

## LINGUISTICS 2—Introduction to Sociolinguistics

Spring 2010  
Section 3383 Online

Instructor: Dr. Genevieve Patthey

Office: City College @ Wilshire, Room 263

Office Hours: Tu,Th 3:30 – 5:30 pm, W 4-6 pm, and by appointment

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**Course Description:** Linguistics 2 presents a general introduction to the scientific study of language in society. Major areas of sociolinguistic analysis and key studies will be surveyed. Topics include linguistic variations and their relationships to geography and identity in both monolingual and bi/multilingual settings; language, culture, and cognition; language socialization; conversation analysis, and discourse analysis.

**Important:** This is an online course. There will only be one traditional class meeting on Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup> in CCW 229 for the mandatory orientation from 4 to 6 pm. The rest of the class will proceed online. To complete the **required online coursework**, you will need to access the **Linguistics 2 Online Web Course** at [hostedclasses.com/patthey](http://hostedclasses.com/patthey) and register. To register and enroll online, every student needs a valid email address and the Linguistics 2 Moodle Course Key—[TBA at the Orientation](#).

### Materials:

- Mesthrie, R., Swann, J. Deumert, A., & Leap, W. L. (2000). *Introducing Sociolinguistics*. Philadelphia, PA: John Benjamins.
- Online Readings as directed in Sessions.

### Requirements and Grading:

- An online reading-response journal (20%)
- Participation in bi-weekly class discussions (20%)
- Three written projects:
  - 1) A midterm exam (15%)
  - 2) A short sociolinguistic research paper (30%)
  - 3) A final exam 'thought paper' (15%)

Papers should be written using APA formatting and citation conventions. Be advised that since this is a college transfer course, my standards are high.

### Course Policies

**Attendance:** I will monitor your online activity. In the fourth and again in the tenth week of the session, I will drop students who have not submitted any work. After the tenth week, failure to complete assignments will result in a failing grade. Since the course will be conducted online, you can complete much of your coursework at your convenience, but beware: It is very easy to fall behind to the point where you may find it impossible to catch up. Therefore, complete the readings and the online activities on time!

**Late assignments:** Discussions and Reading Response activities will alternate weekly and have strict deadlines. No late work will be accepted for these activities. Writing assignments will also have deadlines. I do accept late drafts, but I always prioritize work that is turned in on time. If you're late, why should I be in any hurry to read your work? Assignments that have been turned in on time will receive my full attention and comments; late assignments will be read last and often without comments.

**Camaraderie:** Study groups can help enormously with understanding the more technical aspects of the subject. I encourage you to communicate with each other and explore topics of interest together. However, assignments must be written up individually, and you should always credit all your sources, including each other, by including appropriate citations and references. Any material copied from another source without appropriate citation and integration with original ideas will receive no credit.

**Accommodations:** If you have a documented disability and anticipate needing accommodation in this course, please make arrangements to meet with me during the second week of classes. Also, request a letter from the Office of Special Services (x 2270) verifying your disability and stating the needed accommodations. All information will remain confidential.

#### Important Dates:

Last day to add a class	February 20
Last day to drop a class with a full refund	February 22
Last day to drop a class without a "W" on record	March 7
Last day to drop a class with a "W" on record	May 16
Final Exams Week	June 1 – 7

**Linguistics 2 Learning Outcome:** By the end of this course, students should be able to complete a research project that demonstrates the following:

- ❖ Defines “language” in linguistic terms and describes its relationship to society as theorized by various sociolinguistic approaches.
- ❖ Describes basic concepts of sociolinguistics and explains sociolinguistic phenomena using appropriate sociolinguistic terms.
- ❖ Uses specific technical skills for analyzing language data and linguistic variation and explains the systematic properties of language use and language variation.
- ❖ Explains how various social, cultural, and affective factors influence language processes, language acquisition, and communication.

### **Linguistics 2 Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Find, survey, and evaluate current professional research in sociolinguistics;
2. Place efforts of current research into historical framework of field;
3. Write extended analytical reviews of current experiments in sociolinguistics;
4. Design, conduct, and analyze the data collected from a brief experiment of language in context, and report the results to a class in a written presentation.

## Linguistics 2—Tentative Spring 2010 Schedule Readings & Assignments

- Session 1  
February 11 – 21
- Readings from IS:  
Chapter 1: *Clearing the Ground: Basic Issues, Concepts and Approaches*, pp. 1 – 43
- Assignments:
1. Participate in online discussion
  2. Reading Reflection #1
- Session 2  
February 22 –  
March 7
- Readings from IS:  
Chapter 2: *Regional Dialectology*, pp. 44 – 75  
Chapter 3: *Social Dialectology*, pp. 76 – 113
- Assignments:
1. Participate in online discussion
  2. Reading Reflection #2
  3. Complete Linguistic Autobiography
- Session 3  
March 8 – 21
- Readings from IS:  
Chapter 4: *Language Variation and Change*,  
pp. 114 – 147  
Chapter 5: *Language Choice and Code Switching*,  
pp. 148 – 183
- Assignments:
1. Participate in online discussion
  2. Reading Reflection #3
- Session 4  
March 22 – April  
11
- Readings from IS:  
Chapter 6: *Language in Interaction*, pp. 184 – 215
- Assignments:
1. Participate in online discussion
  2. Reading Reflection #4
- Spring Break  
March 29 – April 5
3. Midterm Exam due midnight Sunday, April 11

Session 5  
April 12 – 25

Chapter 7: *Gender and Language Use*, pp. 216 – 247  
Chapter 10: *Critical Sociolinguistics: Approaches to Language and Power*

Assignments:

1. Participate in online discussion
2. Reading Reflection #5
3. Research Proposal due midnight, April 18

Session 6  
April 26 – May 9

Chapter 8: *Language Contact 1: Maintenance, Shift and Death*, pp. 248 – 278  
Chapter 9: *Language Contact 2: Pidgins, Creoles, and 'New Englishes'*, pp. 279 – 315

Assignments:

1. Participate in online discussion
2. Reading Reflection #6

Session 7  
May 10 – 30

Readings from IS:  
Chapter 11: *Sociolinguistics and Education*, pp. 354 – 383  
Chapter 12: *Language Planning and Policy*, pp. 384 – 418

Assignments:

1. Participate in online discussion
2. Reading Reflection #7
3. Research Draft due midnight, May 15, for comments
4. Research presentation

Session 8  
Finals Week  
June 1 – June 7

Assignments:

1. Final Research Essay due midnight, June 6
2. Final Exam: Options and specific times TBA.