

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS  
*Linguistics 260-3 DAY*  
**LANGUAGE, CULTURE, AND SOCIETY**

**FALL SEMESTER 2003**

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. Panayiotis A. Pappas  
CLASS TIMES: M AQ 3149 1230-120 W WMX 3260 1130-1320  
OFFICE HOURS: AQ 6216 M 1130-1215, 430-630 PM  
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WEBPAGE: <http://www.sfu.ca/~papappas/webpages/Teaching/teaching.html>  
MARKER: **Kwok-Lai Connie So (klso@sfu.ca)–for grading only**  
FINAL EXAM: December 5 (Friday) 1200-1400 Location TBA

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

This course examines aspects of language in cultural contexts. The course establishes the role of culture in establishing the meanings of linguistic forms. The focus of the course will be on the role that language and language use play in signaling social relationships. Of particular interest are the correlations between language and social class, language and social network and language and gender. Explanations for these correlations are presented and evaluated.

**REQUIRED TEXTS:**

1. Janet Holmes. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*, Prentice Hall, 2001 (2nd edition).
2. L. Bauer and P. Trudgill. *Language Myths*. Penguin 1998. Textbooks are available at the SFU Bookstore (Burnaby campus, only). Additional readings will be available from Library Reserve

**COURSE REQUIREMENTS:**

The course will consist of three lecture/discussion hours per week. Students are expected to attend all lectures and are encouraged to participate in discussions. The grades for this course will be assessed as follows:

Class Participation	10%
Two Midterm Examinations	25% each
Final Examination	40%

In addition to these requirements students are expected to observe the following guidelines for student behavior in order for the class to proceed smoothly.

1. Students must arrive on class on time and not leave before the class is over. Several important announcements will be made during the beginning and end of the lecture and it will be assumed that ALL students have heard them. These announcements will concern reading assignments, exam material etc.
2. Students must behave respectfully towards the instructor and their fellow students. Talking with classmates, using cell phones and any other disruptive behavior will not be allowed. If students persist they will be asked to leave the lecture hall.

3. It is very important for students to participate in class discussions especially during the tutorials. Therefore everyone must come to class prepared. Preparation includes the careful reading of the assignments, noting any questions that you have, and thinking of how your reading relates to your own personal experiences.
4. Students must not rely solely on lecture notes in order to prepare for exams. The lecture notes which will be available on line mostly indicate the topics that are covered during a lecture. It is the students' responsibility to be able to discuss such topics thoroughly based on the FULL CONTENT of a lecture and the assigned reading.
5. Some questions on the exams will require students to discuss an issue in a small paragraph. The students are expected to be able to do so in STANDARD ACADEMIC ENGLISH appropriate for a university course of the 200 Level. Punctuation, spelling, and clarity of your expression will be considered in the evaluation of your responses.
6. Students requiring accommodations as a result of a disability, must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (604-291-3112 or <mailto:csdo@sfu.ca>)
7. Academic dishonesty will not be tolerated and will be punished to the full extent that University Regulations allow. Academic dishonesty includes cheating, fabrication, fraud, plagiarism and facilitating academic dishonesty. Students are advised that photocopies of exams are made before the originals are returned. The following websites provide more information on the topic of academic dishonesty and student conduct.

[http://www.reg.sfu.ca/calendar/General\\_Regs.html-897900](http://www.reg.sfu.ca/calendar/General_Regs.html-897900)

<http://www.sfu.ca/policies/teaching/index.htm>

## **TUTORIALS**

Tutorials will be held on Mondays. For these sessions you will have to read a pre-selected article (**AVAILABLE AT LIBRARY RESERVE**), chapters from Language Myths, or a combination of the two. The readings are clearly indicated in the schedule below. Students should arrive prepared with questions, especially for the articles, which may be challenging. These articles will be explicated in class and their key points highlighted. These distillations of the articles may form the basis of questions in any of the exams.

## **EXAMINATIONS**

As seen above there will be two Midterm examinations which will cover specific parts of the course, that is, they will not be cumulative. These exams will help the instructor assess student progress, and prepare the students for the final exam. The final exam will be cumulative, covering all the subjects discussed in class. All exams will last two hours. If a student has a legitimate and well-documented reason to be absent during an exam, he or she will be allowed to take the exam at a different time, but within one week of the originally scheduled time. Students who know of their absence beforehand should inform the instructor. Students who have a question about their grades must first address it with the TA. The instructor will not discuss grading without a referral from the TA.

## STUDENT-INSTRUCTOR COMMUNICATION

The students are encouraged to communicate with the instructor about their progress in the course, and other course-oriented issues. Students are welcome to visit AQ 6216 during office hours, or to set up an appointment at a time that is convenient both to them and the instructor. For certain brief questions the students can also contact the instructor by phone. Undoubtedly, most of our communication will take place via e-mail. Students are asked to keep in mind the following:

1. If I think the question may interest other students as well, I will post it on the class website ANONYMOUSLY, and provide the answer there as well as respond to the student who asked the question.
2. Questions that require long answers cannot be addressed over email. I will inform you to ask the question in class or come to office hours to discuss it.
3. I answer class email only during working hours. That is 9am to 5pm Monday through Friday. If you send me an email on Saturday, I will not answer it during the weekend.
4. In order for your emails to be handled properly please start your subject line as follows: QLING260, e.g. 'QLING260-midterm exam'
5. Please make sure your question is phrased clearly and politely.
6. Depending on the volume of received email I may not be able to respond immediately.

**GRADING:** The following scale will be used to determine the letter grades.

97-100	A+	87-89	B+	77-79	C+	60-69	D
92-96	A	82-86	B	72-79	C	below 60	F
90-91	A-	80-81	B-	70-71	C-		

## CLASS SCHEDULE (SUBJECT TO CHANGE)

JH stands for Janet Holmes' textbook, BT stands for the Bauer & Trudgill Book, Articles can be found at Library Reserves.

WEEK	DATE	SUBJECT
1	SEP 3	INTRODUCTION—JH Chapter 1
2	SEP 8/10	Activity / JH Chapter 2
3	SEP 15/17	Blom and Gumperz (1972) / JH Chapter 4
4	SEP 22/24	Thomason (1997), BT Chapter 10, 14 / JH Chapter 3, 5
5	SEP 29/ OCT 1	Stebbins (2002) BT Chapter 4, 5/ JH Chapter 6
6	OCT 6/8	BT Chapter 9, 17/ 1 <sup>st</sup> Midterm
7	OCT 13/15	NO Classes / JH Chapter 7
8	OCT 20/22	Chambers (2003) / JH Chapter 8
9	OCT 27/29	BT Chapter 13, 14/ JH Chapter 9
10	NOV 3/5	BT Chapter 1, 15, 21/ 2 <sup>nd</sup> Midterm
11	NOV 10/12	Answers to Midterm / JH Chapter 10, 11
12	NOV 17/19	BT 16, 8/ JH Chapter 12
13	NOV 24/26	Graham (1975), Schultz (1975), BT 6 / JH Chapter 13
14	DEC 1	Last day of Classes, BT 11, 12
	DEC 5	Final Exam