



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY

Faculty of Arts  
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

LING 309

Language and Power

Summer 2023

TR 13:00 - 15:45 in person

Assigned Room: SA 104

COURSE OUTLINE

**INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:** Ganna (Anna) Pletnyova

**OFFICE HOURS:** by appointment on Zoom (link will be provided in course D2L site under Communication/Zoom) or by e-mail.

**E-MAIL:** [ganna.pletnyova@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ganna.pletnyova@ucalgary.ca) I will respond to e-mails within 24 hrs during weekdays

**TELEPHONE NUMBER:** N/A

**DESCRIPTION**

This 3-credit course will focus on the use of language to create, enhance and justify positions of dominance or subordination, or to influence and persuade populations. It will look at how language reflects a speaker's age, ethnicity, gender and class and examine how language represents and constructs a speaker's identity and attitude to language use.

**OBJECTIVES**

The course aims to develop students' awareness of linguistic diversity as well as linguistic tolerance and empathy. The long-term goal of the course is to contribute to greater linguistic justice.

**OUTCOMES**

Students will be able to

- form an awareness of relationships between language and power in various social contexts,
- recognize the role of language in shaping social inequalities, including issues of race, class, gender, ethnicity, etc.,
- develop critical thinking skills as well as the ability to present well-supported arguments on topics related to language and power,
- apply sociolinguistic theories and methodologies to investigate language and power dynamics in real-world situations.

**REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS**

Mooney, A., & Evans, B. (2015). *Language, Society and Power: An Introduction*. 4th Edition. Routledge. (Available online through [library.ucalgary.ca](https://library.ucalgary.ca))

Wardhaugh, R., & Fuller, J. M. (2015). *An introduction to sociolinguistics*. Retrieved from <https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca>

**All texts are available online free of charge through <https://library.ucalgary.ca/>.**

**TECHNOLOGY**

- 1) D2L (for course notifications, materials, quizzes, discussions, Dropbox for assignment submission)
- 2) Top Hat (for in-class discussions and surveys)
- 3) Zoom (for the instructor's office hour, meetings with the TA, online presentations)
- 4) Google Workspace (for certain collaborative assignments)

**RECOMMENDED COURSE MATERIALS**

Aarts, B., McMahon, A. M. S., & Hinrichs, L. (2021). *The handbook of English linguistics* (B. Aarts, A. M. S. McMahon, & L. Hinrichs, Eds.; Second edition.). Wiley Blackwell.



Faculty of Arts

School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

Sedivy, J. (2021). *Memory speaks: On losing and reclaiming language and self*. The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press. <https://doi.org/10.4159/9780674269637>

Jowett, G., & O'Donnell, V. (2019). *Propaganda & persuasion* (Seventh edition.). SAGE Publications, Inc.

**COURSE NOTES**

- 1) The information on the course outline and schedule is not binding and can change according to the needs of the class.
- 2) This is an in-person class with several online components.
  - The lectures are synchronous and in-person.
  - Discussions, quizzes and the final essay are asynchronous online activities.
  - Group presentations are synchronous online activities to be done in a Zoom meeting.
 For more details, please see the Assessment section below.
- 3) Regular attendance of in-person classes is expected. In case of any expected absences, students should contact the instructor in advance or as soon as possible afterwards.
- 4) Students are expected to check their ucalgary email and the course D2L page for instructor's notifications, course news, and reminders.
- 5) It is recommended that students bring an electronic device such as a smartphone to class to participate in some class activities.
- 6) In case of technical issues while doing online assignments, students are advised to contact the instructor immediately. It is also recommended to take screenshots. The instructor will decide on the best course of action to help the student complete the assignment.
- 7) Late submissions without legitimate reasons will not be accepted.
- 8) During class discussions, students are asked to show respect and consideration towards their peers. Rude behaviour will not be tolerated.
- 9) There is no final exam.

**ASSESSMENT**

Assessment type	Weight	Duration	Date (tentative)	Location and modality
4 online quizzes	5% x 4 = 20%	45 min each, with an availability window of 24 hours	Quiz 1 starts July 6; ends July 7 Quiz 2 starts July 13; ends July 14 Quiz 3 starts July 25; ends July 26 Quiz 4 starts Aug 3; ends Aug 4	In D2L, asynchronous. The instructor is to be contacted in case of technical issues.
2 online discussions of assigned readings	7.5% x 2 = 15%	Availability window: 7 days	Discussion 1 starts June 29; ends July 6 Discussion 2 starts July 20; ends July 7	In D2L, asynchronous.
Group project: - online group presentation - final project submission	Total: 25% 10% 15%	Over the course of the semester until Week 6	Group presentations start on July 11 and run until Aug 1; Final project submission – Aug 1	Online presentation on Zoom, summary is to be presented in D2L Discussions; Final project submission to D2L



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Faculty of Arts  
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				Dropbox
Active participation in online and in-class activities (e.g. discussions, group work, etc.)	10%			Regular attendance of in-person classes is expected. In case of any expected absences, students should contact the instructor in advance or as soon as possible afterwards.
Final essay	30%	Availability window: 4 days	Starts Aug 8, ends Aug 12	Asynchronous, not in class, open book

**GRADING SCALE**

A+ = 97-100 %	B+ = 85-88%	C+ = 74-77%	D+ = 62-66%
A = 92-96 %	B = 81-84%	C = 70-73%	D = 58-61%
A- = 89-91 %	B- = 78-80%	C- = 67-69%	F = 0-57%

**INTEGRITY AND CONDUCT**

All members of the University community have a responsibility to familiarize themselves with the Statement on Principles of Conduct, and to comply with the University of Calgary Code of Conduct and Non-Academic Misconduct policy and procedures (available at: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/pubs/calendar/current/k.html>).

**Academic misconduct**

Academic Misconduct refers to student behaviour which compromises proper assessment of a student's academic activities and includes: cheating; fabrication; falsification; plagiarism; unauthorized assistance; failure to comply with an instructor's expectations regarding conduct required of students completing academic assessments in their courses; and failure to comply with exam regulations applied by the Registrar.

For information on the Student Academic Misconduct Policy and Procedure please visit:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-academic-misconduct-policy>

Additional information is available on the Academic Integrity Website at <https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/student-success/learning/academic-integrity>

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION**

Course materials created by instructors (including presentations and posted notes, labs, case studies, assignments and exams) remain the intellectual property of the instructor. These materials may not be reproduced, redistributed or copied without the explicit consent of the instructor. All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/acceptable-use-material-protected-copyright-policy>) and requirements of the Copyright Act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for



**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/access-information-privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

**ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at:

<https://ucalgary.ca/student-services/access/prospective-students/academic-accommodations> .

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:

<https://www.ucalgary.ca/legal-services/university-policies-procedures/student-accommodation-policy>

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

**FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre 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 they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: [ascarts@ucalgary.ca](mailto:ascarts@ucalgary.ca)

Website: <https://arts.ucalgary.ca/current-students/undergraduate>

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Tower.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: [arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca).

**INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops and tablets are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

**SUPPORT AND RESOURCES**

Links to information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.