

ANT 253H: Language and Society

2015

INSTRUCTOR:

M. Danesi (416-585-4412) e-mail: marcel.danesi@utoronto.ca
Office: Birge Carnegie, 26

TAs:

Head
Martika, Maria

Regular
Giusto, Salvatore
Nerenberg, Jacob

TEXTBOOKS:

M. Danesi, *Linguistic Anthropology: A Brief Introduction* (Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press, 2012).

Additional Readings will be posted on Portal when required

GRADING:

2 In-class tests: 50%
Test 1: 25% (February 24), Test 2: 25% (March 31)
Final essay: 50% (Due March 31)

ESSAY

The essay should be no longer than 8 pages and follow the style of the APA (American Psychological Association). More information will be given during one of the classes. The essay can be done individually or in groups of 2-3 (maximum).

Due Date: March 31

TESTS:

Cover the textbook, the readings, and class lectures

FINAL ESSAY TOPICS:

- (1) Study of any aspect of the relation between language structure and society
- (2) Study of any aspect of slang and its relation to society
- (3) Study of any aspect of metaphor and its relation to cognition or culture
- (4) Study of any aspect of linguistic relativity
- (5) A cross-cultural comparison of any of the above
- (6) Study of any aspect of the relation of language to culture
- (7) Study of any aspect of dialect variation
- (8) Analysis of any aspect of Internet language or text-messaging
- (9) Any other topic

NOTE: Essays suspected of plagiarism will be assessed according to the university policy regarding plagiarism. The policy can be found at www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students.

LATE PENALTY: A late penalty of one percentage point per day will be used for late essays unless a valid reason is provided and permission granted by the instructor.

OUTLINE:

(Tuesday 6-8)

(1) January 6

Studying Language (Chapter 1)

(2) January 13

Language Levels-Part 1 (Chapter 2)

(3) January 20

Language Levels-Part 2 (Chapter 2)

(4) January 27

Language and Social Phenomena-Part 1 (Chapter 3)

(5) February 3

Language and Social Phenomena-Part 2 (Chapter 3)

(6) February 10

Conversation and Discourse (Chapter 4): Guest Lecturer: Maria Martika

(7) February 17

Reading Week

(8) February 24
Test 1

(9) March 3
Variation-Part I (Chapter 5)

(10) March 10
Variation-Part II (Chapter 5)

(11) March 17
Language and Cognition (Chapter 6)

(12) March 24
Metaphor (Chapter 7)

(13) March 31
Test 2
Essay due