

# Attention!

This is a representative syllabus.

The syllabus for the course you are enrolled in will likely be different.

Please refer to your instructor's syllabus for more information on specific requirements for a given semester.

**Linguistics 3603**  
**Language Across Cultures<sup>1</sup>**  
**Spring 2016**

Wednesday, Friday 12:45pm-2:05pm, Baker System 180

**Instructor:** XXX

**Office:** Ohio Stadium East (Between Gate 22 & 24)

**Email:** XXX

**Office Phone:** XXX

**Office Hours:** XXX

**Mailbox:** 110L Ohio Stadium East (The room is open 8:00am-5:00pm, M-F)

*Additional questions, comments and concerns can be addressed to:*

**TA Coordinator:** Dr. Hope Dawson

Office: 109C Ohio Stadium East

Email: dawson.165@osu.edu

Office Phone: (614) 292-5420

**Required textbook:**

Ahearn, L. M. (2011). *Living language: An introduction to linguistic anthropology*. John Wiley & Sons.

All additional readings will be available on the course website (Carmen).

**Course Objectives:**

As one of the universal tools of humanity, language is a means of discovering both the diversity and universality found in humanity. This course is designed to help the student appreciate linguistic diversity, both for diversity's sake alone and for what it tells us about the possibilities of human language. This involves understanding the theory in both the linguistic and anthropological sciences, as well as its application in the linguistic-anthropology interface. A secondary goal of the course is exposure to a wide variety of languages and cultures. Prereq: English 1110.01 (110.01), 1110.02 (110.02), or 1110.03 (110.03) or the equivalent. Not open to students with credit for Linguist 375.

**GE information:**

**GE Social Sciences: Individuals and Groups**

**Goals:** Students understand the systematic study of human behavior and cognition; the structure of human societies, cultures, and institutions; and the processes by which individuals, groups, and societies interact, communicate, and use human, natural, and economic resources.

**Expected learning outcomes:** 1. Students understand the theories and methods of social scientific inquiry as they apply to the study of individuals and groups. 2. Students understand the behavior of individuals, differences and similarities in social and cultural contexts of human existence, and the processes by which groups function. 3. Students comprehend and assess individual and group values and their importance in social problem solving and policy making.

**GE Diversity: Global Studies**

**Goals:** Students understand the pluralistic nature of institutions, society, and culture in the United States and across the world in order to become educated, productive, and principled citizens.

**Expected learning outcomes:** 1. Students understand some of the political, economic, cultural, physical, social, and philosophical aspects of one or more of the world's nations, peoples and cultures outside the U.S. 2. Students recognize the role of national and international diversity in shaping their own attitudes and values as global citizens.

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<sup>1</sup> This syllabus is subject to change. I will notify you of the changes and all updates are posted on Carmen course page.

This course is expected to meet these learning outcomes by exploring the use of language in a wide variety of cultures around the world through readings, discussions, training in ethnographic methods, and original data collection with a consultant who grew up in a culture outside of the United States.

### Course components

Participation	15%	6% Carmen, 9% in-class
Carmen Quizzes	15%	2 x 7.5%
Article Presentation	10%	See separate handout
Midterm	20%	
Language Consultant Project	40%	See separate handout
<i>Interviews</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>4 x 5%</i>
<i>Final Presentation + Paper</i>	<i>20%</i>	

#### Participation:

This part of your grade is based on regular attendance in class and willingness to participate in class activities and discussions, as well as completing the readings. You are also expected to post a comment/question for the readings for at least 12 times (roughly once a week) throughout the semester.

Excused absences must be discussed with the instructor *beforehand* or (*only* in the case of sickness) as soon as possible after the fact.

#### Carmen Quizzes:

There will be two Carmen quizzes throughout the course of this class (7.5% each). They are based on readings, article **presentation** and class discussions. **YOU MAY NOT WORK TOGETHER ON THESE.**

#### Article Presentation:

A group of 5-6 will present to the class a summary of a scholarly article on a topic pertinent to the subject. A one-page handout for class is also required. See assignments handout for more details.

#### Midterm:

There will be an in-class closed-book midterm during the 8th week of class, which will count for 20% of your grade. We will review in class for this, and review materials will be provided.

#### Language Consultant Project:

This consists of five assignments, four language consultant interviews and a final paper. More details are given on the separate assignment sheet.

#### Extra Credit:

**1. Linguistics Outside the Classroom (LOC):** By participating in some of the Linguistics Department's experiments, you will be exposed to some experimental methods in linguistics. Participate in one of these experiments or attend one of these talks for 1% extra credit added to your total grade. You may do this once or twice during the semester. For more information, visit <http://linguistics.osu.edu/undergrad/loc>.

**2. Language in the Media:** Find newspaper articles, cartoons, or other kinds of mainstream media that address language and culture. Write a page about how the item relates to something we've discussed in class. You can find a list of useful websites in a separate document on Carmen.

## Grading

OSU standard grading scheme is used.

A 100.0-93.0	A- 92.9-90.0	
B+ 89.9-87.0	B 86.9-83.0	B- 82.9-80.0
C+ 79.9-77.0	C 76.9-73.0	C- 72.9-70.0
D+ 69.9-67.0	D 66.0-60.0	E <59.9

## General policies:

**You are expected to do your own work.** General discussion of assignments is permitted, but students may not collaborate in any way in completing assignments or quizzes.

All assignments must be typed! The **ONLY** acceptable formats are .doc, .docx, .pdf files. Submissions are expected in class on the due date or before class, if electronically submitted. **Electronic submission is permitted only through the Carmen drop-box. DO NOT email me your work.**

**Late work** will be penalized **10% of the grade for every day it is late** (weekends counting as one day), and **will not be accepted more than three days late.**

Please bring a copy of all readings (paper or electronic) to class on the day they are being discussed.

**ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT:** OSU's policy on academic honesty and plagiarism is available at [http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource\\_csc.asp](http://studentaffairs.osu.edu/resource_csc.asp). You are responsible for knowing this code of conduct and adhering to it. I am required by the university to report any suspected case of academic misconduct to the Committee on Academic Misconduct. Should you have any questions about this issue or are unsure as to whether a certain action constitutes a violation of this code please consult me.

**Students with Special Needs:** If you need an accommodation based on the impact of a disability, please contact me to arrange an appointment as soon as possible. At the appointment we can discuss the course format, anticipate your needs and explore potential accommodations. I rely on the Office for Disability Services for assistance in verifying the need to accommodations and developing accommodation strategies. If you have not previously contacted the Office for Disability Services, I encourage you to do so (614-292-3307; [www.ods.ohio-state.edu](http://www.ods.ohio-state.edu))

## SCHEDULE OF TOPICS AND READINGS

**Readings are to be completed for the day they are listed. Assignments are due on the day listed.**

*LL = Living Language: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology*

Week	Date	Topics	Readings
1	1/13 (W)	Course Introduction	
	1/15 (F)	Introduction to Linguistics	Bonvillain (2003), Ch2
2	1/20 (W)	Intro to Linguistic Anthropology	<i>LL</i> Ch1
	1/22 (F)	Intro to Linguistic Anthropology	Zhang (2005)
3	1/27 (W)	Ethnographic Methods <b>**Language Consultant Assignment Preliminary due</b>	<i>LL</i> Ch2
	1/29 (F)	Ethnographic Methods <b>**Presentation Group 1: Duranti (1997)</b>	
4	2/3 (W)	Language Acquisition and Socialization <b>**Presentation Group 2: Ochs &amp; Schieffelin (1984)</b> <b>**Language Consultant Assignment 1 due</b>	<i>LL</i> Ch3
	2/5 (F)	Language, Thought, and Culture <b>**Presentation Group 3: Levinson (2003)</b>	<i>LL</i> Ch4
5	2/10 (W)	Individuals and Styles	Schilling-Estes (2004)
	2/12 (F)	Style and Social Meaning <b>**Quiz 1 due by MIDNIGHT</b>	Eckert (2004) <i>LL</i> Ch5
6	2/17 (W)	Language and Gender <b>**Presentation Group 4: Ochs (1974)</b> <b>**Language Consultant Assignment 2 due</b>	<i>LL</i> Ch9
	2/19 (F)	Language, Race and Ethnicity <b>**Presentation Group 5: Hill (1998)</b>	<i>LL</i> Ch10
7	2/24 (W)	Greetings, Formality and Politeness <b>**Presentation Group 6: Bailey (1997)</b>	Yule (1996)
	2/26 (F)	Curses, Midterm Review	Spinney (2007) McColloch (2014)
8	3/2 (W)	<b>Midterm (in-class)</b>	
	3/4 (F)	Language in Performance	Beal (2009)
9	3/9 (W)	Kinship Terms and Naming <b>**Language Consultant Assignment 3 due</b>	Blum (1997)

	3/11 (F)	Kinship Terms and Naming	Mitchell (2015)
<b>SPRING BREAK: MON. 3/14-FRI. 3/18</b>			
10	3/23 (W)	English in Context	McIntosh (2010)
	3/25 (F)	Multilingualism and Globalization <b>**Presentation Group 7: LaDousa (2010)</b>	<i>LL</i> Chap 6
11	3/30 (W)	Language Death and Endangerment In-class video: The Linguists <b>**Language Consultant Assignment 4 due</b>	<i>LL</i> Chap 11
	4/1 (F)	Language Revitalization In-class video: We Still Live Here <b>**Final Project Topic due via email</b>	
12	4/6 (W)	<i>Like</i> and Language Ideology	D'Arcy (2007)
	4/8 (F)	Literacy Practices <b>**Presentation Group 8: Robertson (2015)</b> <b>**Quiz 2 due by MIDNIGHT</b>	<i>LL</i> Chap 7
13	4/13 (W)	Language, Power and Agency	<i>LL</i> Chap12
	4/15 (F)	<b>Class Presentation</b>	
14	4/20 (W)	<b>Class Presentation</b>	
	4/22 (R)	<b>Class Presentation</b>	
<b>**Final consultant projects due Sunday May 1st, BY MIDNIGHT!**</b>			