

# Mapping American English Dialects

## Linguistic & Social Variable

- Language varieties vary systematically on all the levels of language we have studied.
- Sociolinguists seek to find linguistic variables to social variables
  - ↳ just as we talk with registers to thank you (ling. variable) & different ages (social variable).
- Language varieties are associated with social identities and groups, such as regional, race, socioeconomic class, etc.
- Everyone's language is tied to their social identities - everyone has a dialect
- In this workshop, we're looking at different regions of the US for our social variable and accent/phonology as our linguistic variable.