

Language & Social Interaction
COM 4930/LIN 4930: Fall 2015
Section: 8849/06AB
Syllabus

Instructor:	Dr. Emily Rine Butler
Meeting Time:	TR Periods 7 & 7-8 (1:55-2:45p Tues. & 1:55-3:50p Thurs.)
Classrooms:	Rolfs 211
Office:	Rolfs 412
Office Hours:	TW 12pm-1pm
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Website:	http://lss.at.ufl.edu (follow log-on for e-learning in CANVAS)

COURSE DESCRIPTION AND GOALS:

The purpose of this course is to increase your understanding of the role of language in social interaction and to heighten your awareness of language choices and their consequences. Topics include different approaches to the study of language in social interaction (theories and research methodologies), ways in which language is used to construct social identity (e.g. race, gender, status), and issues concerning language and culture (e.g. cross-cultural misunderstanding and language socialization). In addition to providing a conceptual framework with which to think about language and interaction, this course will provide experience in observing and analyzing how verbal and nonverbal conduct are enacted and understood in social situations.

COURSE PREREQUISITES: None

TEXTBOOK & COURSE MATERIALS:

All course materials will be available on the class *Canvas* site.

ATTENDANCE & PARTICIPATION:

Your attendance and participation in class is significant to your success in the class. Attendance will be taken daily. It is your responsibility to look for and be sure you have signed the roll sheet by the end of class. If you have not signed the roll sheet, you will be counted as absent. If you come to class unprepared, you may be asked to leave and counted as absent for that class period.

NOTE: In the rare case of class being canceled, you will likely be given an assignment to do instead. In order to receive credit for you're attendance/participation grade for that day, you must submit that assign by Midnight on Canvas on the day it is due. Always check your email before class for updates from me.

How absences affect your grade:

You are allowed 3 absences (3 hours) for whatever reason, so it is not necessary to explain why you missed class. However, you do not get extra sick days excused if you used the 3 hours for visiting people, vacation, studying for an exam, etc. Therefore, use your 3 hours wisely. If you have university business, or are hospitalized and expect that to exceed your 3 hours of class, you must provide documentation that shows you had to use up your 3 absences and then some. Here is the point deduction for absences over 3 hours:

- 4th absence = automatic minus 20 points from attendance/participation (A/P) grade, 5th absence another 20 points deducted from the A/P grade; and so on for all absences after 3. Once all participation points are used up, points will be deducted from your final grade.

*** Note, the first few weeks of class, **you** are responsible for looking for and asking about the roll if you don't see one. I cannot prove you were in class and you will be marked absent if your name is not on the roll even if you say you were there.

IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SIGN IN FOR EVERY CLASS YOU ATTEND!

How tardiness affects your grade:

Again, your presence impacts your ability to integrate and contribute to the discussion. Excessive tardiness or leaving early will therefore affect your grade. **You must be in class at least 40 minutes for each 50-minute segment to get credit for that 50-minute block.** Three (3) tardies (entering late or leaving early) will count as one absence as described above. If you ask permission to leave early to study for an exam or other, I will always say yes, but you will still be considered 'leaving early' and receive a 1/3 absence. You are accountable for your choices, so I will always accept your right to choose what is best for you, but will also uphold a standard across the board for all students. It is not fair to those that come to class on time and forego preparation for other classes, to excuse some students.

GRADING SCALE: (TOTAL: 500 PTS)

<u>Scale for Final Grades:</u>	<u>Scale for Final Grades:</u>
A=465-500	A=93-100%
A-=450-464	A-=90-92%
B+=435-449	B+=87-89%
B=415-434	B=83-86%
B-=400-414	B-=80-82%
C+=385-399	C+=77-79%
C=365-384	C=73-76%
C-=350-364	C-=70-72%
D+=335-349	D+=67-69%
D=315-334	D=63-66%
D-=300-314	D-=60-62%
F=0-299	F=0-59%

COURSE HOMEPAGE:

The course homepage on *Canvas* (<http://lss.at.ufl.edu>) will be central to the class. You will be able to access readings, worksheets, and the class discussion boards through the homepage. I will update it regularly with news and syllabus changes. Although I will make announcements in class and/or send e-mails regarding the assignments and schedule, it is your responsibility to check the homepage for updates.

ACADEMIC DISHONESTY:

All submitted work, written or oral (including exams and power point slides), will be the student's personal, original work, with credit being given to sources used. Plagiarism, signing another student in, the use of prepared speech texts, and other forms of dishonesty are grounds for failure of this course and referral to the University Judicial process.

STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Please inform me if I can do anything to make sure physical circumstances don't get in the way of your work. UF's official statement on ADA issues includes: "Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation." **I'd appreciate your paperwork the first week of class.**

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Date		Topic	Readings & HW due today
Week 1 8/24- 8/28	T TH	Syllabus The Social Nature of Language	"Lang as Soc. Action"; Austin (p. 476-479) ; Cutting A1 (p. 2-13)
Week 2 8/31- 9/4	T TH	Speech Acts & Pragmatics: Speech Acts Speech Acts & Pragmatics: Cooperative Principle & Politeness Theories	Cutting A2 (p. 13-22) Cutting A3 (p. 22-23); Cutting A4 (p. 32-43); Cutting B2 due
Week 3 9/7- 9/11	T TH	Speech Acts & Pragmatics Speech Acts & Pragmatics: Intercultural Pragmatics	Cutting B4 due Cutting A7 (p. 66-78); Cutting B7 to do in class

Week 4 9/14- 9/18	T TH	Ethnomethodology & CA Ethnomethodology & CA	Garcia Chapt. 1-2 (p. 3-24) Garcia Chapt. 3 (p. 25-36); Breeching exper. HW due
Week 5 9/21- 9/25	T TH	Ethnomethodology & CA Ethnomethodology & CA	Garcia Chapt. 5 (p. 48-59) Garcia Chapt. 6 (p. 60-73)
Week 6 9/28- 10/2	T TH	Ethnomethodology & CA Ethnomethodology & CA	Garcia Chapt. 7 (p. 74-84) Garcia Chapt. 23 (p. 266-281)
Week 7 10/5- 10/9	T TH	Language Socialization Language Socialization	Schieffelin & Ochs (1986) Heath (1982)
Week 8 10/12- 10/16	T TH	Exam Prep EXAM 1	
Week 9 10/19- 10/23	T TH	Constructing Social Identities Constructing Social Identities	Cutting A6 (p. 56-66) Ochs (1993)
Week 10 10/26- 10/30	T TH	Constructing Social Identities – Gender Constructing Social Identities - Gender	McConnell-Ginet (2003) Cameron (1997)
Week 11 11/2- 11/6	T TH	Constructing Social Identities - Gender Constructing Social Identities – Gender	Kiesling (2004) Wolf (2015); Riley (2015); Cameron (2015); “From up- speak to vocal fry” *Deadline to submit a paper draft -Fri midnight (optional)
Week 12 11/9- 11/13	T TH	Constructing Social Identities – Culture Constructing Social Identities – Culture	Alim (2004) Bucholtz (2001); Nugent (2009); NPR transcript
Week 13 11/16- 11/20	T TH	Constructing Social Identities - Culture Constructing Social Identities - Online	Schecter & Bayley (1997) TBD

Week 14	T	Course Summary- Tying it all together	* Final Papers due by Wed. at midnight on Canvas
11/23-11/27	TH	NO CLASS - THANKSGIVING BREAK	
Week 15	T	FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
11/30-12/4	TH	FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
Week 16	T	FINAL PROJECT PRESENTATIONS	
12/7-12/11			

DESCRIPTION OF ASSIGNMENTS:

Class attendance/participation (100 pts)

Final Presentation (50 pts)

Homework/In-Class Activities (50 pts)

Reaction papers (25 pts x 4)

Exam 1 (100 points)

Final Project (100 points)

TOTAL: 500 Pts

Extra Credit: 20 pts. possible

Reaction Papers

We will be reading an array of articles over the course of the semester. Students are required to write **4** reaction papers (25 pts. each) for any of the articles we read in class. Note: Articles that are eligible for a reaction paper are marked in **blue** on the weekly schedule. Reaction papers should be approximately 2-4 pages in length (double-spaced, 12-pt, Times New Roman font, 1" margins).

In each paper, you will briefly summarize the paper before explaining what you liked and/or didn't like about the paper and why. You will be expected to utilize the terminology we have learned on a given topic to talk about the article in your paper. Reaction papers are always due by midnight on the Friday of the week we discussed the article in class and can be submitted on the course website on CANVAS.

Exam 1

The Midterm Exam will be given in class and will cover material from the first 7 weeks of class. It will be composed of definitions, multiple-choice questions, short answer, and an essay.

Final Project

For your final project, you will analyze a piece of discourse (written or oral/visual) to illustrate some principle we learned in the class OR do a small literature review on a concept from class (at least 10 sources). It may be an analysis of how a single word is used in society, such as in the article we read on the word "dude". It may also look at a broader theme, such as language and gender, class, ethnicity, etc. You have a lot of latitude, but topics must be approved by me in advance. The paper will be approximately 8-10 pages long (double-spaced) and it will be due before Thanksgiving Break.

Final Presentation:

At the end of the semester, you will give short a 5-6 min presentation explaining to the class what you analyzed for your final project paper. If presenting data, you will be expected to provide handouts or a PPT so that we can see excerpts of it. Video clips or other visuals are encouraged. Dress code on presentation day is business casual (e.g. no jeans, shorts, t-shirts, tank tops, PJs, etc.).

Extra Credit

I will use some of the questions for the midterm exam based on questions you have submitted. For extra credit, create 20 questions & answers based on the readings we used (NOT the lectures). Use multiple choice, matching, and definition types of questions ONLY. Either indicate the answers below each question. (Note: Separate and label questions by reading.)

You must submit the Extra Credit on CANVAS on the day it is due (no exceptions). Plan ahead. Each set of extra credit questions is worth up to 10 points added to your total point score (out of 500) for the course.

Additionally, I am always looking for real-world examples of language use in articles, video clips, etc. to use in class to demonstrate a particular theme. You may email me examples that you find that you think will be interesting to the rest of the class, and if I use it, you will receive 5 credit points. You may earn a maximum of 10 extra credit points this way.