



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

LING 373
Introduction to Sociolinguistics
Spring 2021
TR 13:00 – 15:45
Online Synchronous Lectures, via Zoom

COURSE OUTLINE

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Corey Telfer

E-MAIL: corey.telfer@ucalgary.ca

OFFICE HOURS: W 10:00 – 11:00, or by appointment (Zoom link will be provided)

TEACHING ASSISTANT'S NAME: Andrea Levinstein Rodriguez

E-MAIL: andrea.levinsteinrod@ucalgary.ca

HOURS: TBA, or by appointment (contact via email)

DESCRIPTION

"Social differentiation of language in terms of the gender, socio-economic status and geographical distribution of speakers." (Calendar)

OBJECTIVES

This course will introduce students to the most common sources of variation in language, and discuss how and why this variation takes place. This course will also encompass topics such as language contact, language change over time, language attitudes, and complex linguistic interactions such as expressing politeness and apologizing.

OUTCOMES

Ability to identify different types of variation, understand their social and linguistic underpinnings, and provide insights into why this variation exists.

PREREQUISITES

This course requires LING 201 (Introduction to Linguistics I) or equivalent.

REQUIRED COURSE MATERIALS

Meyerhoff, Miriam. 2019. *Introducing Sociolinguistics* (3rd ed.). London: Routledge.

OPTIONAL COURSE MATERIALS

Miriam Meyerhoff, Erik Schleeff and Laurel MacKenzie. 2015. *Doing Sociolinguistics: A practical guide to data collection and analysis*. London: Routledge.

Meyerhoff, Miriam, and Erik Schleeff (Eds.). 2010. *The Routledge Sociolinguistics Reader*. London: Routledge.



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OTHER USEFUL RESOURCES

Siemund, Peter. 2013. *Varieties of English: A typological approach*. Cambridge University Press.
<https://ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/login?url=https://www.cambridge.org/core/product/FE933F4FECD263A0522A7F20EA9A6202>

Holmes, Janet, and Kirk Hazen (Eds.). 2013. *Research Methods in Sociolinguistics: A Practical Guide*. Chichester, UK: John Wiley & Sons.
<https://ebookcentral-proquest-com.ezproxy.lib.ucalgary.ca/lib/ucalgary-ebooks/detail.action?pq-origsite=primo&docID=1358562>

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

- A computer with a supported operating system, as well as the latest security, and malware updates
- A current and updated web browser
- Webcam/Camera (built-in or external)
- Microphone and speaker (built-in or external), or headset with microphone
- Current antivirus and/or firewall software enabled
- Stable internet connection

ASSESSMENT

Class Participation:	10%
3 Quizzes:	30%
2 Assignments:	30%
Final Project:	30%

GRADING SCALE

Course grades will be assigned on a distribution that is NOT more restrictive than the one below:

A+ 97-100%	B+ 84-88%	C+ 69-73%	D+ 54-58%
A 93-96%	B 79-83%	C 64-68%	D 50-53%
A- 89-92%	B- 74-78%	C- 59-63%	F 0-49%

COURSE NOTES

ATTENDANCE:

A Zoom link for lectures is provided on the course D2L site under the Communication heading. Attending the lectures is critical for learning the key concepts presented in this course. If you cannot attend lectures for some reason, please feel free to ask the instructor about any missed content.

OPEN BOOK QUIZZES: Three online quizzes worth 10% each will be given during the course and will include various types of questions, such as multiple choice, short answer, and long answer. Students will have at least 24 hours to complete each quiz. If there are any concerns with completing these quizzes, students are to contact the instructor in order to adjust scheduling.

ASSIGNMENTS: There will be two assignments given out as part of this course, each worth 15% of the final grade. You will be given at least two weeks to complete each assignment. These assignments will be described in detail when they are made available.

FINAL PROJECT: Students will either conduct original research or summarize the research of others and write a short paper (5-10 pages, double-spaced) or make a short video (3-5 minutes) summarizing their work or their findings. This project can cover any topic of interest within sociolinguistics, subject to approval by the instructor. Typically this project will be an extension of Assignment 2, but students have



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the option to choose a different topic if they wish. Under special circumstances, working in groups of two is possible for the final project, however you will need special permission from the instructor. In addition, expectations for quality and quantity will be higher for people working in pairs. Further details about the final project will be provided later in the course. This project will be worth 30% of the final grade.

PARTICIPATION: Sociolinguistics is the study of variation in language, and since everyone taking this course speaks (or signs) at least one language, your own personal variations and experience with the variation of others will provide additional perspectives. Students will be expected to participate in online discussions on the D2L course website as well as in class discussions in order to earn up to 10% on their final grade. There will be periodic deadlines to make discussion board contributions on D2L throughout the course, which will contribute to your participation grade. More detailed expectations for these contributions will be provided separately.

ABSENCE AND LATE WORK:

As mentioned above, attendance is critical to succeeding in this course, so please let the instructor know if you are unable to attend for any reason. Quizzes and assignments are scheduled to be completed by specific dates. Please let the instructor know as soon as possible if you cannot complete an assignment or quiz before the due date. Unexcused late assignments will result in a grade of zero. Students will receive a grade of zero for any quiz that is not completed by the designated date.

TEACHING SCHEDULE:

Day	Topics	Relevant Chapters & Notes
May 6	Introduction & Overview	Ch. 1
May 11	Language variation	Ch. 2 & Ch. 3 Discussion Intro due
May 13	Language attitudes & Semantic change	Ch. 4 Discussion Contribution 1 due
May 18	Language & Age: Chronolects	Ch. 7 Quiz 1
May 20	Language & Socio-Economic Class	Ch. 8 Assignment 1 due
May 25	Language & Gender	Ch. 10 Discussion Contribution 2 due
May 27	Guest Lecture: Dr. Marianna Di Paolo (1 pm) Multilingualism & Minority Languages	Ch. 6 Quiz 2
Jun 1	Language Contact: Pidgins & Creoles	Ch. 11 Discussion Contribution 3 due
Jun 3	Language & Politeness	Ch. 5 Assignment 2 due
Jun 8	Guest Lecture: Darin Flynn (1 pm) Language & Politeness (continued)	Ch. 515



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Jun 10	Language & Social Networks Guest Lecture: Dennis Storoshenko (2:30 pm)	Ch. 9 Quiz 3
Jun 15	Guest Lecture: Mona Abedelkerim (1 pm) Summary of Research Methods	Discussion Contribution 4 due
Jun 17	Course Review	Ch. 12 Final Project due

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 behavior 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://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-policy.pdf>, and <https://ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/student-academic-misconduct-procedure.pdf>

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/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) 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 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/legalservices/foip> 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



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with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>.)

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

Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/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 Block.

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

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks 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>.