

# ANG 5621 Linguistic and Cultural Anthropology Proseminar

## Spring 2018

Mondays 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> periods (9:35 am-12:35 pm)  
Matherly 004

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## Course Description and Objectives

This course provides an overview of major ideas and research areas within the subfields of cultural and linguistic anthropology. The objective of the course is to provide a solid foundation for a graduate four-field Anthropology degree.

## Textbooks and Reading Assignments:

Foley, William. 1997. *Linguistic anthropology: An introduction*. Blackwell.

The majority of the readings come from the primary literature. Bibliographic information for these readings can be found in the weekly schedule, below. We will discuss access to these articles on the first day of class.

## Assignments and Grading

Team Discussions: Each week, teams of 3 students will lead the class discussion. Each group is expected to meet outside of class to organize readings and prepare a list of questions and points of discussion and organize any in-class activities. Each student should present twice during the semester, once during the first six weeks, once during the last six weeks. Team discussion leadership is worth 50 points.

Written assignments: Students are required to write 6 essays based on a that week's readings. I will post questions for each week (total 12), but students are required to complete only 6 assignments. Students must complete three during the first 6 weeks of the course, and three during the last 6 weeks. Essays are due at the beginning of class the following week. Written work should be a maximum of 1500 words (double-spaced, 12 pt. font, etc.) and focused on a particular point, idea, and/or theme occurring in the readings. Late papers will be docked five points per day past the Monday they are due. Each paper is worth 50 points (total 300).

Final Exam: There will be one take-home exam, due during finals week. The exam is worth 100 points.

Attendance and Participation: This is a graduate seminar, and students are expected to alternatively participate and lead class discussions. Because this is a graduate seminar and we meet only once per week, attendance is effectively mandatory. Unless there is a compelling reason you cannot attend class, you are

expected to be here. More importantly, students are expected to also actively participate in class discussion. The participation grade is worth 50 points.

The grades and assignments for this course break down as follows:

Class participation: 50 points  
Writing Assignments: 300 points  
Final Exam: 100 points  
Team Discussion: 50 points

Total 500 points. As for letter grades, the numbers are as follows:

A=418+, A- =405-417, B+= 391-404, B=374-390, B-=360-373, C+=346-359, C=329-345, C-= 315-328, D=270-314, E=<270

Please note that this is a required course for Anthropology graduate students. A grade of B or better is necessary to satisfy this requirement.

### **Academic Honesty**

Unless it is specifically connected to assigned collaborative work, all work should be individual. Evidence of collusion (working with someone not connected to the class or assignment), plagiarism (use of someone else's published or unpublished words or design without acknowledgment) or multiple submissions (submitting the same work for different courses) will lead to the Department's and the University's procedures for dealing with academic dishonesty. All students are expected to honor their commitment to the [University's Honor Code](#).

### **Accommodation for Students with Disabilities**

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the [Disability Resource Center](#). The DRC will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation. **Please make any requests by September 3.**

### **UF Counseling Services.**

Resources are available on-campus for students having personal problems or lacking clear career and academic goals that interfere with their academic performance. These resources include:

1. [University Counseling and Wellness Center](#), 3190 Radio Road, 392-1575. Personal, career, and emergency counseling
2. [Career Resource Center](#), Reitz Union, 392-1601, Career development assistance and counseling
3. [Writing Studio](#), 302 Tigert Hall, 846-1138. Writing assistance, study skills, test preparation

### **Course Evaluations**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing [online evaluations](#). Evaluations are typically open during the last 2-3 weeks of the semester, but students will be notified of specific times when they are open. [Summary results](#) of these assessments are also available to students.

## Schedule of Topics:

### Week 1 (Jan 22): Language Universals

Foley Chapters 3-6

Brown, R., & M. Ford. 1961. Address in American English. *Journal of Abnormal and Social Psychology* 62:375-385.

Chomsky, N. 1988. *Language and the Problems of Knowledge*, pp. 1-92. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.

Everett, D. 2005. Cultural Constraints on Grammar and Cognition in Piraha. *Current Anthropology* 46(4):621-646.

Hockett, C. 1960. The Origin of Speech. *Scientific American* 203:88-96.

Leach, E. 1972. *Language, Culture, and Communication*, pp. 1-24. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

### Week 2 (Jan 29): Relativism and Sapir-Whorf

Foley Chapters 8-11

Kay, P., and W. Kempton. 1984. What is the Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis? *American Anthropologist* 86:65-79.

Wassman, J., and P. Dasen. 1998. Balinese Spatial Orientation. *Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute* 4(4):689-713.

Lucy, J. 1997. Linguistic Relativity. *Annual Review of Anthropology* 26:291-313.

Martin, L. 1986. Eskimo Words for Snow": A Case Study in the Genesis and Decay of an Anthropological Example. *American Anthropologist* 88(2): 418-423.

### Week 3 (Feb 5): Ethnography of Speaking

Foley Chapters 13-16

Smith-Hefner, N. 1988. Women and Politeness: The Javanese Example. *Language in Society* 17:535-554.

Trudgill, P. 1972. Sex Covert Prestige, and Linguistic Change in the Urban British English of Norwich. *Language in Society* 1:179-195.

Gal, S. 1978. Peasant Men Can't Get Wives: Language Change and Sex Roles in a Bilingual Community. *Language in Society* 7:1-16.

Rickford, J. R., & S. King. 2016. Language and Linguistics on Trial: Hearing Rachel Jeantel (and other Vernacular Speakers) in the Courtroom and Beyond. *Language* 92(4): 948-988. ANg

### Week 4 (Feb 12): Historical Linguistics

Salzman et al. 2011. Language Through Time. Pp.141-167 in *Language, Culture, and Society*. Boulder, CO: Westview Press.

Bellwood, P. 2008. Archaeology and the Origins of Language Families. Pp. 225-244 in *Handbook of Archaeological Theories*, P. Bentley, H. Maschner, and C. Chippindale (eds.). New York: AltaMira.

Chang, W., C. Cathcart, D. Hall, & A. Garret. 2015. Ancestry-Constrained Phylogenetic Analysis Supports the Indo-European Steppe Hypotheses. *Language* 91(1): 194-244.

Clendon, M. 2006. Reassessing Australia's Linguistic Prehistory. *Current Anthropology* 47: 39-61.

Graca Da Silva, S. & Tehrani, J. 2015. Comparative Phylogenetic Analysis Uncover the Ancient Roots of Indo-European Folktales. *Royal Society of Open Science* 3:150645.

McWhorter, J. H. 2001. The World's Simplest Grammars are Creole Grammars. *Linguistic Typology* 5(2/3):125-156.

McWhorter, J. H. 2001. Most of the World's Languages Went Extinct. Pp. in *The Power of Babel*. New York: Times Books.

## Week 5 (Feb 19): Language Endangerment

Foley Chapters 19-21

- Costa, J. 2015. Is Language Revitalization Really about Saving Languages? Some Insights from 150 Years of Language Revival in Occitania. *Proceedings from the Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society* 51.
- Errington, J. 2003. Getting Language Rights: The Rhetoric of Language Endangerment and Loss. *American Anthropologist* 105(4): 723-732.
- Hale, K., M. Krauss, L. J. Watahomigie, A. Y. Yamamoto, C. Craig, L. Masayesva Jeanne, and N.C. England. 1992. Endangered Languages. *Language* 68(1):1-42.
- Harmon, D. 1996. Losing Species, Losing Languages: Connections between Biological and Linguistic Diversity. *Southwest Journal of Linguistics* 15: 89-108.
- Sims, C.P. 1998. Community-Based Efforts to Preserve Native Languages: A Descriptive Study of the Karuk Tribe of Northern California. *International Journal of the Sociology of Language* 132: 95-113.

## Week 6 (Feb 26): Language and Evolution

Foley Chapter 2

- Aiello, L., and R.M. Dunbar. 1993. Neocortex Size, Group Size, and the Evolution of Language. *Current Anthropology* 34(2):184-194.
- Burling, R. 1993. Primate Calls, Human Language, and Nonverbal Communication. *Current Anthropology* 34(1):25-53.
- Deacon, T.W. 2000. Evolutionary Perspectives on Language and Brain Plasticity. *Journal of Communication Disorders* 33(4):273-291
- Hewes, G. 1973. Primate communication and the Gestural Origin of Language. *Current Anthropology* 14:5-24.
- Milo, R. G., and D. Quiatt. 1993. Glottogenesis and Anatomically Modern *Homo Sapiens*: The Evidence for and Implications of a Late Origin of Vocal Language. *Current Anthropology* 34(5):569-598.
- Pinker, S., and P. Bloom. 1992. Natural Language and Natural Selection. In *The Adapted Mind: Evolutionary Psychology and the Generation of Culture*. J. Barkow, L. Cosmides, and J. Tooby, eds. Pp. 451-494. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

## Week 7 (March 12): Ethics

- Brandt, Allan M. 1978. Racism and research: The case of the Tuskegee Syphilis Study. *The Hastings Report* 8(6): 21-29.
- Cassell, Joan. 1980. Ethical principles for conducting fieldwork. *American Anthropologist* 82: 28-41.
- Fairhead, J, Leach M, Small M. 2006. Where techno-science meets poverty: medical research and the economy of blood in the Gambia, West Africa. *Social Science and Medicine*. 63:1109-20.
- Harcourt, BE. 2011. Making willing bodies: the University of Chicago human experiments at Stateville Penitentiary. *Social Research* 78(2):443-78.
- Kleinman, A. 1999. Moral experience and ethical reflection: Can ethnography reconcile them? A quandary for "the new bioethics." *Daedalus* 128(4):69-98
- Kowal, E, Radin J, Reardon J. 2013. Indigenous body parts, mutating temporalities, and the half-lives of postcolonial technoscience. *Social Studies of Science*. 43(4):465-83.
- Myerhoff, Barbara. 1978. So what do you want from us here? Pp. 1-39 in *Number Our Days*. New York: Simon & Schuster.
- Plattner, Stuart. 2003. Human subjects protection and cultural anthropology. *Anthropological Quarterly* 76: 287-297.

Thorne, Barrie. 1980. "You still takin' notes?" Fieldwork and problems of informed consent." *Social Problems* 27:284-297.

#### Week 8 (March 19): Knowledge and Representation

- Bird-David, Nurit. 1999. "Animism" revisited: personhood, environment, and relational epistemology. *Current Anthropology* 40:567-91 .
- Coe, Cati. 2001. Learning how to find out: Theories of knowledge and learning in field research. *Field Methods* 13: 392-411.
- Descola, Phillippe. 2010. Cognition, perception and worlding. *Interdisciplinary Science Review* 35:334-40 .
- Hallowell, A. Irving. 1976. Ojibwa ontology, behavior, and world view. In *Contributions to anthropology: Selected papers of A. Irving Hallowell*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.
- Lassiter, Luke E. 2001. From "Reading over the Shoulders of Natives" to "Reading alongside Natives", Literally: Toward a Collaborative and Reciprocal Ethnography. (2001). *Journal of Anthropological Research*, 57(2):137-149.
- Latour, Bruno. 2014a. Agency at the time of the Anthropocene. *New Literary History* 45(1):1-18.
- Palecek, Martin, and Mark. Risjord. 2013. Relativism and the ontological turn within anthropology. *Philosophy of Social Science* 43(1):3-23
- Zigon, J. 2014. Attunement and fidelity: two ontological conditions for morally being-in-the-world. *Ethos* 42:16-30.

#### Week 9 (March 26): Power

- Cardoso de Oliveira, R. 1999/2000. Peripheral anthropologies "versus" central anthropologies. *Journal of Latin American Anthropology* 4(2):10-30.
- Howell, Sally, and Andrew Shyrock. 2003. Cracking down on diaspora: Arab Detroit and America's "war on terror." *Anthropological Quarterly*. 76(3):443-62.
- Ferguson, James. 2013. Declarations of dependence: Labour, personhood, and welfare in southern Africa. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 19(2):223-42.
- Pemunta, Ngambouk Vitalis. 2009. Multiple identities: Gender, power, and the production of anthropological knowledge. *Anthropology Matters Journal* 11(1):1-13.
- Schmidt Camacho, Alicia. 2005. Gender violence and the denationalization of women's rights in Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. *CR: The New Centennial Review* 5(1):255-92 .
- Stirrat, R. 2008. Mercenaries, missionaries and misfits: Representation of development personnel. *Critique of Anthropology* 28:406-25.
- Uchiyamada, Yasushi. 2004. Architecture of immanent power. Truth and nothingness in a Japanese bureaucratic machine. *Social Anthropology* 12:3-23.
- Green, Maia. 2009. Doing development and writing culture: knowledge practices in anthropology and international development. *Anthropological Theory* 9(4):395-417.
- Striffler, S. 2007. Neither here nor there: Mexican immigrant workers and the search for home. *American Ethnologist* 34(4):674-88.

#### Week 10 (April 4): Identity

- Comaroff, J., & J.L. Comaroff . 2001. On personhood: An anthropological perspective from Africa. *Social Identities* 7: 267-83.
- Csordas, Thomas J. 1999. Ritual healing and the politics of identity in contemporary Navajo society. *American Ethnologist* 26(1):3-23.

- Englund, H. 1996. Witchcraft, modernity and the person: the morality of accumulation in central Malawi. *Critique of Anthropology* 16:257-79.
- Grewal Inderpal. 2003. Transnational America: Race, gender, and citizenship after 9/11. *Social Identities* 9(4):535-61.
- Mageo, Jeannette-Marie. 1996. Samoa, on the Wilde side: Male transvestism, Oscar Wilde, and liminality in making gender. *Ethos* 24(4):588-627.
- Sokefeld, Martin. 1999. Debating self, identity, and culture in anthropology. *Current Anthropology* 40(4):417-448.
- Whitehead, Tony L. 1980. Identity, subjectivity, and cultural bias in fieldwork. *The Black Scholar* 11(7): 40-44, 83-87.

#### Wek 11 (April 9): Health

- Dressler, William W. 2007. Meaning and structure in research in medical anthropology. *Anthropology in Action* 14: 30-43.
- Gravlee, Clarence C. 2009. How race becomes biology: Embodiment of social inequality. *American Journal of Physical Anthropology* 139: 47-57.
- Kral, M.J., L. Idlout, J. B. Minore, R. J. Dyck, & L.J. Kirmayer. 2011. Unikkaartuit: Meanings of well-being, unhappiness, health, and community change among Inuit in Nunavut, Canada. *American Journal of Community Psychology* 48: 426-438.
- Petryna, Adriana. 2004. Biological citizenship: The science and politics of Chernobyl-exposed populations. *Osiris* 19:250-265.
- Scheper-Hughes, Nancy. 2004. Parts unknown: Undercover ethnography of the organs-trafficking underworld. *Ethnography* 5(1): 29-73.
- Weaver, Lesley Jo., & Craig Hadley. 2009. Moving beyond hunger and nutrition: A systematic review of the evidence linking food insecurity and mental health in developing countries. *Ecology of Food and Nutrition* 48: 263-284.

#### Week 12 (April 16): Environment

- Crate, Susan. 2008. Gone the bull of winter? Grappling with the cultural implications of and anthropology's role(s) in global climate change. *Current Anthropology* 49: 569-595.
- Hall, Elizabeth F., and Todd Sanders. 2015. Accountability and the academy: Producing knowledge about the human dimensions of climate change. *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* 21:438-461.
- Nadasdy, Paul. 2005. Transcending the debate over the ecologically noble Indian: Indigenous peoples and environmentalism. *Ethnohistory* 52: 291-331.
- Oliver-Smith, Anthony. 2004. Theorizing vulnerability in a globalized world: A political ecological perspective, in G. Bankoff, Frerks G. & Hilhorst D. (ed.) *Mapping vulnerability: Disasters, development, and people*: 11-24. London: Earthscan.
- Vasquez-Leon, Marcela. 2009. Hispanic farmers and farmworkers: social networks, institutional exclusion, and climate vulnerability in southeastern Arizona. *American Anthropologist* 111(3):289-301.
- Wenzel, George. 2009. Canadian Inuit subsistence and ecological instability: If the climate changes, must the Inuit? *Polar Research* 28: 89-99.
- Broad K, Orlove B. 2007. Channeling Globality: The 1997-98 El Niño climate event in Peru. *American Ethnologist*. 34(2):283-300
- Orlove B. 2005. Human adaptation to climate change. *Environmental Science Policy* 8(6):589-600