

**ANTH 208: LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND SOCIETY**

**Instructor:** Katharine Hunt

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Only if Canvas is unavailable, use the following: [khunt@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:khunt@bellevuecollege.edu)

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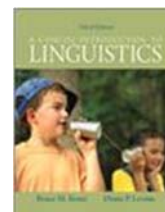
**Office Hours:** Tuesday, Thursday 12:30 – 1:20 or by appointment.

**Office location:** D 200D (Upstairs in the D-tower, next to the fountain.)

**TEXTBOOKS**

Readings are an essential part of this course. While a few of the readings will be available on-line, you will need to purchase the following textbooks. Copies of both books will be on reserve in the library.

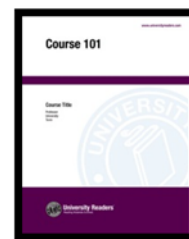
1. Rowe, Bruce M. and Diane P. Levine 2012 *A Concise Introduction to Linguistics*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition.  
Pearson, Prentice Hall, Upper Saddle River, NJ.  
ISBN: 978-0-205-05181-6 USE THIS NUMBER WHEN BUYING THE TEXTBOOK.  
**BE SURE TO BUY THE THIRD EDITION!**



2. **Custom Anthology**, available from “University Readers”.

(<https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>).

You can purchase a hard copy (spiral bound) or an online copy. This anthology contains readings which are copyright and not available on the web. Most of the cost comes from the copyright permissions.



**To purchase the anthology, please follow the instructions below:**

Step 1: Log on to <https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>

Step 2: Create an account or log in if you have an existing account.

Step 3: Choose the correct course pack, select a format and proceed with the checkout process.

Step 4: After purchasing, you can access a digital copy of the first few chapters (if you selected a print format) or all chapters (if you selected a digital format) by logging into your account and clicking “My Digital Materials” to get started on your reading right away.

\*Digital access: If you select a digital format, you will need to create an Adobe ID and install Adobe Digital Editions (ADE) if you do not have it on your computer already. Email me if you have questions about this. You can annotate, highlight and print up to 30% of the digital course pack from the first device you use to access it. Please note that the digital course pack expires after 6 months.

\*Print orders are typically processed within 24 hours; the shipping time will depend on the selected shipping method and day it is shipped (orders are not shipped on Sundays or holidays). If you experience any difficulties, please email [orders@universityreaders.com](mailto:orders@universityreaders.com) or call 800.200.3908 ext. 503.

**You will also need:**

- Four Scantrons for exams
- A binder to keep track of notes and handouts
- A notebook or paper to take notes
- Convenient web access

## COURSE OUTCOMES

Listed below are the course outcomes for ANTH 208.

- Demonstrate basic understanding of the different levels of language structure exhibited by languages around the globe.
- Recognize and give examples of the ways in which language and culture are integrated.
- Critically assess claims about the effect of language on perception and thought, in relation to the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.
- Apply a holistic ethnographic approach to describing language use in different social and cultural situations.
- Describe how languages evolve over time, and how social and regional dialects may arise.
- Recognize ethnocentric statements about language and be able to explain the value of taking a comparative, relativistic approach to the study of language.

*Outcomes will be addressed through lectures, readings, and class activities.*

*Outcomes will be assessed through exams, class activities, online discussions and projects.*

## COURSE INFORMATION

- This course is rated “3” in the areas “Critical Thinking” and “Cultural Diversity” and “2” in the area of “Lifelong learning”.
- Course is worth 5 credits (Humanities)
- Course counts towards the Concentration in Anthropology. See the file “Anthropology Department Information” (in Getting Started module) for details.

## COURSE OVERVIEW

- A schedule of topics and due dates is posted under “Getting Started”.

The course is divided into 4 units.

- **Unit 1, “The Nature of Language”**, introduces you to the subject of linguistic anthropology and deals with the question of how human languages, both spoken and signed, are similar to or different from other kinds of communication.
- **Unit 2, “Linguists’ Toolkit”**, introduces you to the tools linguists use to describe and analyze the structure of languages around the world.
- **Unit 3, “Language and Culture”**, looks at how language acquisition and use varies from culture to culture, and how the language we speak may reflect our culture and affect how we view the world.
- **Unit 4, “Language and Society”**, addresses the relationship between language and social identity, looking at factors such as age, gender and ethnic group.

**During the course you will also have a chance to learn and apply specific skills useful to linguistic anthropologists:**

- Collecting and analyzing linguistic data from other languages
- Observing and analyzing linguistic features of social interactions
- Observing and describing cultural linguistic norms
- Planning and carrying out linguistic research through interviews with subjects

## GRADING

Grades will be calculated using points. Overall, 400 points will be awarded during the quarter, distributed as follows:

<b>First week assignments</b>	<b>20 points (syllabus quiz (5), true/false (5), Introductory discussion (10))</b>
<b>4 unit exams (40 points each)</b>	<b>160 points</b>
<b>1 field-based research project</b>	<b>60 points</b>
<b>4 discussions (30 points each)</b>	<b>120 points</b>
<b>In-class group activities</b>	<b><u>40 points</u></b>
	<b>400 points</b>

### Grading scale

Final grades will be calculated based on the following grading scale:

95-100%	A
90-94%	A-
85-89%	B+
80-84%	B
75-79%	B-
70-74%	C+
65-69%	C
60-64%	C-
55-59%	D+
50-54%	D
below 50%	F

Details of the Bellevue College grading policy can be found at:

[http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/3/3000\\_grading.asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/3/3000_grading.asp)

## NOTES ABOUT COURSE ASSESSMENT

### Exams:

- Each exam will consist of multiple choice and true/false questions, so you will need to bring a scantron and a number 2 pencil to each exam. Scantrons are available from the cashier at the BC Bookstore.
- The last exam will NOT be comprehensive, but will cover only material not covered in previous exams.
- I will post a review sheet before each exam, summarizing the topics to be covered.
- All exams are closed book, so you may not consult any other sources during the exam. However, you may bring one 3\*5 index card of notes into the exam.
- All electronic devices must be turned off before the start of the exam. This includes MP3 players, computers, electronic dictionaries and cell phones.

### Graded discussions:

The graded discussions are designed to help you think critically about the material covered in class and readings and to come to a deeper understanding of it. Participating actively in the discussions will make your experience of the class more enjoyable and more meaningful, and it will also help you get a better grade in the course. Students regularly tell me that reading postings from other students helps them understand the topics more fully. For all of these reasons, it is important that you both post to the discussion board and respond to the contributions of others.

Guidelines will be given for each discussion. Be sure to follow these! You lose easy points by failing to do so. Types of guidelines might include the following:

*A minimum word length*

*A required number of replies to post*

*Inclusion of specific citations from the readings (including author and page number)*

*Giving specific individual examples to draw connections between concepts from the readings and your own life.*

In all discussion postings, I will be looking for evidence of critical thinking.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT CHAIR

The Anthropology Department consists of a group of dedicated educators. We all want our students to learn and grow as they progress through their education. We all are passionate about our fields of study and believe that what we have to say is important. We all feel that it is important that you come to class and take part in the learning process. We also know that life happens outside of our classrooms and missing class is sometime unavoidable. In order for all of us to work together, an open dialog between students and instructors is key. Most often an understanding can be reached when outside situation arise. If at any time during the quarter you find that you are having concerns with the way a situation is being handled, there are some steps to be followed. First you should talk directly to the instructor to ask for clarification or further explanation. If you feel you are not getting the results you require, contact me (Anthony Tessandori, Department Chair) at [tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:tony.tessandori@bellevuecollege.edu). I will do what I can to help resolve any issues. If I am unable to help alleviate your concerns, you should contact the Dean of Social Science (Virginia Bridwell) at [Virginia.bridwell@bellevuecollege.edu](mailto:Virginia.bridwell@bellevuecollege.edu)

I look forward to the coming quarter and I hope to speak to each of you about the possibilities anthropology has to offer.

Have a great quarter,  
Tony Tessandori

### Anthropology Paper Usage Policy

In an attempt to conserve resources the Anthropology Department has implemented a paper use reduction policy. We will use course websites to post materials required for class (i.e. readings, activities, the complete syllabus...). When necessary we will make copies for class, but this will be when posting is not an option. You are not expected to print all materials. When we think it would be beneficial to print materials we will inform you of this. We know that it is not always convenient and understand that we all must make changes to attain a sustainable life style.

## CLASS EXPECTATIONS

### 1. Syllabus and Social Science Division Guidelines and Procedures Review

You are required to review this syllabus and the Social Science Division Procedures and Guidelines (at the end of the syllabus), which apply to students in this class. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to abide by the procedures and guidelines set forth in these two items. If you have any questions about the meaning of any of this material, please ask me.

### 2. Make-up exams

- Assessments such as exams are important, and should be a priority while you are a student. Since they count significantly towards your final grade, I aim to be fair to students who are unable to attend exams for valid reasons, while not allowing students to skip exams for trivial reasons and then make them up later. Please read the following guidelines carefully.
- Vacation, attendance at social activities, sleeping in, picking up someone from the airport, etc. are **not** valid excuses for missing exams and you will not be able to make up exams for these reasons.
- If you are requesting a make-up exam, because you know in advance that you will have to be absent on the day of the exam, you will need to write me a note or email ahead of time explaining why you need to miss class, and you will be required to provide appropriate documentation (e.g. medical or legal documents) to explain your absence.
- If you are too sick to come to campus on the day of an exam, be sure to contact me as soon as possible. Normally this should be **before** the time of the exam. I suggest you save my office phone number on your cell phone so that you can easily call me in case of emergency. If you wait until after the time of the exam, or until you are back in class to explain your absence or ask for a make-up test, I will be unable to accommodate your request.
- Any other kind of emergency request will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. It is always important to contact me as soon as possible, and again this should usually be possible **BEFORE** the time of the exam.

To request an accommodation, you will need to write me a letter stating why you were unable to attend class, including evidence to support your claim, and an explanation of why you think I should agree to your request.

### **3. Technology in the classroom**

Please turn off cell phones, MP3 players, computers etc. before class begins, as these may distract you and other students. If you have a medical need to use a laptop computer for note-taking, please come and talk to me.

### **4. Unscheduled class cancellations**

It is always possible that class may be cancelled unexpectedly because of weather or problems on campus. In this case, I will post information on the course website. This will include lecture material, assignments and handouts. It is your responsibility to check this in a timely manner and before the next class session. Material provided in this way will be covered as a review in class but will not be lectured on in detail.

### **5. Due dates**

- All course work should be submitted/posted/completed by the due date.
- I will generally not accept late assignments, as I think it is unfair to students who submit on time, and creates extra work for me. However, I know that life can present unexpected challenges, and I am willing to take these into account in accepting late work. If you feel that you have a valid reason for needing to submit work late, you may write an email requesting that I make an exception. You should always do this as soon as possible, normally BEFORE the due date. In your email you should state why your assignment is/will be late, and provide any evidence you can to support your claim. I will consider these requests on a case by case basis. Vacations are not a valid excuse. If you will be out of town on due dates, you should complete the work before you leave.

### **6. My expectations of students:**

- Be respectful to other students.
- Read instructions carefully and contact me whenever you have questions.
- Do not wait until the last minute to complete work and ask for help.
- Come to class on time and prepared. However, coming late or unprepared is better than missing class entirely!

### **7. What you can expect from me:**

- Respectful responses to questions.
- Responses within 24 hours to email. I will warn you ahead of time if this will not be possible for any reason. If you do not hear back from me, please email again after 24 hours, to be sure that your message got through.
- Work usually graded within a week. Again, I will warn you if I cannot meet this goal. Project grading is time-consuming, and may take longer than a week.

## What should you do to succeed in this class?

Since this is a survey course, we will be covering a lot of material. In order to be successful in the course, you will need to be sure you attend regularly and keep up with the assigned readings and assignments. The following advice may help you to be more successful.

### 1. Contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

I welcome your emails and questions at any time. Often a problem can be easily solved if it is addressed immediately. Too often, though, students delay in letting me know about a problem until the end of the quarter when it may be too late to resolve it. This is especially true in the abbreviated timeframe of summer quarter.

### 2. Reading

Reading is a very important part of learning in this course. If you find that you are having trouble understanding or completing the assigned readings, I suggest you try the following:

- i. Look at the review questions at the end of each chapter in the textbook, and the answers at the back of the textbook. Use the glossary at the back of the textbook to help you understand any technical terminology.
- ii. Look over the "Tips for doing readings" document posted in "Getting Started".
- iii. Email me to ask questions about any of the readings if you find them difficult.
- iv. Post a question on the general discussion board to see if your classmates can help explain what is puzzling you.

### 3. Attendance/Participation/Preparation

It is very important that you attend class regularly and participate actively.

- I will take **attendance** most days. Exams will focus on material covered in class so that your grade will suffer if you do not attend class regularly. That said, please do not come to class if you are sick! Email me to let me know if you are ill, so that I can help you catch up when you are well enough to return to school. In general, if you cannot attend class for a valid reason, you can avoid missing credit by emailing me to let me know why you are absent.
- **Participating** actively while you are in class is also important. There will be some kind of group activity or discussion in almost every class meeting, and these activities will only enhance your learning if you take an active role.
- **Preparation** for class is also important. Many class activities will only be successful if you have completed required readings before class. To ensure that you are well prepared, I may ask you to complete reading quizzes before you come to class on some days.

## Classroom Behavior

- My assumption is that each of you is here to learn, and I want to make the classroom environment as conducive to learning as possible. Side comments directed to fellow students during lecture or class discussion are distracting. Once a distracting student comes to my attention, I will ask him/her to refrain from talking. **If a student persists in distracting the class s/he will be asked to leave.**
- If a student in class is distracting you, and I do not notice, please let me know, so I can deal with the situation. I am not able to monitor everything going on in the classroom.
- During discussions, you may find that your fellow students hold beliefs and opinions that are very different from yours. This is an opportunity to perfect your critical reasoning skills, and to learn to examine claims based on supporting evidence. The on-line classroom, just like the on-campus classroom, must be safe and open for all students regardless of their age, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, gender, disability, or perspective. We will observe the following guidelines for discussion. (Thanks to Dr. Nancy Gonlin for sharing these with me.)
  1. We are not here to persuade others to our point of view; rather to examine the merits of each position, based on evidence.
  2. We can respect the person even if we don't share his/her opinions.
  3. We will question the evidence or the claim; not the person.

4. We will remain open to corrective feedback as to our views and/or the impact of our communication style.
5. We will avoid phrases such as: "People like that..." "That's a stupid question....idea....etc." "They always..."
6. No one should be understood to be 'representing' the racial/ethnic, gender, class, etc. group to which he or she belongs. You speak only for yourself.

### **Avoiding Plagiarism**

Plagiarism is "the uncredited use (both intentional and unintentional) of somebody else's words or ideas." (<http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/589/01/>) It is considered a serious academic offense. You can avoid plagiarism by always citing the sources you use in researching projects or papers. Here are two excellent sources you can use to help you:

- <http://www.indiana.edu/~wts/pamphlets/plagiarism.shtml>
- <http://bellevuecollege.edu/asc/writing/essays-guides/documents/plagiarism.pdf>

### **Students with Disabilities**

If you have medical information to share with me, please contact me via email. If you need course modifications, adaptations, or accommodations because of a disability, I can refer you to our Disability Resource Center (DRC). If you prefer, you may contact them directly by going to B132 or by calling 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110. Information is also available on their website at <http://bellevuecollege.edu/drc/>

If you have already been approved for special accommodations, please make an appointment to meet with me so that we can go over these together to ensure that you have a positive experience with this class.

Remember if you are someone who has either an apparent or non apparent disability and requires assistance in case of an emergency situation, such as a fire, earthquake, etc, please meet with your me to develop a safety plan.

# PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION

Fall 2012

## Cheating, Stealing and Plagiarizing\*

Cheating, stealing and plagiarizing (using the ideas or words of another as one's own without crediting the source) and inappropriate/disruptive classroom behavior are violations of the Student Code of Conduct at Bellevue College. Examples of unacceptable behavior include, but are not limited to: talking out of turn, arriving late or leaving early without a valid reason, allowing cell phones/pagers to ring, and inappropriate behavior toward the instructor or classmates. The instructor can refer any violation of the Student Code of Conduct to the Dean of Student Services for possible probation or suspension from Bellevue College. Specific student rights, responsibilities and appeal procedures are listed in the Student Code of Conduct, available in the office of the Dean of Student Services and at [http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P\\_Student\\_Code\\_\(Procedures\).asp](http://bellevuecollege.edu/policies/2/2050P_Student_Code_(Procedures).asp)

Email Communication with instructors must be done through student email accounts only. Instructors cannot communicate with students about their course work or grades through student's personal email accounts.

## Incomplete

If a student fails to complete all the required work for a course, an instructor may assign the grade of Incomplete ("I"). The student must complete the coursework by the end of the next quarter, or receive the assigned letter grade (usually an "F").

## F Grade

Students who fail a course will receive a letter grade of "F."

## Final Examination Schedule

The Social Science Division will adhere to the final examination schedule as stated in the BC Schedule. Final examinations will be held at the end of each quarter at fixed times. Instructors will not give examinations in advance of the regular schedule. A student who is absent from any examination held at any time during the quarter may forfeit the right to make up the examination. If, for illness or some other circumstance beyond the student's control, the student is unable to be present at any scheduled examination and has contacted the instructor on a timely basis, the student may be permitted to take such examination at a time designated by the instructor.

## Withdrawal From Class

College policy states that students must formally withdraw from a class by the end of the seventh week of the quarter (Registration Office, B125). If a student has not withdrawn by that date, an appropriate letter grade will be assigned for the course.

## Hardship Withdrawal

Instructors may assign the grade of "HW" (hardship withdrawal) at their discretion in the event that a student cannot complete the coursework due to extreme and exceptional circumstances. Students may also contact the Enrollment Services office BEFORE grades are assigned in cases of hardship.

## Students Who Require Disability Accommodations:

Students with disabilities who have accommodation needs are encouraged to meet with the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) office located in B132 (telephone 425.564.2498 or TTY 425.564.4110), to establish their eligibility for accommodation. The DRC office will provide each eligible student with an accommodation letter. Students who require accommodation in class should review the DRC accommodation letter with each instructor during the first week of the quarter.

Students with mobility challenges who may need assistance in case of an emergency situation or evacuation should register with Disability Resource Centre, and review those needs with the instructor as well.

## Distribution of Grades

Grades will not be posted in the Social Science Division or in faculty offices, and program assistants or coordinators will not give out grades. Students should access their grades through the BC Web site.

## Return of Papers and Tests

Paper and/or Scantron score sheet returns will be arranged in the following ways ONLY: by mail, if student supplies the instructor with stamped, self-addressed envelope (with appropriate postage); or by the instructor designating a time and place whereby the student may retrieve his/her papers. Unclaimed papers and/or Scantron score sheets must be kept by the instructor for a minimum of sixty (60) instructional days following the end of the quarter.

*\*If you are accused of cheating, stealing exams and/or plagiarism, there is a Bellevue College Student Discipline and Appeals Procedure (the right to due process) which you may pursue. Contact the office of Division Chair (D110), the Dean of Student Services (B231A) or the Associated Student Body (C212) for information regarding the appeals process.*