LING 2371-001: Language in a Multicultural USA
Spring 2019
MW 1:00 – 2:20 pm
COBA 138

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Prerequisites: A desire (or need) to learn about language diversity in America.

Required Text:

- English with an Accent: Language, Ideology, and Discrimination in the United States. 2nd edition. Rosina Lippi-Green. 2012. Routledge.
- Additional reading provided online via Blackboard.

Course Description

The relationship between language in the U.S. and social power. This course explores how negative attitudes toward some language varieties and languages spoken in the U.S. arise from social factors, rather than features of the languages themselves. In addition to studying language varieties, the course shows how American institutions such as the educational system and the media reinforce these negative attitudes and contribute to discrimination. This course satisfies the University of Texas at Arlington core curriculum requirement in Language, Philosophy, and Culture.

Student Learning Outcomes: Students who successfully complete LING 2371 should be able to do the following:

- Have developed awareness, appreciation and respect for the multitude of cultures in the U.S. and be able to describe the ways that these are both accurately and inaccurately portrayed. [Personal Responsibility objective]
- Identify and demonstrate an understanding of the basic concepts and terms used in analyzing language and social variation. [Critical Thinking Skills objective]
- Describe differences between descriptive and prescriptive approaches and attitudes toward language. [Communication Skills objective]
- Collect aspects of linguistic phenomena for description and analysis (i.e. conduct basic research). [Critical Thinking Skills objective]
- Reflect on different experiences of diversity and multiculturalism. [Social responsibility objective]

These student learning outcomes align with the following four Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board objectives:

- **Critical Thinking Skills**
  To include creative thinking, innovation, inquiry, and analysis, evaluation and synthesis of information.
- **Communication Skills**
  To include effective development, interpretation and expression of ideas through written, oral and visual communication.
- **Personal Responsibility**
  To include the ability to connect choices, actions and consequences to ethical decision-making.
- **Social Responsibility**
  To include intercultural competence, knowledge of civic responsibility, and the ability to engage effectively in regional, national and global communities.

Description of Assignments and Grading

Grading Breakdown	Points (500 total)	% of total score	Grading Policy	
Attendance/Participation	40	8%	A	90-100 %
Homework	120	24%	B	80-89.99 %
Dialect Project	55	11%	C	70-79.99 %
Quizzes	45	9%	D	60-69.99 %
Exams x 3	240	48%	F	59.99% or lower

Students are responsible for all information and assignments given out in class during the semester. Missing class does not absolve a student of this responsibility. Students should try to exchange email or telephone information with several classmates to have a resource in case of an absence. Failure to hear back on a request for information does not absolve a student from their responsibility for assignments or quizzes.

Attendance and Participation (40 pts total). Attendance is mandatory due to the interactive nature of the course. Your grade will be based on regular class attendance, how well you get along with your teammates, and how well you contribute to the group work. Your grade will also be based on completion of reading questionnaires (discussed below).

> **Reading Questionnaires.** At the end of every week, I will give you a handout to guide your reading for the next week. This will include information about the reading and questions to guide your reading. You will turn in a reading questionnaire at the beginning of each class.

Excused absences include official university activities, military service, and/or religious holidays. Students must inform the instructor in writing at least one week in advance of an excused absence.

Homework (4 x 30 pts = 120 pts total). The homework assignments are usually due at the end of the week and cover material from the previous topic. All homework assignments will be submitted via Blackboard. You must submit your responses as a .doc or .pdf. No other file types will be graded.

Dialect Project (55 pts). There is one slightly larger paper focusing on a particular dialect of English used in the United States. Details will be announced in class. This will also require some draft or outline component, to be due before the paper is due, to be announced later.

Quizzes (9 x 5 pts = 45 pts total). Reading quizzes will be taken at the very beginning of class, first individually (5 minutes) and then with your team (5 minutes). Your score will be the average of the individual and team scores, provided that you got at least one question right on the individual portion. These questions cover the very basic concepts from the assigned reading.

Exams (3 x 80 pts = 240 pts total). The exam format will be announced the class period prior to each test; formats may change from one exam to the next, however they are likely to consist of multiple choice and essay questions. There are no exam make-ups unless under extraordinary circumstances (i.e. family emergency, illness, etc.) and written documentation will be required to make-up a missed exam. **If you know of some reason in advance that you cannot take an exam, let me know as soon as possible.**

Extra Credit. Extra credit *may* be available at various points throughout the semester. However, completion of an extra credit assignment guarantees you neither full not partial credit for that assignment.

Explanation of how the day-to-day class works

The format of this class is called Team-Based Learning, which is highly related to other student-driven pedagogies such as Active Learning and Problem-Based Learning. Instead of a lecture format in which the instructor reads or explains the material while the students passively take notes, in this course the students are actively involved in the learning process.

While the instructor (me) will often give some relevant explanation or model sample problems in class, there will be little-to-no formal lecturing. Instead, class time is for practice and discussion with your teammates in order to develop and solidify your understanding of the material. The instructors will circulate during the class period to answer questions and point you in the right direction if you get stuck. This style of learning has been found to be beneficial in educational research.

Basic format of classes/units:

1) Assigned reading (to be done at home)
2) Quiz on assigned reading (individual and team) to make sure you are prepared for the activities
3) Recap of quiz
4) Some short lecture of material not in the reading / videos / demonstration / introduction to activities
5) Team activities
6) Review

To do your best in this class, you must do the required readings and attend every class session. Much of what is done in class will not be available online later, because the kind of practice and discussion done in class is not something you can do at home. Please talk to me if you would like more information about how the class is run, I would love to discuss it with you!

Online Readings

Due to the current-events nature of the course, there will be many additional readings given out on Blackboard, mostly recently published articles in the press. These are required to read before coming to class – many in-class discussions will revolve around them. If new readings are added, students will be notified of these readings in class or via Blackboard.

Academic Integrity: Students enrolled all UT Arlington courses are expected to adhere to the UT Arlington Honor Code:

> *I pledge, on my honor, to uphold UT Arlington's tradition of academic integrity, a tradition that values hard work and honest effort in the pursuit of academic excellence.*
>
> *I promise that I will submit only work that I personally create or contribute to group collaborations, and I will appropriately reference any work from other sources. I will follow the highest standards of integrity and uphold the spirit of the Honor Code.*

UT Arlington faculty members may employ the Honor Code in their courses by having students acknowledge the honor code as part of an examination or requiring students to incorporate the honor code into any work submitted. Per UT System *Regents' Rule* 50101, §2.2, suspected violations of university's standards for academic integrity (including the Honor Code) will be referred to the Office of Student Conduct. Violators will be disciplined in accordance with University policy, which may result in the student's suspension or expulsion from the University. Additional information is available at https://www.uta.edu/conduct/.

Drop Policy: Students may drop or swap (adding and dropping a class concurrently) classes through self-service in MyMav from the beginning of the registration period through the late registration period. After the late registration period, students must see their academic advisor to drop a class or withdraw. Undeclared students must see an advisor in the University Advising Center. Drops can continue through a point two-thirds of the way through the term or session. It is the student's responsibility to officially withdraw if they do not plan to attend after registering. **Students will not be automatically dropped for non-attendance**. Repayment of certain types of financial aid administered through the University may be required as the result of dropping classes or withdrawing. For more information, contact the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships (http://wweb.uta.edu/aao/fao/).

Disability Accommodations: UT Arlington is on record as being committed to both the spirit and letter of all federal equal opportunity legislation, including *The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), The Americans with Disabilities Amendments Act (ADAAA),* and *Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.* All instructors at UT Arlington are required by law to provide "reasonable accommodations" to students with disabilities, so as not to discriminate on the basis of disability. Students are responsible for providing the instructor with official notification in the form of **a letter certified** by the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD). Only those students who have officially documented a need for an accommodation will have their request honored. Students experiencing a range of conditions (Physical, Learning, Chronic Health, Mental Health, and Sensory) that may cause diminished academic performance or other barriers to learning may seek services and/or accommodations by contacting:
The Office for Students with Disabilities, (OSD) www.uta.edu/disability or calling 817-272-3364. Information regarding diagnostic criteria and policies for obtaining disability-based academic accommodations can be found at www.uta.edu/disability.

Counseling and Psychological Services, (CAPS) www.uta.edu/caps/ or calling 817-272-3671 is also available to all students to help increase their understanding of personal issues, address mental and behavioral health problems and make positive changes in their lives.
Student Support Services: UT Arlington provides a variety of resources and programs designed to help students develop academic skills, deal with personal situations, and better understand concepts and information related to their courses. Resources include tutoring, major-based learning centers, developmental education, advising and mentoring, personal counseling, and federally funded programs. For individualized referrals, students may visit the reception desk at University College (Ransom Hall), call the Maverick Resource Hotline at 817-272-6107, send a message to

resources@uta.edu, or view the information at http://www.uta.edu/universitycollege/resources/index.php.

The Library's 2nd floor Academic Plaza offers students a central hub of support services, including IDEAS Center, University Advising Services, Transfer UTA and various college/school advising hours. Services are available during the library's hours of operation. http://library.uta.edu/academic-plaza. **The IDEAS Center (**2nd Floor of Central Library) offers **free** tutoring to all students with a focus on transfer students, sophomores, veterans and others undergoing a transition to UT Arlington. To schedule an appointment with a peer tutor or mentor email IDEAS@uta.edu or call (817) 272-6593.

Non-Discrimination Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, disabilities, genetic information, and/or veteran status in its educational programs or activities it operates. For more information, visit uta.edu/eos.

Title IX Policy: The University of Texas at Arlington ("University") is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment that is free from discrimination based on sex in accordance with Title IX of the Higher Education Amendments of 1972 (Title IX), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VII), which prohibits sex discrimination in employment; and the Campus Sexual Violence Elimination Act (SaVE Act). Sexual misconduct is a form of sex discrimination and will not be tolerated. *For information regarding Title IX, visit* www.uta.edu/titleIX or contact Ms. Jean Hood, Vice President and Title IX Coordinator at (817) 272-7091 or jmhood@uta.edu.

Electronic Communication: UT Arlington has adopted MavMail as its official means to communicate with students about important deadlines and events, as well as to transact university-related business regarding financial aid, tuition, grades, graduation, etc. All students are assigned a MavMail account and are responsible for checking the inbox regularly. There is no additional charge to students for using this account, which remains active even after graduation. Information about activating and using MavMail is available at http://www.uta.edu/oit/cs/email/mavmail.php.

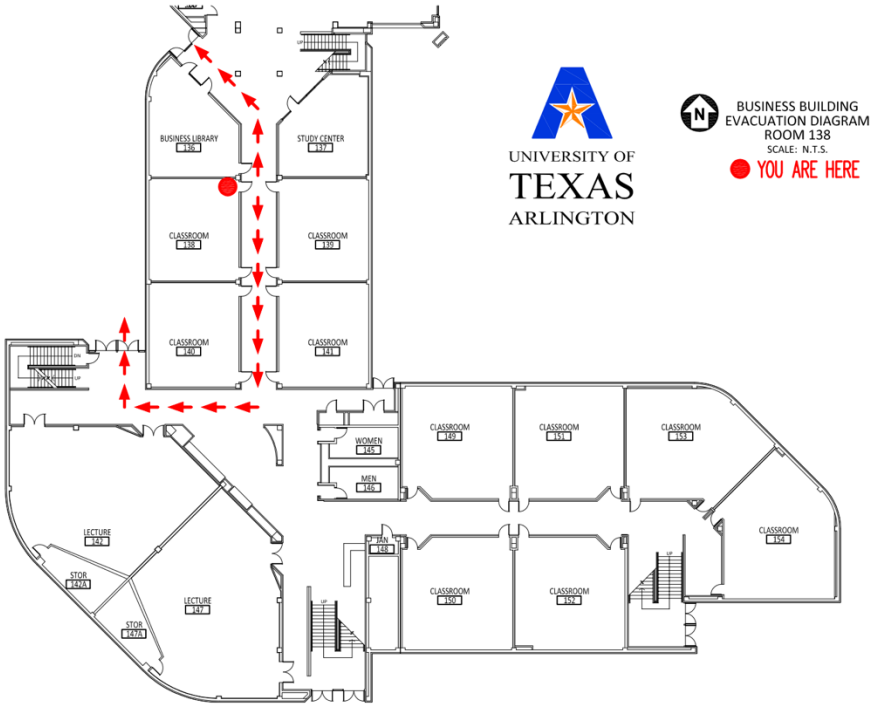
Campus Carry: Effective August 1, 2016, the Campus Carry law (Senate Bill 11) allows those licensed individuals to carry a concealed handgun in buildings on public university campuses, except in locations the University establishes as prohibited. Under the new law, openly carrying handguns is not allowed on college campuses. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/news/info/campus-carry/

Student Feedback Survey: At the end of each term, students enrolled in face-to-face and online classes categorized as "lecture," "seminar," or "laboratory" are directed to complete an online Student Feedback Survey (SFS). Instructions on how to access the SFS for this course will be sent directly to each student through MavMail approximately 10 days before the end of the term. Each student's feedback via the SFS database is aggregated with that of other students enrolled in the course. Students' anonymity will be protected to the extent that the law allows. UT Arlington's effort to solicit, gather, tabulate, and publish student feedback is required by state law and aggregate results are posted online. Data from SFS is also used for faculty and program evaluations. For more information, visit http://www.uta.edu/sfs.

Final Review Week: for semester-long courses**,** a period of five class days prior to the first day of final examinations in the long sessions shall be designated as Final Review Week. The purpose of this week is to allow students sufficient time to prepare for final examinations. During this week, there shall be no scheduled activities such as required field trips or performances; and no instructor shall assign any themes, research problems or exercises of similar scope that have a completion

date during or following this week *unless specified in the class syllabus*. During Final Review Week, an instructor shall not give any examinations constituting 10% or more of the final grade, except makeup tests and laboratory examinations. In addition, no instructor shall give any portion of the final examination during Final Review Week. During this week, classes are held as scheduled. In addition, instructors are not required to limit content to topics that have been previously covered; they may introduce new concepts as appropriate.

Emergency Exit Procedures: Should we experience an emergency event that requires us to vacate the building, students should exit the room and move toward the nearest exit. When exiting the building during an emergency, one should never take an elevator but should use the stairwells. Faculty members and instructional staff will assist students in selecting the safest route for evacuation and will make arrangements to assist individuals with disabilities.



Emergency Phone Numbers: In case of an on-campus emergency, call the UT Arlington Police Department at **817-272-3003** (non-campus phone), **2-3003** (campus phone). You may also dial 911. Non-emergency number 817-272-3381

Course Schedule

It is my intention to stick to the schedule found below as much as possible; however, as the instructor I reserve the right to adjust it at any time.

Abbreviations
EA: English with an Accent by Rosina Lippi-Green (required text book)
DYSA: Do You Speak American?
Bb: Can be found on Blackboard

	Class Topic	*Readings and Assignments*
Week 1		
1/14	Course Overview/Intro to Linguistics	*no reading*
1/16	Intro to Linguistics, *cont.*	**Read:** EA Introduction & Chapter 1
Week 2		
1/21	**Martin Luther King Day**	**NO CLASS**
1/23	Prescriptivism & Descriptivism	**Read:** DYSA Introduction & Chapter 1 (Bb), **Quiz #1**
		Homework 1 Due Sunday
Week 3		
1/28	Standard Language	**Read:** EA Chapter 3 & 4, **Quiz #2**
1/30	Language Subordination	**Read:** EA Chapter 5
Week 4		
2/4	Language & Education	**Read:** EA Chapter 6
2/6	Writing & the Internet	**Read:** Online Articles (Bb)
Week 5		
2/11	Language and Politics	**Read:** EA Chapter 8, **Quiz #3**
2/13	Language and Politics	**Read:** Online Articles (Bb)**, Debates**
		Homework 2 Due Sunday
Week 6		
2/18	**Catch Up & Review**	Study all material up to this point.
2/20	**Exam 1**	
Week 7		
2/25	Language Change	**Read:** EA Chapter 2, DYSA Chapter 3 (Bb), **Quiz #4**
2/27	Language Change	**Read:** DYSA Chapter 2 (Bb)
Week 8		
3/4	Regional Dialects	**Read:** EA Chapter 11
3/6	Regional Dialects	**Read:** DA Chapter 4 (Bb)
		Dialect Project Outline/Sources Due
Week 9		
3/11 - 13	**Spring Break**	**NO CLASS**
Week 10		
3/18	Language and Ethnicity	**Read:** DA Chapter 6 (Bb), **Quiz #5**
3/20	Language and Ethnicity	**Read:** EA Chapter 10
Week 11		
3/25	Language and Gender	**Read:** Online articles, **Quiz #6**
3/27	Language and Gender	**Read:** Online articles
		Dialect Project Due Sunday

Week 12		
4/1	**Catch Up & Review**	
4/3	**Exam 2**	Study all material between Exam 1 and this point.
Week 13		
4/8	Bilingualism in the USA: Spanish	**Read:** EA Chapter 13 & 14, **Quiz #7**
4/10	Bilingualism in the USA: L2	**Read**: EA Chapter 15
Week 14		
4/15	Bilingualism in the USA: Native American Languages	**Read:** Chapter on Native American Languages, Online Articles (Bb), **Quiz #8**
4/17	Bilingualism in the USA: Hawaii	**Read:** EA Chapter 12, Online Articles (Bb)
		Homework 3 Due Sunday
Week 15		
4/22	Bilingualism in the USA: ASL	**Read:** Chapter on ASL, Online Articles (Bb), **Quiz #9**
4/24	Language Planning and Policy	**Read:** Chapter on Language Planning and Policy (Bb)
Week 16		
4/29	Language Planning and Policy	**Read:** EA Chapters 17 & 18
5/1	**Catch Up & Review**	
		Homework 4 Due Sunday
Week 17		
5/10	**FINAL EXAM**	**11 am – 1:30 pm**

Useful dates to note:	
Wednesday 1/30	Census date (last day to add a class)
Fri. 3/1 – Sat. 3/2	UTASCILT conference
3/11-3/16	Spring Break
Friday 3/29	Last day to drop classes; submit requests to advisor prior to 4:00 pm
Friday 5/10	Final Exam 11 am – 1:30 pm