Department of Linguistics  
Spring Term 2013 [1131]

LINGUISTICS 806-4  
Sociolinguistics

Instructor: Dr. Panayiotis Pappas  
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COURSE DESCRIPTION:
This course will focus on the discipline of variationist sociolinguistics, the quantitative analysis of language variation and change, in both spoken and written forms. We will examine the social and linguistic patterns that play a role in variation, and focus on key concepts such as linguistic variable, and methodological issues such as the speech community, building a corpus, and statistical modeling. Students will gain a solid understanding of the theory that underpins the variationist framework, and the practical skills that are required in order to carry out a variationist project.

REQUIRED TEXTS:
- Other readings will be distributed electronically on a weekly basis

COURSE GRADING:
- Participation 10%
- In-class presentations 20%
- Literature Review 20%
- Report on Empirical Findings 20%
- Final Paper 30%

Students should familiarize themselves with the Department’s Standards on Class Management and Student Responsibilities at http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/undergraduate/standards.html.

Please note that a grade of “FD” may be assigned as a penalty for academic dishonesty.

Student requests for accommodation of their religious practices must be made in writing by the end of the first week of classes or no later than one week after a student adds a course.

Students requiring accommodation as the result of a disability must contact the Centre for Students with Disabilities (778.782.3112 or csdo@sfu.ca).