UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK IN PRAGUE

Course:	**UNYP 91462 Sociolinguistics (3 credits)**
Semester:	Summer
Prerequisites:	None
Instructor:	Mgr. Veronika Zavřelová, Ph.D.
Contact:	vzavrelova@faculty.unyp.cz
Class meets:	*Mon, Tue, Wed, @ 09:00 on Zoom, see link on e-learning page*
Office hours:	By appointment

1. Catalogue Description

This course examines the relationship between language and society, language and culture. The course follows an interdisciplinary approach and examines the impact of age, ethnicity, gender, geographical location, social events, and context on linguistic behavior.

2. Course Purpose

The aim of the course is to provide students with various theories, concepts and approaches to examining and analyzing the relationship between language and society, language and culture.

Upon completion of this course, students should gain critical and analytical skills when approaching various categories and elements that influence the language behavior of an individual and language behavior of societies.

3. Required Readings:

Herk Van Gerard. What Is Sociolinguistics? Hoboken: Wiley. 2017.

The book can be accessed (for free) through:
Perlego.com
Access Code:
Then follow the instructions on the page.

4. Additional Readings:

Danesi Marcel. Language, Society, and New Media. Sociolinguistics Today. New York: Routledge. 2017.

Christina Bratt Paulston, G. Richard Tucker. Sociolinguistics. The Essential Readings. Malden: Blackwell Publishing. 2003.

The students will be guided to additional reading and related during classes, and through e-learning.

5. Learning Outcomes
Upon completion of this course, students should be able to:

Specialist knowledge:
Students will be able to:
- Define different linguistic varieties
- Identify various communication styles
- Identify and decode various linguistic strategies
- Detect and explain linguistic deceptive techniques
- Gain competence in own textual production based on various linguistic goals

Specialist skills:
Students will be able to:
- Describe, interpret and evaluate various elements that participate on the relationship of language and identity
- Distinguish various patterns that influence linguistic behavior
- Gain competence in explaining social variations in language usage and language changes and shifts
- Construct different types of texts based on various target audience
- Apply critical discourse analysis to own textual productions and other perceived texts

6. Course Schedule
Content of the Course

DATE	LECTURE	READINGS
Meeting 1	Introduction; Social Units	Chapter 1
Meeting 2	Language and society	Chapter 2
Meeting 3	Language and geography	Chapter 3
Meeting 4	Language and social identity	Chapter 4
Meeting 5	Language and time	Chapter 5

Meeting 6   Language end ethnicity   Chapter 6

Assignment 1: "Observe a public event in your society that might be analyzed to see how the entertainers/performers interact with the audience. Write
a 3-page paper of this interaction and describe its roles in the culture" (Paulston, Tucker, p. 69). Choose any public event (i.e. exhibition opening, tv talk show, church event) and describe the interaction between the performers and audience (i.e. you may comment on the linguistic register, possible bilingualism, formality, gender, ethnic identities reflected in language, etc.)
Format: cca 800 words, uploaded by June 10, 2020, 24:00 CET into e-learning under "Assignment 1".

Assignment 2: "Investigate the language policies of your own country or community. How are minority groups or immigrants who are not proficient in the national language dealt with? Who decides what language will be used in legislation or education? Are there any controversies about language use?" (Paulston, Tucker, p. 460)
This assignment consists of a ZOOM presentation for the class. The sign-up sheet for the sign-up date will be distributed during Meeting 1, June 1. You should upload your presentation by the given date (date of your presentation) in e-learning under "Assignment 2".

Meeting 7   Language and gender   Chapter 7

Meeting 8   Language and stylistic identity   Chapter 8

Meeting 9   Language and interactional rules   Chapter 9

Meeting 10   Multilingualism   Chapter 10

Meeting 11   Language contact, second language acquisition   Chapter 11

Meeting 12   Language policies, and planning   Chapter 13

Meeting 13   Language of education   Chapter 14

Meeting 14   Course Review

7. Course Requirements and Grading – the course will be graded on the basis of:

ASSIGNMENT	DUE DATE	VALUE
Engagement	Participation in class activities	40 %
Assignment 1	June 10, 2021, 24:00 CET	20 %
Assignment 2	Presentation during ZOOM meeting	20 %
Final Exam	TBA	20 %

Engagement: As a grade, engagement is similar to participation, but it means more than just active involvement in class activities and meetings (although that is a basic tenet). Being engaged means demonstrating the following knowledge and skills: (a) being accountable and taking responsibility; (b) leadership; (c) integrity and honesty; (d) being engaged with the topic and the class; (e) striving for excellence in all endeavors. Specifically, it means things like following up without being told to follow up; doing what you are supposed to do when you are supposed to do it and as well as you can do it; arriving on time and ready to "work;" keeping the professor aware of any situations that might impinge upon your performance; and fostering a relationship of mutual respect.

Grading scale

Letter Grade	Percent (%)	Generally Accepted Meaning
A	95-100	Outstanding work
A-	90-94	
B+	87-89	Good work, distinctly above the average
B	83-86	
B-	80-82	
C+	77-79	Acceptable Work
C	73-76	
C-	70-72	
D+	67-69	Work that is significantly below average
D	63-66	
D-	60-62	
F	0-59	Work that does not meet the minimum standards for passing the course

7. Key UNYP Policies

Attendance:

-It is your responsibility to show up to class on time. If you are late you will be marked as absent for that hour. **If you miss more than 12 (twelve) hours of class, for any reason, you will automatically fail the entire course. Pay strict attention to this. The class policy is standard UNYP policy.**

Academic Honesty

- The University's rules on academic dishonesty (e.g. cheating, plagiarism, submitting false information) will be strictly enforced. Please familiarize yourself with the STUDENT HONOUR CODE or ask your instructor for clarification.
- For examinations: copying from your neighbor, speaking to another student, using a phone or anything similar will result in you failing the test or quiz. On written papers properly note your sources wit academic citations. Cutting and pasting from the internet may be considered plagiarism. If you have questions about this, please consult the instructor

- **8. General Requirements:**
- Students are expected to attend each class session and participate in a positive way.
- Students are expected to come to class fully prepared to discuss homework readings and cases.
- Students are expected to turn in homework assignments at the beginning of the class period on the day they are due.
- Late assignments will be accepted, however, there will be 05% deduction of the total grade per each day. (Example: if a paper is due June 05, and turned on June 08, the starting point for grading will be 90 %, instead of 100 %).
- Students are expected to leave their mobile phones etc. switched off.
- Students may not use laptops or netbooks for any reason other than taking notes. Do not surf the WEB during class time. If you do, you will lose the privilege to use a laptop or netbook.
- In the event of illness or emergency, contact your instructor IN ADVANCE to determine whether special arrangements are possible.

9. European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS):

The students that complete the course will receive 6 ECTS credits or 3 American credits. One ECTS credit corresponds to 25-30 hours of work. For comparison, 1 American credit hour equals approximately 2 ECTS credits.

For this course, students are expected to spend time in the following course-related activities:

Class Lectures and exams   45 hours

Reading class related material	50 hours
Exam preparations	25 hours
Team preparation	15 hours
Final Project preparation	30 hours
TOTAL	165 hours

7. Technology Expectations

Assignments, excluding those that are carried out exclusively in class, must be word-processed.

Students are assumed to be familiar with the use of internet and in particular with the gathering of data from the wide world web. This will be a necessary tool for carrying out some of the course assignments (i.e. long essay).

Revised May 2021, Veronika Zavřelová