

Department of Linguistics, Languages & Cultures
 University of Calgary
 Term/Year: Spring 2015

LING 309: LANGUAGE AND POWER

Days and Time: T,R 12:00–14:45

Room: SS 109

Instructor: Ashley Burnett

Office: CHC 128

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Office Hours: W 13:00-14:00 or by appointment

COURSE DESCRIPTION

This course examines the effects of social contexts on language. The nature of the linguistic resources used to create, enhance and justify positions of dominance or subordination, or to influence and persuade populations. Examples are drawn from the discourse of gender, social and ethnic relations, government and business.

Note: A background in linguistics is not required, but it is recommended.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Class participation*	10%	
2 Assignments** (15% each)	30%	(June 4, June 18)
2 Midterms*** (20% each)	40%	(May 28, June 11)
Final exam***	20%	(scheduled by Registrar)

*Students are required to participate in class discussions. This means that regular attendance and preparation for class is needed.

** Students are encouraged to discuss concepts and work together throughout the course, but **assignments must be completed independently** and in the student's own words.

***Students may bring one, single-sided 8.5x11" page of notes with them to the midterm and final exams. Other aids (textbook, electronic devices, etc.) are not permitted in exams.

GRADING SCHEDULE

A+ = 97-100 %	B+ = 83-87%	C+ = 68-72%	D+ = 53-57%
A = 93-96 %	B = 78-82%	C = 63-67%	D = 50-52%
A- = 88-92 %	B- = 73-77%	C- = 58-62%	F = 0-49%

(See the University Calendar for broader interpretation of the letter grades.)

ABSENCE AND LATE WORK

1. Unless otherwise indicated, **all assignments are to be handed in at the beginning of the class** on the designated due date. At the instructor's discretion, late assignments will be accepted up to the beginning of the following class if a valid excuse is provided.

2. There will be **no make-up midterm exams**. At the instructor's discretion, students who miss the midterm for a valid, documented reason may have the weighting normally assigned to a midterm exam transferred to the final exam. Valid excuses for test absence are birth, death, marriage, and serious illness or injury on the day of the test. Appropriate supporting documentation is required. Unexcused absence from an exam will result in a grade of zero. Students who miss the final exam will only be able to make up the exam in exceptional circumstances (see calendar).

REQUIRED TEXT

Mooney, Annabelle (ed). 2015. *Language, Society and Power: An Introduction* (4th edition). New York: Routledge.

COURSE SCHEDULE

Week	Class/Date	Topic	Readings
1	R – May 14	What is Language? Introduction; language systems; language diversity; power; ideology	Ch 1
2	T – May 19	Language Thought and Representation; linguistic diversity; political correctness	Ch. 2
	R – May 21	Language and Politics; language of persuasion	Ch. 3
3	T – May 26	Language and the Media; online media	Ch. 4
	R – May 28	Midterm I (Ch. 1 – 4)	
4	T – June 2	Linguistic Landscapes; signs and graffiti; internet	Ch. 5
	R – June 4	Assignment 1 due Language and Gender and Sexuality; sexism; gender-related speech styles	Ch. 6
5	T – June 9	Language and Ethnicity; ethnolects; code-switching	Ch. 7
	R – June 11	Midterm II (Ch. 5 – 7)	
6	T – June 16	Language and Age; reflections of status; child/elder directed language	Ch. 8
	R – June 18	Assignment 2 due Language and Social class; sociolinguistics	Ch. 9
7	T – June 23	Global Englishes and the Standard Language Debate; standardization; attitudes and education	Ch. 10
	R – June 25	Language and Identity; dialects and groups	Additional reading
Final Exam (Ch.8 – 10, additional reading) – to be scheduled by registrar (June 27-30)			

GENERAL COURSE/UNIVERSITY INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS

STUDENT ADVISING

For any questions regarding the undergraduate or graduate program in linguistics, the organization of your program, or the selection of courses, contact the appropriate advisor as follows:

Undergraduate Advisor Dr. Dennis Storoshenko CHD509 lingadv@ucalgary.ca
Graduate Program Director Dr. Susanne Carroll CHD 507 linggrad@ucalgary.ca

FACULTY of ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING and STUDENT INFORMATION

The Faculty of Arts Student Centre (ASC) is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance that they require. The ASC is located in the Social Sciences Building (SS 102), please contact them by phone 403-220-3580, or email artsads@ucalgary.ca, or visit their website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate>.

For registration issues, contact Enrolment Services who will also be able to help you with questions about fee payments, awards, financial aid, admission questions, visiting and exchange students, open studies, transcripts, and deferred exams. Enrolment Services is located in the MacKimmie Block, Room 117, or you can contact them at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/>.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation, and have not registered with **Student Accessibility Services** (formerly the Disability Resource Centre), please contact their office at 403-220-8237. Students who have not registered with **Student Accessibility Services** are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. **You are required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.**

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY ACT (FOIP)

The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act was enacted by the Alberta Legislature on June 1, 1994. The Act is intended first of all to allow any person the right of access to the records in the custody and under the control of a public body although this right is subject to limited and specific exceptions. The Act also includes a strong right to privacy component, allowing individuals to control the manner in which a public body collects personal information, to control the use that a public body may make of the information, and to control the disclosure of that information by a public body. It also allows individuals the right of access to personal information about themselves held by a public body and the right to request corrections to that information.

For more information on FOIP, visit the website <http://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip/>, or contact Jo-Anne Munn Gafuik at 403-220-3602 or by email munnngafu@ucalgary.ca

PLAGIARISM AND ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Most commonly plagiarism exists when:

1. the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
2. parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
3. the whole work (e.g. an essay) is copied from another source; and/or
4. a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted. Students are often encouraged to work together in preparing homework assignments, but check with your instructor beforehand. However, unless noted otherwise in writing, students must write up their own answers for submission of the assignment. Failure to do so constitutes plagiarism.

Plagiarism is an extremely serious academic offence. Possible penalties for plagiarism include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, suspension, or expulsion. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of plagiarism is also guilty of academic misconduct.

For more information on academic misconduct and related U of C regulations, please consult the Student Misconduct section - page 49-54 of the current printed University Calendar, or you can visit the on-line University Calendar at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>.

EMERGENCY EVACUATION AND ASSEMBLY POINTS

The University of Calgary is committed to creating a safe and healthy living and learning environment. The health and safety of our employees, students and the general public are the highest priority of the University of Calgary's Emergency Management Program. During times of emergency, Assembly Points have been identified across campus. These areas have been selected as they are large enough to hold a significant number of people and will provide an evacuated population access to washroom facilities and protection from the elements. Assembly points are also designed to establish a location for information updates:

- from the emergency responders to the evacuees; and
- from the evacuated population to the emergency responders.

Please familiarize yourself with the following:

Emergency Assembly Points: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

Emergency Instructions: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/node/28>

SAFEWALK INFORMATION

Twenty four hours a day and seven days a week, Campus Security Safewalk volunteers walk people safely to their destination on campus. This service is free and available to students, staff and campus visitors. Requesting Safewalk volunteers to walk with you is easy:

- Call 403-220-5333 (24 hours a day/seven days a week, 365 days a year)
- Use the Help Phones (they are not just for emergencies)
- Approach an on-duty Safewalker and request a walk

For more information, please contact the Safewalk main office (Campus Security) at 403-220-4750, by email safewalk@ucalgary.ca, or visit their website at <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE INFORMATION

The Students' Union and the Graduate Students' Association (GSA) in partnership with the University of Calgary offer students a key advocacy resource to assist in addressing concerns and issues they encounter at the University with the Student Ombuds Office.

Students in an undergraduate program can contact the Student's Union, whose offices are located in the MacEwan Student Centre, Room MSC 251, by phone at 403-220-6551, by email at arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, or by visiting their website at: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/>.

Students in a graduate program can contact the GSA at 403-220-5997, by email ask@gsa.ucalgary.ca, or by visiting their website: <http://gsa.ucalgary.ca/>. Please note - the GSA Offices are now located in MLT 214.

The Student Ombuds Office offers a safe place for undergraduate and graduate students of the University of Calgary to discuss student related issues, interpersonal conflict, academic and non-academic concerns, and many other problems. The office is located in the Administration Building, Room A166, or students can contact them by phone at 403-220-6420, by email at ombuds@ucalgary.ca, or by visiting their website at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/provost/students/ombuds>.

Updated: September, 2014 (FP)