

## **School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Course Outline**

### **LING 221, Sociolinguistics, Trimester 2, 2008**

#### **1. Course Coordinator:**

**Meredith Marra** (see details below)

#### **2. Staff:**

##### **Lecturer**

##### **Dr Meredith Marra**

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##### **Prof Janet Holmes**

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There will be several guest lecturers (including the tutors)

##### **Tutors**

Julia de Bres, Brian King, Mariana Lazzaro Salazar

(contact details will be provided at your first tutorial)

#### **3. Class times and rooms:**

##### **Lectures: Mon, Wed, Thurs 12-1pm COLT122**

A web resources class will be held in the Kirk Cybercommons on 10 July in place of the lecture. Each student should attend one 25 minute session. Because of restricted space, the class has been divided into groups.

Please note your allocated room and time which will be posted on Blackboard and in lectures.

**Tutorials: ONE per week. Indicate your preferred times on the tutorial choice form**

*Tutorial lists will be posted on Blackboard and the Linguistics undergraduate notice board during the first week of teaching. Your first tutorial will be in the week beginning 14 July. Check the lists before that date. You may not change tutorials without consulting the course co-ordinator.*

This course has a 2 hour exam which will take place during the examination period (13 October – 9 November).

Please see section 12 below for further information about assessment

#### **4. Announcements:**

The Linguistics undergraduate notice board is next to VZ 309. Keep an eye on it for any additional information. On occasion we will also post information on Blackboard.

**Web contact:** [www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz)

#### **5. LALS main office:**

**Receptionist:**

Nicky Kane

Email: [nicky.kane@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:nicky.kane@vuw.ac.nz) or [lals@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:lals@vuw.ac.nz)

Room 210, 2nd floor, von Zedlitz (vZ) Building,

Kelburn Parade

#### **6. Course Administrator:**

Vivien Trott, Undergraduate administration, Tel: 463 5255, Fax: 463 5604

[Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz](mailto:Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz)

#### **7. Content:**

This course aims to investigate some of the ways in which linguistic and social variables interact in speech communities. We will examine both multilingual and monolingual speech communities. The course will introduce students to ways of analysing language in a range of social contexts.

A detailed lecture outline is provided at the end of this document.

#### **8. Objectives:**

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Outline the major relationships between language and society.
2. Define the main sociolinguistic concepts used to analyse these relationships.
3. Identify the main features of studies of sociolinguistic variation.
4. Describe the most common methodologies for studying language in society.

More specific objectives are provided in the LING 221 Lecture book.

The required work is designed to assess how well you have achieved the course objectives. The critical review and the tutorial presentation will ensure you are familiar with basic sociolinguistic concepts, and will assess your ability to understand, interpret, evaluate and present sociolinguistic material (objectives 1 and 2). The research assignment focuses on sociolinguistic variation (objective 3); it will assist you to become familiar with a range of research methods (objective 4), and to develop skills in sociolinguistic analysis. The final exam will require you to demonstrate your familiarity with sociolinguistic concepts, will

assess the breadth of your reading in sociolinguistics, and will require you to apply what you have learnt to the analysis of material presented in the exam (ie all objectives). Satisfactory completion of all these tasks will ensure you know enough sociolinguistics to proceed to more advanced study in this area.

## 9. Expected workload:

In order to make satisfactory progress in this course you should expect to devote, on average, 15 hours a week to it. This includes attendance at lectures, tutorials and discussion classes, preparation for tutorials, background reading and preparation for assignments and the exam. As an example of how you might spend your time, see the table below. Some students will find they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

### A possible breakdown of tasks:

These calculations are based on 12 weeks of lectures + the mid-trimester break + the study break to a total of 15 weeks

<i>Each week</i>	<i>Task</i>	<i>Time allowance (hours)</i>	
LECTURES	Attending lectures	3	
	Prep reading before the lecture and summarising your notes after the lecture	4	<b>7</b>
TUTORIALS	Attending tutorial	1	
	Prep and follow up for tutorials	1.5	<b>2.5</b>
ASSESSMENT	Background reading	2.5	
	Writing up assignments – spread over 15 weeks	1.5	
	Exam revision	1.25	<b>5.25</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>14.75 ie 15 approx</b>

## 10. Group work:

Although you may be required to do your tutorial presentation in pairs, you will be marked individually.

## 11. Readings:

### Student Notes:

There is a LING 221 Lecture book which is essential for all those taking this course. It contains lecture outlines and information on assessment and the final exam etc. You cannot manage without it.

In response to feedback from students, we have also prepared a book for tutorials which incorporates readings and exercises. Although these readings are available online via Blackboard, students find it useful to have hard copies of these articles. We therefore recommend you buy this Tutorial book from student notes as well.

## Required text:

*You will find this the most useful single textbook to buy for this course.*

Holmes, Janet 2008 (3<sup>rd</sup> ed). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. London: Longman.

## Recommended:

*These are available in the library.*

Coulmas, Florian (ed) 1997. *The Handbook of Sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Coupland, Nikolas & Adam Jaworski (eds) 1997. *Sociolinguistics; A Reader and Coursebook*. London: Macmillan.

Fasold, Ralph 1984. *The Sociolinguistics of Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Fasold, Ralph 1990. *The Sociolinguistics of Language*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Hudson, Richard 1996. 2nd edition. *Sociolinguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Llamas, Carmen, Louise Mullany & Peter Stockwell 2006. *The Routledge Companion to Sociolinguistics*. Abingdon, [England]; N.Y.: Routledge.

Mesthrie, Rajend, Joan Swann, A. Deumert & William L. Leap 2000. *Introducing Sociolinguistics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Meyerhoff, Miriam 2006. *Introducing Sociolinguistics*. London and New York: Routledge.

Richards, Jack C. & Richard W. Schmidt (eds) 1983. *Language and Communication*. London: Longman.

Romaine, Suzanne 1994. *Language in Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Saville-Troike, Muriel 2003 (3rd ed) *The Ethnography of Communication*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Trudgill, Peter 2000 (4th edition) *Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Trudgill, Peter & Jenny Cheshire (eds) 1998. *The Sociolinguistics Reader*. Vol. 1. London: Arnold.

Wardhaugh, Ronald 2006. (5th ed) *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

## Web and computer-based resources:

A programme for learning and revising key terms and concepts is available on Blackboard.

## Vicbooks

There are two locations – Pipitea Campus and Kelburn campus. It is located in the Student Union Building on Kelburn Campus. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz). Vicbooks can courier books to customers or they can be picked up from either shop the day after placing an order online.

Tel: Kelburn 463 5515

Opening hours: 8am - 6pm Mon - Fri (during term they close at 5pm, in the holidays); 10am - 1pm Saturday.

## 12. Assessment requirements:

1. There are TWO in-course written assignments for LING 221
  - (i) A critical review (550 words max) 15% **DUE 12 noon, Mon 11 August 2008**
  - (ii) A research assignment (2000 words max) 25% **DUE 12 noon, Thurs 18 September 2008**
2. A formal oral presentation to at least one tutorial with a written summary to the tutor (this grade will also incorporate tutorial participation – see assessment criteria below). 10%
3. A final 2 hour examination conducted by the Faculty in the final exam period covering all topics discussed during the course. 50%

Students must attempt all parts of the assessment in order to pass the course. A student's final grade will take account of all these pieces of work and will be awarded in consultation with her/his tutor.

Assignments should be handed in to the School Office (vZ 210) on the 2nd floor of the von Zedlitz building by 12 noon on the due date.  
Keep a back-up copy of all assessed work.

**N.B.** Note that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last three weeks of teaching, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration.

### **Assessment criteria for tutorial participation**

Your tutor will award you a grade for your tutorial participation. About 6 weeks through the course you will receive an interim report to indicate your performance to date – NB only your final mark will be counted.

<p style="text-align: center;">LING 221 SOCIOLINGUISTICS TUTORIAL PARTICIPATION TO DATE (INFORMAL FEEDBACK)</p> <p>NAME:</p> <p>Evidence of preparation</p> <p>Participation in question time</p> <p>Engagement with class</p> <p>Other comments</p>
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An 'A grade' will be awarded to students who:

- demonstrate high quality participation based upon thorough preparation
- have an ability to see links between different issues and provide examples
- are supportive group members who listen to others, ask appropriate questions of the group, the tutor and individual members.
- work to keep the tutorial on track, and involve other people.

### **Submitting assignments and tasks**

#### General guidelines

- Set margins to at least 2.5 cm
- Set line spacing to 1.5
- Set font size of 12 point
- Include page numbers
- Include a cover sheet
- Provide a word count at the end of the assignment (not including the Reference section)
- Type on one side of A4 paper
- Staple pages together
- Avoid presenting assignments in bulky folders or sleeves unless necessary

### 13. Penalties:

In line with school policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment.

ONLY ASSIGNMENTS CARRYING A COVER-SHEET SIGNED BY THE COURSE COORDINATOR HAVE A VALID EXTENSION PERMITTED TO THEM.

The assignments are due by **12 noon** on the due date.

Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

For assignments handed in after noon on the due date, penalties increase each day until one week after the due date when the maximum grade possible is C and no personal comment will be provided. Assignments handed in after this time receive no mark.

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalised. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism. See General University Policies.

### 14. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms):

In addition to the assessment requirements which contribute to their final grade, students are also required to

- i) make a satisfactory attempt at the two graded assignments
- ii) attend *at least* nine of the eleven tutorials (we recommend students attend *all* tutorials)
- iii) undertake satisfactory preparation for tutorials

Tutorials are an essential component of the learning experience in this course and you are expected to attend all tutorials unless you are ill. You should inform your tutor if you are unable to attend a tutorial, and arrange to attend at another time if possible.

"Satisfactory" means that there is evidence that the topic has been taken seriously and a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to the work.

Where a student has been excused from a tutorial, they are required to complete exercises to ensure the material is covered. These exercises can be found on Blackboard and in the tutorial workbook. The completed exercise should be handed to the tutor at the next tutorial. All students will find these exercises useful for revision.

All specified terms requirements (ie (i)-(iii) above) must be completed by 5pm on 10 October 2008 in order to satisfy mandatory requirements.

### 15. Communication of additional information:

Any additional information/changes etc pertaining to the course will be posted as an announcement on Blackboard.

### 16. Academic integrity and plagiarism

Academic integrity is about honesty – put simply it means *no cheating*. All members of the University community are responsible for upholding academic integrity, which means staff and students are expected to behave honestly, fairly and with respect for others at all times. Plagiarism is a form of cheating which undermines academic integrity. The University defines plagiarism as follows:

*The presentation of the work of another person or other persons as if it were one's own, whether intended or not. This includes published or unpublished work, material on the Internet and the work of other students or staff.*

It is still plagiarism even if you re-structure the material or present it in your own style or words.

*Note: It is however, perfectly acceptable to include the work of others as long as that is acknowledged by appropriate referencing.*

Plagiarism is prohibited at Victoria and is not worth the risk. Any enrolled student found guilty of plagiarism will be subject to disciplinary procedures under the Statute on Student Conduct and may be penalized severely. Consequences of being found guilty of plagiarism can include:

- an oral or written warning
- cancellation of your mark for an assessment or a fail grade for the course
- suspension from the course or the University.

Find out more about plagiarism, and how to avoid it, on the University's website:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

## **17. GENERAL UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND POLICIES**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the *Victoria University Calendar* available in hardcopy or under "about Victoria" on the Victoria homepage at:

[http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about\\_victoria/calendar\\_intro.html](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/calendar_intro.html)

Information on the following topics is available electronically under "Course Outline General Information" at:

<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/newspubs/universitypubs.aspx#general>

- Student and Staff Conduct
- Academic Grievances
- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism
- Meeting the Needs of Students with Impairments
- Student Support

**DRAFT LECTURE OUTLINE 2008**  
**Subject to change - changes will be announced on Blackboard**

July 7	Introduction Context Web resources for 221demo session <b>Kirk Building</b>
July 14	Multilingualism Models of Multilingualism Diglossia
July 21	Code switching 1 Code-switching 2 Language maintenance and shift (in the NZ context)
July 28	Team taught class: preparation for assignment 1 Language death and loss Revitalisation
August 4	Standards and vernaculars Pidgins and Creoles National and official languages
August 11	Language policy and planning: Luxembourg and Vanuatu Language policy and planning: NZSL Team taught class on project topics: assignment 2 prep

**MID TRIMESTER BREAK**

September 1	Linguistic landscapes and planning Social dialectology: aims and methods 1 Social dialectology: aims and methods 2
September 8	Social dialectology: gender Social dialectology: age Social dialectology: ethnicity
September 15	Social dialectology: social networks Social factors and language change Current trends in NZ social dialectology
September 22	Style in social dialectology Accommodation theory Style and audience design
September 29	Attitudes to languages Attitudes to accents Accents of English
October 6	Intercultural pragmatics Conclusion Team taught class on preparation for final exam