

Course Outline: Language and Culture

DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES, LITERATURES AND LINGUISTICS

Course Code

AP/LING 2420 3.0 // AP/ANTH 2420 3.0 Language and Culture

Course Description

This course investigates the relationship between language and culture by exploring analyses of language use in social interaction in both Western and non-Western societies. It investigates the role of language in marking social difference and social change, along dimensions such as gender, ethnicity, class, and religion. It does so by investigating questions about universal versus culture-specific aspects of language structure, language use, and beliefs about language. Drawing on research in linguistic anthropology and sociolinguistics, topics that are investigated include: language acquisition and socialization, language ideology, language and thought, language endangerment, indexicality and performativity.

Course Delivery

Delivery Mode: LECT/TUT

The course will be taught in a lecture and tutorial format, with a weekly in-person lecture supplemented by a weekly in-person tutorial in a smaller group.

Course Materials

Course readings will involve a textbook (TBD) and a ethnographic monograph, *Wisdom Sits in Places* by Keith Basso. Additional readings in the form of journal articles or book chapters will be made available through e-class.

Tentative Grade Breakdown and Deadlines

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Tutorial participation	10%	In-person	Throughout term
2 quizzes	10%	Online	October/November

Assessment	Weight	Mode	Tentative Deadline
Linguistic landscape fieldwork report	30%	Take-home	October
Language style analysis	25%	Take-home	November
Final exam	25%	In-person	Exam period
	100%		