

ANTH 208: LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND SOCIETY

Instructor: Katharine Hunt

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Phone: (425) 564-4189

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

If you are not on campus, you are welcome to call me during my office hours. If this time does not work for you, please contact me to arrange a different time.

Office location: D 200D

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 two textbooks. (Copies of both books will be on reserve in the library, for those of you who are on campus.)

- I. Ottenheimer, Harriet. *The Anthropology of Language: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology* by Harriet Ottenheimer. Thomson, Wadsworth. 2nd edition, 2009. Available through the BC bookstore.
ISBN10: 0-495-50884-5, ISBN13: 978-0-495-50884-7

BE SURE TO BUY THE SECOND EDITION!

- II. **Custom Online Anthology**, available from "University Readers"
(<https://students.universityreaders.com/store/>). Instructions for ordering are given below.

To purchase the online textbook, 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 to purchase.

Step 3: Easy-to-follow instructions will guide you through the rest of the ordering process. Payment can be made by all major credit cards or with an electronic check.

Step 4: After purchasing, you can access your digital pack by logging into your account and clicking My Digital Materials to get started on your readings right away.

The anthology price is \$35.23, and includes materials that are essential for class. Please keep in mind that our institution adheres to copyright law. All material in this anthology is copyrighted, so should not be copied or duplicated in any manner. The cost of the anthology reflects the cost of copyright clearances for use in this class only.

Because of copyright issues, you will also need to access the anthology materials from the same computer each time. If this is not practical for you, you should print out the materials immediately, to be sure that you always have access to them. I believe you are allowed to print out one copy. Please contact me if you have any questions about this.

If you experience any difficulties with your order, please email orders@universityreaders.com or call 800.200.3908, ext. 503.

Course Outcomes

Listed below are the course outcomes for ANTH 208. The units in which these outcomes will be specifically addressed are listed after each bullet.

Outcomes will be assessed through exams, assignments and discussions.

- Recognize and give examples of the ways in which language and culture are integrated. (Unit 3)
- Critically assess claims about the effect of language on perception and thought, in relation to the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis. (Unit 3)
- Demonstrate basic understanding of the different levels of language structure exhibited by languages around the globe. (Unit 2)
- Apply a holistic ethnographic approach to describing language use in different cultural situations. (Unit 3)
- Describe how languages evolve over time, and how social and regional dialects may arise. (Unit 4)
- Recognize ethnocentric statements about language and be able to explain the value of taking a comparative, relativistic approach to the study of language. (Unit 1)

While doing assignments, 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
- Reading ethnographic articles written by linguistic anthropologists
- Planning and carrying out ethnographic linguistic research through interviews with subjects

General Education Ratings

- This course is rated “3” in the areas “Critical Thinking” and “Cultural Diversity” and “2” in the area of “Lifelong learning”.

Components of course assessment

The course is divided into four units. Within each unit are four topic sections. There are assessments for each topic section and for each unit.

Topic Section Assessments

Within each topic section there will be a mini quiz and each week there will be graded discussion.

Unit Assessments

Each unit will conclude with an exam and an assignment:

Unit Exams:

- Exams will consist largely of multiple choice and true false questions.
- I will post a review sheet before each exam, summarizing the topics to be covered.

Unit Assignments

Each unit assignment will be different. Assignments are designed to show that you can apply the knowledge learned in the unit, and that you are acquiring the observation and analysis skills useful for linguistic anthropology. Most will involve a fieldwork and writing component.

Grading

Grades will be calculated using points. Overall, 420 points will be awarded during the quarter, distributed as follows:

4 unit exams (30 points each)	120 points
4 unit assignments (30 points each)	120 points
7 weekly discussions (10 points each)	70 points (8 offered, you can drop one)
15 mini quizzes (5 points each)	75 points (16 offered, you can drop one)
Getting Started	15 points (syllabus quiz (5), introductory discussion (10))
TOTAL:	400 points

Grading scale

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

95-100%	A	380 - 400 points
90-94%	A-	360 - 379 points
85-89%	B+	340 - 359 points
80-84%	B	320 - 339 points
75-79%	B-	300 - 319 points
70-74%	C+	280 - 299 points
65-69%	C	260 - 279 points
60-64%	C-	240 - 259 points
55-59%	D+	220 - 239 points
50-54%	D	200 - 219 points
below 50%	F	below 200 points

Course Rhythm

The course is organized around a Monday-Sunday week. Materials will typically be released on Mondays and due on Sundays at 11:59pm. The only exception to this will be in the week of final exams, when the exam and assignment will be due on Friday rather than Sunday. A schedule of due dates and topics is posted under "Getting Started".

In weeks when discussions are assigned, discussion postings will usually be due by Thursday evening and responses will due by Sunday. I will post due dates on the course calendar.

Discussions

Discussions are very important in an online class, as they are the main forum where you can interact with others in the class.

Open discussion: There is a "Questions" category on the discussion board which is always open. You are free to post there if you want help (from your classmates or from me). There is also an "Open Topic" discussion category, where you are welcome to make any course-related postings, such as news items or events, or anything else you want to discuss with your classmates.

Graded discussions:

The graded discussions are designed to help you think critically about the material covered in the course 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. Active participation in the discussion board will also count in your favor in the calculation of borderline grades at the end of the quarter.

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

A required number of postings to read

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.

You should be aware that, as the instructor, I have easy access to statistics about your use of the discussion boards, such as how often you post, how many posts you have read and how this compares to the class average.

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 are keeping up with the assigned readings and assignments. The following advice may help you 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. To help you get over any reluctance to contact me, I will offer **two points of extra credit** to anyone who sends me an email during the first two weeks of class. Your email can be a question or comment about anything related to the class.

2. Participation in class

Participating actively in class will help you learn. Be a regular participant in the discussions.

3. 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. Use the reading questions I have posted in each unit. These are designed to help you focus on what I consider the important aspects of each reading. Often these questions will also tell you that you can skip certain pages, which will reduce your reading load!
- ii. Look over the "Tips for better reading" document posted in "Getting Started".
- iii. Email me to ask questions about any of the readings if you find them difficult.

Class Expectations

1. Social Science Division Guidelines and Procedures

You are responsible for reading the guidelines and procedures of the Social Science Division which are given at the end of this syllabus, and which apply to students in this class. Note especially the policies on cheating and plagiarism. If you have any questions about the meaning of these policies, please ask me.

2. Due dates

- All quizzes, discussions, assignments and exams must be submitted/posted/completed by 11:59 p.m. on the due date.
- I will only accept late exams, quizzes, assignments or discussions in exceptional circumstances. You can drop one discussion and one quiz with no grade penalty.
- If you believe you have a valid reason for turning in late work, you may write an email requesting that I make an exception. In your email you should state why your assignment is late and provide evidence to support your claim. I will consider these requests on a case by case basis, and I may impose a grade penalty.

3. Syllabus Review

You are required to review this syllabus and the attached Social Science Division Procedures and Guidelines. Enrollment in the course constitutes an agreement to abide by the procedures and guidelines set forth in these two items.

Student Behavioral Expectations

- 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 give each participant his/her time to express their views without interruption, argumentation, or disrespectful comments, gestures, laughter, or facial expressions, etc.
 4. We will question the evidence or the claim; not the person.
 5. We will remain open to corrective feedback as to our views and/or the impact of our communication style.
 6. We will not seek to dominate the discussion.
 7. We will avoid phrases such as: "People like that..." "That's a stupid question....idea....etc." "They always..."
 8. 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 a form of academic dishonesty occurring when students use information or material from outside sources and do not properly cite those sources. This includes copying material from a website and including it in a paper as though it is your own work.

Plagiarism is grounds for disciplinary action. It is your responsibility to understand plagiarism and its consequences. Plagiarism occurs if:

- a. You do not cite quotations and/or attribute borrowed ideas.
- b. You fail to enclose borrowed language in quotation marks.
- c. You do not write summaries and paraphrases in your own words and/or do not document your sources.
- d. You turn in work created by another person.
- e. You submit or use your own prior work for a current or past course, or work from one current course in another course *without express permission* from your professors. This may also be considered academic dishonesty.
- f. Consequences: If it is determined that you have plagiarized or engaged in other forms of academic dishonesty, you will likely fail the assignment and possibly the course, despite points earned through other work. Acts of academic dishonesty are reviewed for disciplinary action.

The BC Writing Lab website has excellent information about how to avoid plagiarism and cite the work of others correctly: <http://bellevuecollege.edu/writinglab/Plagiarism.html>

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 educations. 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 participate actively in the learning process. We also know that life happens outside of our classrooms and can affect your participation and performance in class. 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 situations 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 direct to the instructor 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. I will do what I can to help resolve any issues. If I am unable to help alleviate your concerns, you should contact the Interim Dean of Social Science (Virginia Bridwell) at 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

Students with Disabilities

If you have medical information to share with me in the event of an emergency, please contact me via email or come to see me during office hours. Emergency preparedness is important! 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/>

**PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES OF THE SOCIAL SCIENCE DIVISION
FALL 2011**

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.

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 secretaries 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.*