TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LALS 517 Special Topic
Sociocultural perspectives on the Deaf community

Trimester 2 2011
11 July to 12 November

Teaching dates: 11 July 2011 to 26 Sept 2011
On-campus block: Sat Aug 20 -Tues Aug 23
Final Assessment due: Oct 17, 2011

Withdrawal dates
Information on withdrawals and refunds may be found at
http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawlsrefunds.aspx

Lecturers

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Class times and locations
The on-campus block is in **AM103**, Sat Aug 20 – Wed Aug 2, 9.00 – 5.00 daily, except for final day - ending at 4.30pm. Distance study components will be available via Blackboard on http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz.

Communication of additional information

Additional information about this course and information about any changes will be posted in Blackboard (Announcements) and emailed via VUW student addresses.

Course Prescription

Sociocultural perspectives on the Deaf community as represented in the international Deaf Studies literature will be surveyed. The course will identify historical continuities and changes in the role and treatment of sign language in Deaf people's lives, constructs of deaf identity and culture, and the expression of Deaf empowerment politics in recent times. In relation to students' own practice as professional interpreters, intercultural dimensions of interpreted interaction between Deaf and hearing people will be critically considered. Learning activities in the course include lectures and discussions, analysis of and response to relevant literature, written assignments.

Course delivery
The course is run by distance with a four-day intensive teaching block on campus. For all students, weekly notes, assessments task details and discussion board is available through Blackboard on http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz. Blackboard is Victoria's online teaching and learning system. See the Help tab on Blackboard for further information on using Blackboard.

Course content and schedule

A weekly schedule of course topics and readings is found on the final page of this document, for easy reference.

Learning objectives

On completion of this course, students should be able to:

1. Define key concepts and developments in a sociocultural construction of deaf community and identity from the 1970s, and critically evaluate evidence and arguments related to these.

2. Identify historical changes and contextual variation in the sociological, linguistic and political position of Deaf people in society, drawing on recent Deaf Studies literature.

3. Explain, with examples, how discourses of disability and culture interact in representation of self and political voice in contemporary Deaf world politics.

4. Apply an understanding of cultural characteristics and processes of intercultural communication to analysing incidents of interaction between Deaf and hearing people, particularly those mediated by interpreters.

Expected workload

The estimated total workload on this course is 150 hours including classes, reading, time logged on to Blackboard, and completing assessment tasks. This equates to an average of 10-11 hours a week over 14 weeks.

Readings

Required texts

1. *Inside Deaf Culture* by Carol A. Padden and Tom L. Humphries (2005, Harvard University Press)

2. *Reading Between the Signs: Intercultural Communication for Sign Language Interpreters* (Second Edition) by Anna Mindess (2006, Intercultural Press)

   Online purchase of texts 1 & 2 is recommended via: http://www.bookdepository.co.uk

3. *LALS 517 Reader* –- a collection of articles available from VicBooks (Student Notes).

Customers can order student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Books can be couriered to customers or picked up from nominated collection points at each campus. Customers will be contacted when they are available. Opening hours are 8.00 am – 6.00 pm, Monday – Friday during term time (closing at 5.00 pm in the holidays). Phone: (04) 463 5515.

Further reading

The VUW library holds an extensive collection of books relevant to this rather broad subject area. A key word search using terms 'deaf' and 'deaf culture' will locate most of these. Many articles in the course reader are chapters from edited volumes that contain other relevant material and can be found in the VUW library - see the Reader Contents page for bibliographic details. If you want advice on further reading in specific topic areas, please consult with the course coordinator.

Books can be borrowed by distance students from off-campus (see Distance Lending Services: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library/borrowing/distance.html).

Assessment requirements

All assessment for this course is internal. Detailed instructions for assessment tasks are posted in Blackboard, 'Assessments' area.

If you have a problem with meeting a deadline, please communicate with the course coordinator as early as possible. Extensions will not be granted after the due date.

Assessment task summary	Value	Due date
1. 5 x online postings in response to readings (150-200 words each)	10 %	Specific weeks assigned per group (see Blackboard)
2. Oral presentation of reading (10 mins + summary notes). Readings individually assigned - see details in Blackboard.	10 %	At block, Aug 20-23.
3. Assignment 1 (Constructions of Deaf community & identity, 1600 words)	35 %	Sept 9
4. Assignment 2 (Intercultural Interaction Analysis, 2000 words)	45 %	Oct 17

In all assignments, assessment will recognise core attributes of critical thinking (how would you know a claim was valid?) and communication (how well do you communicate your arguments and supporting information?) and leadership (how would you demonstrate that your ideas will have an impact on the context within which you might be working?).

Submitting Assignments

- Task 1 (online postings) will be submitted in Discussion Board on Blackboard, by Friday midday of that week. Postings will be available for all class members to read.
- Task 2 will be presented in class, and hard-copy of notes handed in on the day.
- Tasks 3 and 4 should be submitted as e-mail attachments to rachel.mckee@vuw.ac.nz, using the cover sheet provided in Assessment folder on Blackboard.

Penalties
In line with school policy, assignments handed in after the due date may receive a reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances.

Mandatory course requirements
The requirements in this course are to participate in all of the class sessions (unless an exemption is given) and complete all set work by the due date (unless an extension is given).

Class Representative
A class representative will be elected at the start of the course, and that person's name and contact details will be available to VUWSA, the Course Coordinator and the class. The class representative provides a communication channel to liaise with the Course Coordinator on behalf of students.

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND PLAGIARISM

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source

- The work of other students or staff

- Information from the internet

- Software programs and other electronic material

- Designs and ideas

- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website: http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx . Student work may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine http://www.turnitin.com.

Use of Turnitin

Student work provided for assessment in this course may be checked for academic integrity by the electronic search engine http://www.turnitin.com. Turnitin is an online plagiarism prevention tool which compares submitted work with a very large database of existing material. At the discretion of the Head of School, handwritten work may be copy-typed by the School and subject to checking by Turnitin. Turnitin will retain a copy of submitted material on behalf of the University for detection of future plagiarism, but access to the full text of submissions is not made available to any other party.

WHERE TO FIND MORE DETAILED INFORMATION

Find key dates, explanations of grades and other useful information at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study. Find out how academic progress is monitored and how enrolment can be restricted at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress. Most statutes and policies are available at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy, except qualification statutes, which are available via the *Calendar* webpage at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/calendar.aspx (See Section C).

Other useful information for students may be found at the website of the Assistant Vice-Chancellor (Academic), at www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about_victoria/avcacademic.

Topics and Reading Schedule

This is a guide to topics, readings and weekly online postings.
Readings listed in blue will be assigned to individual students for review at the block.

Week beginning	Topic focus	Readings P & H = *Inside Deaf Culture* **Mindess =** *Reading Between Signs* **(#) author =** *LALS517 Reader Contents page* **Blue** = assigned for student review at block	Online posting group
Wk 1 July 4-10	Paradigm Shifts: frames for thinking about Deaf people & Deaf Studies	P & H Introduction (7) Fernandes & Myers	--
Wk 2 July 11 -18	Defining features & experiences of Deaf communities	P & H Ch 1 (16) Woll & Ladd (13) Leigh (2009b)	A
Wk 3 July 18 - 24	Muggles, Wizards, Mudbloods & Squibs in the Deaf-world	(4) Czubeck & Greenwald (11) Ladd	B
Wk 4 July 25 -31	Identity as personal & political	(5) Davis (12) Leigh (2009a) (9) Humphries	A
Wk 5 Aug 1 -7	Culture – defining and doing it	P & H Ch 6 Mindess Ch 4 and Ch 5	B
Wk 6 Aug 8 -14	Elements of intercultural interaction	Mindess Ch 8 and Ch 10 (3) Bowe & Martin	A
Wk 7 Aug 15 -22	Facilitating Intercultural interaction	(15) Spencer-Oatey Mindess Ch 11	B
Aug 20-23	**On-campus block at VUW**	**Oral review due**	
Aug 29 – Sept 4	Study Break		
Wk 8 Sept 5 -11	Identity as contextual: boundaries and overlaps	(14) Ohna (10) Kusters (8) Friedner	A
Sept 9		**Assignment 1 due**	
Wk 9 Sept 12-18	Deaf voice: discourses of culture & disability	P & H Ch 3 (1) Andersson & Burch (6) Doe	B
Wk 10 Sept 19 - 26	Deaf lens on the future	P & H Ch 8 (2) Bauman & Murray	A & B
Oct 17		**Assignment 2 due**	