

ANTH 135 – Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

Dr. Ashley Stinnett

NOTE: The printed and amended course syllabus that is distributed on Blackboard and is the ultimate authority for this class and supersedes information posted elsewhere. The on-line syllabus posted to TOPNET (“schedule of classes”) is only a draft.

I. Course Description

Through a combination of lectures, readings, assignment, and films students will learn about theories, research methods, and key concepts in linguistic anthropology. *Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology* focuses on aspects of language such as phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics; the processes of linguistic change; the role of language in maintaining, modifying, and reproducing culture; linguistic relativity; communicative competence and the speech community; language as performance; language variation, language acquisition and socialization; sociolinguistics; the role of language in identity formation including the marking of class, caste, race, gender, and ethnicity; and language ideology and the power and politics of language.

ONLINE FORMAT

This course is designed in a split synchronous/asynchronous format, with the asynchronous portion being provided on Blackboard, and the synchronous portion conducted on Zoom. It is your responsibility to make sure you have access to a reliable computer and browser that is compatible with these platforms.

The complete Zoom invitation information is appended at the end of the syllabus, below are the quick links, which are also located on Blackboard

Course Information

Days: Tuesday (asynchronous)

Thursday (synchronous)

Time: 2:20 PM - 3:40 PM

Location: Zoom (see course link below)

CRN#: 43766

Section#: 700

Instructor Contact Information

Email: ashley.stinnett@wku.edu

Office: ONLINE

Office Hours: Monday’s 1-2PM (Zoom)
Wednesday’s 12-1PM (Zoom)
or by appointment

Technology Support & Resources

WKU computer helpdesk: (270) 745-7000

WKU CITL Learning Remotely

<https://www.wku.edu/citl/teaching-remotely/tipsforonlinelearning.php>

Student Services webpage:

<https://www.wku.edu/its/services/students.php>

WKU Blackboard Course Site Login

<https://wku.blackboard.com/>

WKU Zoom Webpage Information and Support:

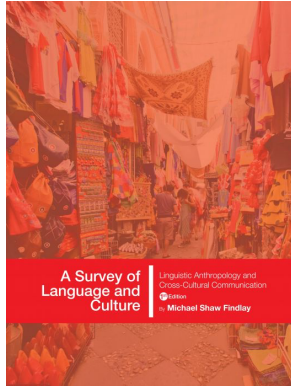
<https://www.wku.edu/citl/services/tools/zoom/zoom-students/zoom-students.php>

Zoom Help Center:

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us>

DRAFT SYLLABUS
The final syllabus will be posted to Blackboard.

II. Course Materials



There is 1 required textbook for this class:

- 1) *A Survey of Language and Culture*, by Michael Shaw Findlay.
Published by Cognella Academic Publishing. ISBN-13: 978-1634873352

The textbook is available from the WKU Bookstore, from online booksellers, or digital download via the publisher.

<https://store.cognella.com/81420-1b-ni-001>



There is 1 required game for this class:

- 2) *Dialect: A Game About Language and How It Dies*, by Kathryn Hymes and Hakan Seyalioglu

<https://thornygames.com/pages/dialect>

The game is available on the Thorny Games website (see link above). You can purchase the standard edition (hardback with playing cards), or you can download a digital version of the game (with playing cards). I highly recommend purchasing the hard back with the playing cards, as it will be much easier to navigate when playing the game.

ALL other course readings will be posted to the course Blackboard website as a downloadable PDF or as a weblink. Consult the detailed schedule of topics for author names.

****Make sure you purchase the correct editions of the book. Save receipts in case of mistakes****

III. Course Policies

I reserve the right to make changes to the course and syllabus as I deem necessary.

Recording the class:

Students may not record this course in any fashion for any reason. This prohibition includes but is not limited to audio recording, video recording, and transcription aids. Learning how to take good lecture notes is important. If you have a disability that prevents you from taking notes, see the “disability accommodation” section below.

Incomplete:

I absolutely will not even consider granting an incomplete for the course or a withdrawal after the deadline without written documentation of serious and severe personal problem(s). Even then, I may not allow it.

Late Work Policy:

As a rule, work will not be accepted late, except in case of documented emergency or illness. You may petition the professor in writing for an exception if you feel you have a compelling reason for turning work in late.

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Online Behavior:

To foster a positive learning environment, please do not use your cell phones during our class time, unless it is an emergency. Additionally, while we are online, do not text, chat, play games, read the newspaper or surf the web during lecture and discussion. My expectation is for you to be taking notes, engage with the content and with your classmates. We will have breaks throughout class, so please refrain from these behaviors during the lecture and discussion.

I will not require you to turn on your video camera during our class, however, I encourage you to do so, if you are comfortable. I do require that your screen name reflect how you would like to be addressed, and I will require some form of photograph or image be loaded to your Zoom profile. I encourage you to be creative. Some suggestions might be a bitmoji, a selfie, an image of your favorite meal, image from a vacation, a place you'd like to travel to, your favorite pet, or something else that reflects your identity.

Academic Dishonesty:

Students are expected to adhere to the honor code and plagiarism rules of WKU.

See <http://www.wku.edu/csa/policies/plagiarism.php>

Evidence of academic dishonesty may result in a failing grade for the class and will be reported to the office of student conduct.

“The maintenance of academic integrity is of fundamental importance to the University. Thus, it should be clearly understood that acts of plagiarism or any other form of cheating will not be tolerated and that anyone committing such acts risks punishment of a serious nature” (WKU 2015-2016 Undergraduate Catalog, p. 33).

The instructor will deal with academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, in accordance with University policy. “Students who commit any act of academic dishonesty may receive from the instructor a failing grade in that portion of the coursework in which the act is detected or a failing grade in the course without possibility of withdrawal” (p. 33-34). **The instructor will bring sanctions against any student who perpetrates academic dishonesty.** Students are responsible for understanding what constitutes cheating and plagiarism; I provide the University descriptions below.

Regarding **cheating**, “no student shall receive or give assistance not authorized by the instructor in taking an examination or in the preparation of an essay, laboratory report, problem assignment or other project that is submitted for purposes of grade determination” (p. 34). Cheating includes the use of assignments completed by other students in this class during current or previous semesters.

“To represent written work taken from another source [book, journal, web site, lecture, lab, or other source whether it is prepared by the instructor, a guest speaker, or a classmate] as one’s own is **plagiarism**. Plagiarism is a serious offense. The academic work of a student must be his/her own. One must give any author credit for source material borrowed from him/her. To lift content directly from a source without giving credit is a flagrant act. To present a borrowed passage without reference to the source after having changed a few words is also plagiarism” (p. 33).

Resolving Complaints about Grades

The first step in resolving a complaint about grades is for the student to attempt to resolve the problem directly with the course instructor. See the Student Handbook, available at <http://www.wku.edu/handbook/> for additional guidance.

Title IX Misconduct/Assault Statement

Western Kentucky University (WKU) is committed to supporting faculty, staff and students by upholding WKU’s Title IX Sexual Misconduct/Assault Policy (#0.2070) at <https://wku.edu/eoo/documents/titleix/wkutitleixpolicyandgrievanceprocedure.pdf> and the

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Discrimination and Harassment Policy (#0.2040) at <https://www.wku.edu/policies/docs/251.pdf>.

Under these policies, discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct based on sex/gender are prohibited. If you experience an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct, you are encouraged to report it to the Title IX Coordinator, Andrea Anderson, 270-745-5398 or Title IX Investigators, Michael Crowe, 270-745-5429 or Joshua Hayes, 270-745-5121.

Please note that while you may report an incident of sex/gender-based discrimination, harassment and/or sexual misconduct to a faculty member, WKU faculty are “Responsible Employees” of the University and **MUST** report what you share to WKU’s Title IX Coordinator or Title IX Investigator. If you would like to speak with someone who may be able to afford you confidentiality, you may contact WKU’s Counseling and Testing Center at 270-745-3159.

ADA Accommodation Statement:

In compliance with University policy, students with disabilities who require academic and/or auxiliary accommodations for this course must contact the Student Accessibility Resource Center located in Downing Student Union, 1074. SARC can be reached by phone number at 270-745-5004 [270-745-3030 TTY] or via email at sarc.connect@wku.edu. Please do not request accommodations directly from the professor or instructor without a faculty notification letter (FNL) from The Student Accessibility Resource Center.

Writing Center Assistance:

The Writing Center on the Bowling Green campus is offering **only** remote assistance to writers during the covid-19 pandemic. WKU students may request feedback on their writing via email or arrange a real-time Zoom conference to discuss a paper. See instructions and how-to videos on the website (www.wku.edu/writingcenter) for making online synchronous (Zoom) or asynchronous (email) appointments. Students may also get short writing questions answered via email; just put “Quick question” in the subject line to (writingcenter@wku.edu).

Writing tutors have been trained to provide helpful feedback to students at all phases of a writing project: they can help you brainstorm ideas, structure your essay, clarify your purpose, strengthen your support, and edit for clarity and correctness. But they will not revise or edit the paper for you.

Notification of Objectionable Materials:

Although course content may be deemed offensive by some students, such materials are important for the learning process. Students are not excused from interacting with such materials, but they are certainly encouraged to express well-formed opinions that express those objections and their reasons for them.

V. Determination of Course Grade

Your grade will be based on the following tests and assignments:

Activity	Points	%
Reading Responses (5 total, 5 pts ea.)	25	25
IPA Homework	20	20
Transcription Homework	25	25
Dialect Game Participation/Notetaking	10	10
Final Paper/Presentation	20	20
TOTAL	100	100%

Grades will be determined as	
A range	90-100%
B range	80-89%
C range	70-79%
D range	60-69%
F range	0-59%

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Attendance

Class attendance is absolutely necessary. You are responsible for the assigned readings, discussion, and course materials, the highlights of which will be covered in lecture. In addition, this class is designed around class activities and discussion group activities.

Participating in the course, attending lectures, and other course events are vital to the learning process. As such, attendance is required at all lectures. Students who miss class due to illness or emergency are required to bring documentation from their healthcare provider or other relevant, professional third parties. Failure to submit third-party documentation will result in unexcused absences.

Please come to virtual office hours. If for some reason you cannot drop by my regular office hours, schedule an appointment for a different time. One-on-one consultation on confusing points is always helpful.

Readings

Students are expected to complete the readings by the assigned date, and to read each assignment thoroughly and critically. *Required readings* will cover concepts that are essential to your understanding of Anthropology. *Recommended readings* review concepts that will be covered in lecture and will be helpful to you in studying for exams and preparing your assignments.

Screenings

Over the course of the semester students will be required to screen videos, films, and other media sources. Students are expected to complete the screenings before the synchronous class lecture and discussion date on the week it is assigned. All screenings are available on Blackboard.

Assignment Overview

Each assignment will be discussed in class and thorough instructions for the requirements will be posted to the course Blackboard.

Important Due Dates

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Reading Response #1 | <i>Friday January 28th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • IPA Homework | <i>Friday February 11th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Reading Response #2 | <i>Friday February 18th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Reading Response #3 | <i>Friday February 25th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Transcription Assignment | <i>Friday March 4th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Reading Response #4 | <i>Friday April 8th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Reading Response #5 | <i>Friday April 22nd, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |
| • Final Assignment | <i>Wednesday May 4th, 2022, 11:59 PM CST</i> |

V. SCHEDULE

Dates	Readings	Assignments
Week 1		
Introduction to the class	<u>Required readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Syllabus, Course Policies and ContentChapter 1: Introduction. <i>A Survey of Language and Culture</i>.	<i>Familiarize yourself with the course site, Zoom, and the Syllabus.</i>
What is Linguistic Anthropology?	<u>Recommended readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Duranti, Alessandro. Introduction: Linguistic Anthropology: History, Ideas, and Issues pp. 1-38.	<i>Zoom profile name/image loaded, Due Friday 11:59 PM</i>

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Dates	Readings	Assignments
Week 2		
Sounds & Evolution of Language	<u>Required readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 2: The Emergence of Culture and Language. <i>A Survey of Language and Culture</i>. 	<i>Reading Response #1 (Chapter 2) Due Friday 11:59 PM CST</i>

Dates	Readings	Assignments
Week 3		
Phonetics & the IPA	<u>Required readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chapter 5: Describing and Analyzing Language Systems. <i>A Survey of Language and Culture</i>. Macquarie University IPA site: http://clas.mq.edu.au/speech/phonetics/phonetics/index.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section A: Phonetics 1-7 and 9 Section B: Transcription 1, plus Topics 1-4. University of Kansas IPA site: http://cmed.faculty.ku.edu/ipafolder/index.html <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction, Vowels, Consonants, Links and Resources. <u>Recommended:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interactive IPA Chart: http://www.ipachart.com/ Interactive IPA Chart #2: https://web.uvic.ca/ling/resources/ipa/charts/IPA lab/IPA lab.htm UCLA Phonetics Lab Index of Sounds: http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/index/sounds.html Ladefoged Course in Phonetics Online: http://www.phonetics.ucla.edu/course/contents.html 	

Dates	Readings	Assignments
Week 4		
Representative Talk: Levels of Transcription	<u>Required readings:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacks, Harvey. 1974. "A Simplest Systematics for the Organization of Turn-Taking for Conversation" <i>Linguistics</i>. Wray, Alison, Kate Trott and Aileen Bloomer. 1988. "Transcribing Speech Orthographically" In <i>Projects in Linguistics: A Practical Guide to Researching Language</i>. London: Arnold. pp. 201-212. Jefferson, Gail. 2004. Glossary of Transcript Symbols with an Introduction. pp. 13-31. 	<i>IPA Homework Due Friday 11:59 PM CST</i>