TE WHARE WĀNANGA O TE ŪPOKO O TE IKA A MĀUI

VICTORIA
UNIVERSITY OF WELLINGTON

FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

SCHOOL OF LINGUISTCS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

LINGUISTICS PROGRAMME
LING 221 SOCIOLINGUISTICS
20 POINTS

TRIMESTER 1 2016

Key dates

Trimester dates: 29 February to 29 June 2016
Teaching dates: 29 February to 27 May 2016
Easter break: 24–30 March 2016
Mid-trimester break: 25 April to 1 May 2016
Study period: 6–9 June 2016
Examination/Assessment Period: 10–29 June 2016
Note: students who enrol in courses with examinations must be able to attend an examination at the University at any time during the scheduled examination period.

Withdrawal dates: Refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/withdrawals-refunds.

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test in the last three weeks of teaching, or an examination, it may instead be possible to apply for an aegrotat (refer to www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/aegrotats).

Class times and locations

Lectures:

Monday	9am – 9:50am in Murphy (MY) 220
Wednesday	9am – 9:50am in Murphy (MY) 220
Friday	9am – 9:50am in Hunter (HU) 119

Tutorials:

ONE per week.

Indicate your preferred times on the tutorial choice form distributed in the first lecture.

Tutorial lists will be posted on Blackboard during the first week of teaching. Your first tutorial will be in the week beginning 7 March. Check the lists **before** that date. You may not change tutorials without consulting the course coordinator.

Names and contact details

Course Coordinator

Dr Meredith Marra

Office: VZ211

Phone: 463 5636

Office hours: by arrangement – email to arrange a time

Email: meredith.marra@vuw.ac.nz

Post: School of Linguistics & Applied Language Studies

Victoria University of Wellington

P O Box 600

Wellington 6140

NEW ZEALAND

Course Administrator

Matthew Vink

Office: VZ210

Phone: 463 5255

Office hours: Monday – Friday, 9am – 4.15pm

Email: matthew.vink@vuw.ac.nz

Communication of additional information

We will post additional information on Blackboard. The Linguistics undergraduate notice board is next to VZ 309. Keep an eye on it for any additional notices.

Prescription

An introduction to sociolinguistics including the analysis of multilingualism, social dialects and attitudes to language.

Course 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.

Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course 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.

Teaching format

The course consists of three lectures and one tutorial per week over eleven weeks. Blackboard will be used for extra information.

The course has a 2-hour exam which will take place during the examination period
(10–29 June 2016)

Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must:

1. make a satisfactory attempt to complete all assessment, and submit or present course work, on or by the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work)

2. attend *at least* eight of the ten tutorials (we recommend students attend *all* tutorials) and undertake satisfactory preparation for these tutorials.

"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.

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. In exceptional circumstances we can offer alternative arrangements for the tutorial presentation component. If required, please talk to the Course Coordinator well in advance.

All course requirements (other than the examination) must be complete by Friday 3 June 2016 at 5pm. Any student who is concerned that they have been (or might be) unable to meet any of the MCRs because of exceptional personal circumstances, should contact the course coordinator as soon as possible.

Workload

As a 20-point course, LING 221 equates to approximately 200 hours of work. In order to make satisfactory progress you should expect to devote, on average, 13-14 hours a week to it. This includes attendance at lectures and tutorials, 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 11 weeks of lectures + the mid-trimester break + the study break to a total of 15 weeks).

Each week	Task	Time allowance (hours)	
LECTURES	Attending lectures	3	
	Prep reading before the lecture and summarising your notes after the lecture	3	**6**
TUTORIALS	Attending tutorial	1	
	Prep and follow up for tutorials	1.5	**2.5**
ASSESSMENT	Background reading	2	
	Writing up assignments – spread over 15 weeks	2	
	Exam revision	1	**5**
TOTAL			**13.5 approx.**

Assessment

Assessment items and workload per item		%	CLOs	Due date
1. A critical review	550 words max	15%	1 and 2	12 noon, Friday 1 April
2. A research assignment	2000 words max	25%	3 and 4	12 noon, Friday 6 May
3. Tutorial presentation and participation (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).	One page summary; 10-15 min presentation; weekly preparation and participation	10%	1 and 2	As arranged with your tutor
4. A final examination covering all topics discussed during the course	2-hour examination	50%	All	During the examination period

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 (i.e. all objectives).

Satisfactory completion of all these tasks will ensure you know enough sociolinguistics to proceed to more advanced study in this area.

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.

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 halfway through the course you can request an interim report to indicate your performance to date – NB only your final mark will be counted.

The criteria are:

☐ evidence of preparation

☐ participation in question time

☐ engagement with class.

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 relevant 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.

Group work

Although you will be required to do your tutorial presentation in small groups, you will be assessed individually.

Marking criteria

There is a marking schedule available for each assignment in the Course notes.

Submission and return of work

Your assignment should be submitted in hard copy AND electronically via Blackboard.

Assignments should be posted in the assignments box at the School Office (von Zedlitz 210) by 12 noon on the due date AND submitted electronically via Blackboard.

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

Marked assignments will be returned in class whenever possible. Any assignments which are not collected will be available at the School office.

Extensions and penalties

Extensions

An extension (with no penalty) will be considered on the grounds of exceptional personal circumstances. If you require an extension, ask the course coordinator ahead of the due date for the assignment. Bring your assignment coversheet for her to sign.

Penalties

In line with School policy, assignments handed in after the due date without a valid extension will receive a considerably reduced grade.

The assignments are due by **12 noon** on the due date, after which a penalty of 5% per working day applies. Penalties increase each day (at 12 noon) 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.

Staying within word limits is an important academic skill. Note that the word limits for assignments are expressed as maximums. If you exceed these limits, penalties will be applied."

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

Set texts

Holmes, Janet 2013. Introduction to Sociolinguistics. (4th edition.) London: Longman. Approx $70 available at vicBooks. (www.vicbooks.co.nz)

LING 221 Course notes and tutorial materials. Approx $25, available at vicbooks (www.vicbooks.co.nz)

Recommended reading

Coupland, Nikolas & Adam Jaworski (eds) 2009. The New Sociolinguistic Reader London: Macmillan.

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 2009 (2nd ed). Introducing Sociolinguistics. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Meyerhoff, Miriam 2011 (2nd ed). Introducing Sociolinguistics London and New York: Routledge.

Wardhaugh, Ronald 2010. (6th ed) An Introduction to Sociolinguistics. Oxford: Blackwell.

Class representative

The class representative provides a useful way to communicate feedback to the teaching staff during the course. A class representative will be selected at the first lecture of the course.

Students may like to write the Class Rep's name and details in this box:

> Class Rep name and contact details:

Student feedback

In response to feedback received in 2015 we have made the following change: To encourage creative thinking, lectures have been arranged to ease time pressures around the crucial development and write up stages of assignment 2.

Student feedback on University courses may be found at www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php.

Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/exams/integrity-plagiarism
- Academic Progress: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/academic-progess (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/dates
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin
- Grades: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/study/progress/grades
- Special passes: refer to the *Assessment Handbook*, at www.victoria.ac.nz/documents/policy/staff-policy/assessment-handbook.pdf
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/strategy
- Student support: www.victoria.ac.nz/students/support
- Students with disabilities: www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability

- Student Charter: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/student-charter
- Subject Librarians: http://library.victoria.ac.nz/library-v2/find-your-subject-librarian
- Terms and conditions: www.victoria.ac.nz/study/apply-enrol/terms-conditions/student-contract
- Turnitin: www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin
- University structure: www.victoria.ac.nz/about/governance/structure
- Victoria graduate profile: www.victoria.ac.nz/learning-teaching/learning-partnerships/graduate-profile
- VUWSA: www.vuwsa.org.nz