.

Academic Integrity

The following UW grading scale will be used:
(www.washington.edu/students/gencat/front/Grading_Sys.html):
Please examine this grading scale carefully and use it to monitor your progress in the course. We do not 'curve' the final grade.

Percent	=	*Grade*								
≥ 95%	=	4.0	88	= 3.3	81	= 2.6	74	= 1.9	67	= 1.2
94	=	3.9	87	= 3.2	80	= 2.5	73	= 1.8	66	= 1.1
93	=	3.8	86	= 3.1	79	= 2.4	72	= 1.7	65	= 1.0
92	=	3.7	85	= 3.0	78	= 2.3	71	= 1.6	64	= .9
91	=	3.6	84	= 2.9	77	= 2.2	70	= 1.5	63	= .8
90	=	3.5	83	= 2.8	76	= 2.1	69	= 1.4	62	= .7
89	=	3.4	82	= 2.7	75	= 2.0	68	= 1.3	< .7	is a failing grade

REQUIRED MATERIALS

1. **Text:** Wolfram, Walt and Natalie Schilling. 2015. *American English* (3rd edition). Malden, MA: Blackwell.
   - Students are expected to read the assigned chapters from this text.
   - We will occasionally watch segments from a PBS documentary titled "Do You Speak American?". This DVD series is available for viewing online at the Suzzalo library Media Center. Short clips are also available to view on this website on the Do You Speak American Documentary page.

2. **Canvas**: All students must have internet access in order to complete Assignments, Tests and access course materials through Canvas. Canvas is an online learning management system at the University of Washington. In Canvas courses, students can access course materials, take part in online discussions, submit assignments and check their grades. To access Canvas, go to 'canvas.uw.edu' and login with your UW NetID. If you're new to Canvas, you can access a tutorial here: http://www.bothell.washington.edu/learningtech/elearning/canvas/canvas-for-students All LING 233 Assignments Tests, and the final exam will be conducted via Canvas. Grading
3. Lectures will be available on Canvas. Office hours will be conducted via Zoom on Monday and Wednesday 8:30AM (the scheduled course time). The instructor and TAs are also available on Zoom by appointment.

Student responsibilities:

- Watch lecture recordings and do assigned readings.
- Attend office hours or post on the discussion board if there are questions about the lectures/readings.
- Complete tests and assignments by the due dates. If you have a conflict with a due date, contact the instructor or your TA immediately.

COURSE POLICIES

1. **Respect:** Each of us enters this LING 233 community with unique sets of experiences that will inform our readings of and reactions to these texts. Because of this wide variety of perspectives, students must respect the validity of everyone's experiences in this community. Students must also listen to others' experiences and be willing to reconsider their own perspectives in light of such new information
2. **Schedule:**
    - Due to the large size of this class, make-up tests, where appropriate, will be scheduled only for reasonable circumstances (e.g. serious illness, previously scheduled university-sponsored activity). Washington state law requires that UW develop a policy for accommodation of student absences or significant hardship due to reasons of faith or conscience, or for organized religious activities. The UW's policy, including more information about how to request an accommodation, is available at Religious Accommodations Policy. Accommodations must be requested within the first two weeks of this course using the Religious Accommodations Request form.
3. **Email:** Email inquiries to the instructor and TA should be limited to individual issues that cannot be resolved by reading the syllabus, checking the website or the discussion board. We will attempt to answer such queries within 24 hours. The majority of logistical questions can be answered by reading the syllabus, checking the website or the discussion board. PLEASE do so before emailing questions about the course.

DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION

It is our goal to insure that our learning environment is accessible to everyone. If you have a learning or other disability that requires accommodation, please contact me or Disability Resources for Students in order to make suitable arrangements (011 Mary Gates Hall, uwdrs@uw.edu, 206-543-8924 (Voice & Relay), 206-616-8379 (Fax))

DISCUSSION BOARD

LING 233 has an online discussion board on the Canvas course site to exchange ideas and information about LING 233 any time from any Internet-connected computer.

1. The purpose of the LING 233 discussion board
    - The discussion board is established to provide students with a space of their own where they can ask questions about LING 233 and learn from each other.
    - Therefore, students may wish to post questions about the content of a lecture or section such as:
        - I don't recognize what prescriptivism is and how it connects to language—can someone help?
        - What does 'stigmatized' mean?
        - Is there an assignment for Thursday's section?
    - Please check the discussion board before emailing a question to the TA or instructor—your question may have already been answered there!
    - Sometimes the instructor or TAs will post a question to get students thinking about a topic.
2. The discussion board will be monitored daily (excluding weekends and holidays) by the TAs or instructor, however, they will only join the discussion if a question remains unanswered or to correct misinformation.
3. Discussion board etiquette
    - Postings must be pertinent to the LING 233 course
    - Remember that student behavior on the discussion board is governed by the same rules of academic conduct as behavior in class.

- Please be sensitive to diverse opinions and points of view and refrain from inappropriate behavior. Inappropriate use of the LING 233 discussion board may result in being banned from the discussion board.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Honesty in any college class is critical to your success as a student. It is expected that a student's academic work be of their own making. The vast majority of students maintain highly ethical work standards; however, failure to abide by this standard of conduct is considered to be **academic dishonesty.** You can learn more about UW's policies about ethical conduct in the student handbook: http://www.washington.edu/students/handbook/conduct.html
Any student found to be in violation of proper academic conduct will be dealt with in the strictest manner in accordance with University policy.
Below is a list of a few examples of academic dishonesty.

TYPES OF ACADEMIC DISHONESTY

- Sharing test materials online (i.e. via Quizlet or similar apps) or via hard copy.
- Copying from others on a quiz, test, examination, or assignment;
- Allowing another student to copy one's work on a quiz, test, exam, or assignment;
- Having others take any exam instead of taking the exam oneself;
- Excessive revising or editing by another that substantially alters the student's final work;
- Giving other students information that allows the student an undeserved advantage on an exam, such as telling a peer what to expect on a make-up exam or prepping a student for a test in another section of the same class;
- Taking and using the words, work, or ideas of others and presenting any of these as one's own work is plagiarism. This applies to all work generated by another, whether it be oral, written, or artistic work. Plagiarism may either be deliberate or unintentional, but it a form of academic dishonesty and must be avoided at all costs.

To avoid plagiarizing, one must:

- Submit only one's own work;
- Appropriately cite sources used;
- Appropriately paraphrase or summarize another's ideas or language and acknowledge the source according to set academic standards;
- Document all verbatim borrowing from another according to set academic standards;
- Document any use of a format, method, or approach originated by others; if a student is unclear as to what constitutes academic dishonesty, he or she should consult the instructor.

STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS

The most successful students in this course:

- Engage fully with lecture recordings and office hours
- Prepare readings in advance of lectures and sections—according to the University, students should expect "two hours of homework for every hour of class" http://www.washington.edu/uaa/gateway/advising/gettingstarted/basics_reg.php
- Monitor carefully their grade/progress Grading
- Join a study group to review notes and discuss class topics

LING 233 Autumn 2020 Schedule for **LECTURES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
1	Mar 30	Dialects, standards and vernaculars	W & S Chapter 1
	April 1	Dialects, standards and vernaculars	W & S Chapter 1
	April 2	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 1 **Assignment 0 (practice)**
	April 3	Dialects, standards and vernaculars	W & S Chapter 1
	April 5		**Assignment 1 (Chapter 1)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
2	April 6	Why dialects?	W & S Chapter 2
	April 8	Why dialects?	W & S Chapter 2
	April 9	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 2
	April 10	Why dialects?	W & S Chapter 2 **Test Chapter 1**
	April 12		**Assignment 2 (Chapter 2)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
3	April 13	Levels of dialect	W & S Chapter 3
	April 15	Levels of dialect	W & S Chapter 3
	April 16	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 3
	April 17	Levels of dialect	W & S Chapter 3 **Test Chapter 2**
	April 19		**Assignment 3 (Chapter 3)**
Week	Date	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
4	April 20	Dialects in the US: past, present and future	W & S Chapter 4
	April 22	Dialects in the US: past, present and future	W & S Chapter 4
	April 23	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 4
	April 24	Regional dialects	W & S Chapter 5 **Test Chapter 3**
	April 26		**Assignment 4 (Chapter 4)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
5	April 2	Regional dialects	W & S Chapter 5
	April 29	Regional dialects	W & S Chapter 5
	April 30	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 5
	May 1	Regional dialects	W & S Chapter 5 **Test Chapter 4**
	May 3		**Assignment 5 (Chapter 5)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
6	May 4	Social varieties of American English	W & S Chapter 6
	May 6	Social varieties of American English	W & S Chapter 6
	May 7	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 6
	May 8	Social varieties of American English	W & S Chapter 6 **Test Chapter 5**
	May 10		**Assignment 6** (**Chapter 6)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
7	May 11	Ethnicity and American English	W & S Chapter 7
	May 13	Ethnicity and American English	W & S Chapter 7
	May 14	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 7
	May 15	Ethnicity and American English	W & S Chapter 7 **Test Chapter 6**

	May 17		**Assignment 7 (Chapter 7)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
8	May 18	African American English	W & S Chapter 8
	May 20	African American English	W & S Chapter 8
	May 21	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 8
	May 22	African American English	W & S Chapter 8 **Test Chapter 7**
	May 24		**Assignment 8 (Chapter 8)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
9	May 25	University closed	
	May 27	Guest Speaker: Kristi Winter, UW Variation in American Sign Language	
	May 28	Gender and Language variation	W & S Chapter 9
	May 29	Gender and Language variation	W & S Chapter 9 **Test Chapter 8**
	May 31		**Assignment 9 (Chapter 9)**
Week	**Date**	**Lecture topic**	**Preparation**
10	June 1	Gender and Language variation	W & S Chapter 9
	June 3	Dialects and Style	W & S Chapter 10
	June 4	Quiz section	W & S Chapter 10
	June 5	Dialects and Style	W & S Chapter 10 **Test Chapter 9**
	June 7		**Assignment 10 (Chapter 10)**
Week	**Date**	**Final exam**	**Preparation**
	June 9	8:30 – 10:20AM GWN 301	W & S Chapter 1-10