

ANTHROPOLOGY 4412G-001

Language and Power

COURSE OUTLINE

Winter 2020

This course is cross-listed with graduate and undergraduate students.

Instructor: Tania Granadillo

Office: SSC 3408

Office hours: To be announced on the course OWL site.

Email: tgranadi@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistants: none

Credit value: 0.5 credit

Antirequisites: none

Prerequisites: Fourth-year in an Anthropology or Linguistics module and by application (see [Anthropology Department](#) website).

Course Syllabus:

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course's OWL site before the first day of class.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Read, summarize, and critically evaluate language related literature from academic and popular sources about language and power
- Locate and synthesize research findings in linguistic anthropology with the purpose of formulating and effectively communicating well-supported arguments about language and power.
- Recognize, understand and respect the complexity of cultural and linguistic diversity in the past and the present, locally and globally about language and power.
- Appreciate the history, key arguments and applications of different theoretical approaches used in linguistic anthropology about language and power.

- Identify, evaluate and employ, in an ethical manner, appropriate research methods in linguistic anthropology.

Course Materials:

Hill, Jane. 2008. *The everyday language of white racism*. Malden, MA; Oxford: Willey-Blackwell.

Registered students will be able to access information about additional course readings through the course's on-line OWL site before the first day of class.

Evaluation:

Class Participation 15%

Please come to class regularly, prepared to be an active participant. Participation will be evaluated through class discussion contributions or forum contributions. These will be judged in relation to quality, not quantity. Feedback and a grade will be made available twice throughout the term, on February 14 and April 3.

Critical Analysis 30% (10% each)

Three times during the course of the term you are asked to submit a critical essay. For this essay you will identify a piece (article, song, movie, tv show, news item, cartoon, meme, anything is valid!...) that is related to one of the topics discussed so far and you will present a critical analysis of a particular aspect of it. You cannot use the piece presented for discussion by a discussion leader. These will be turned in electronically through the course website and should be 600-750 words. These are due Feb 25, March 10 and March 31.

Discussion leader 15%

In groups of 2 or individually, you will be asked to lead the discussion of a particular reading during the term. You are required to present a short summary of the main points and to post 24 hrs in advance of class at least 3 questions for people to consider around the issues brought up in the readings. In addition you are required to bring in a text (newspaper article, transcription of audio, cartoon, anything you like!) that can allow for an analysis of the same issues presented in the reading. These will start on Feb 4; feedback will be provided one week after the discussion takes place.

Research paper 40%

You will be required to write a research paper of around 1800-2000 words. Your paper must be data-driven, that is it must present an analysis of a piece data using the tools provided in this class. The paper will be divided into three assignments, a proposal including topic, data and references (5%), a 10 min. presentation (10%) and the paper itself (25%). This paper is due on April 10 and can only be a maximum of 3 days late (with the respective 5% penalty per business day late).

In order to pass this essay course, students must submit and receive a passing grade on their research paper.

Course Specific Statements and Policies:

Statement on Seeking Academic Consideration:

Academic consideration will not be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date or a missed quiz or test. Please consult university policies on procedures for seeking academic consideration [in the Academic Calendar](#).

Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Policy on Laptops and Cellphones in Class:

Laptops are permitted for note-taking in class but if it is observed that students are on social networking sites, they will be asked to close the laptop and will not be permitted to use it for the remainder of the class. Be sure that all cellphones are turned off at the beginning of class.

Policy on written assignments:

All written assignments must be turned in electronically, formatted for 8.5 – 11" white paper, double-spaced, using 12 point font and include a word count at the end. They must include your FIRST AND LAST NAME and the ASSIGNMENT NAME or a TITLE. Late assignments will have a 5% penalty per business day and will not be accepted after 5 days.

Institutional Statements and Policies

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current academic policies regarding accessibility, plagiarism and scholastic offences, and medical accommodation in [Western's Academic Calendar](#).