

**UK LEVEL: 5**  
**UK CREDITS: 15**

(Updated: Fall 2023)

**PREREQUISITES:**

WP 1010 Introduction to Academic Writing  
WP1111 Integrated Academic Writing and Ethics  
EN 2216 Introduction to Language

**CATALOG DESCRIPTION:**

The course examines how speakers use language to express their social and cultural identity, the relationship between language and social factors (e.g., gender, age, social class), but also issues such as multilingualism, language attitudes, language policies and language change.

**RATIONALE:**

This course aims to provide students with insight into the social functions of language and into the ways in which language is used to convey social meaning.

**LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

*As a result of taking this course, the student should be able to:*

1. Understand different sociolinguistic theories;
2. Analyse language in different social and cultural contexts;
3. Understand principles of sociolinguistic variation and mechanisms of language change;
4. 4. Demonstrate ability to select appropriate literature and/or methodology to explore a field-related issue in written form.

**METHOD OF TEACHING AND LEARNING:**

In congruence with the teaching and learning strategy of the college, the following tools are used:

- Lectures and class discussions.
- Homework assignments.
- Office hours held by the instructor to provide further assistance to students.
- Use of library facilities for further study and preparation for the exams
- Use of the Blackboard course management platform to further support communication, by posting lecture notes, assignment instruction, timely announcements, formative quizzes and online submission of assignments.

**ASSESSMENT:**

Summative:

1 <sup>st</sup> assessment: <b>Essay (2,500 – 3,000 words)</b> One unified and coherent essay (drawing on at least 12 sources) on an issue discussed in class. <u>Timely submission of all the preparatory work is required. Failure to submit the preparatory material will result in an FA grade in the Assessment.</u>	<b>50%</b>
Final assessment: <b>Final Examination (2 hours)</b> Essay questions; definition of terms; and/or application of concepts studied	<b>50%</b>

**Formative:**

Annotated Bibliography; Working Outline; and/or article summaries	0

The formative coursework aims to prepare students for the summative assessments.

The essay tests Learning Outcome 4.

The final examination tests Learning Outcomes 1, 2 and 3.

**The final grade for this course will not be determined through grade averaging. Students are required to resit any failed assessments.**

**INDICATIVE READING:**

**REQUIRED READING:**

Holmes, J., & Wilson, N. (2022). *An introduction to sociolinguistics* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Routledge: Taylor Francis Group.

<https://doi.org/10.4324/9780367821852>

**RECOMMENDED READING:**

Ball, M. J., (Ed.). (2010). *Routledge handbook of sociolinguistics around the world*. Routledge.

Bayley, R., Cameron, R., & Lucas, C. (Eds.). (2013). *The Oxford handbook of sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Chambers, J. K., & Schilling-Estes, N. (Eds.). (2013). *The handbook of language variation and change* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed.). Wiley-Blackwell.

<https://doi.org/10.1002/9781118335598>

Labov, W. (2012). *Dialect diversity in America: the politics of language change*. University of Virginia Press.

[https://web-p-ebSCOhost-](https://web-p-ebSCOhost-com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-eac3-45db-ac65-5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358351&db=nlebk)

[com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-](https://web-p-ebSCOhost-com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-eac3-45db-ac65-5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358351&db=nlebk)

[eac3-45db-ac65-](https://web-p-ebSCOhost-com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-eac3-45db-ac65-5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358351&db=nlebk)

[5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358](https://web-p-ebSCOhost-com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-eac3-45db-ac65-5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358351&db=nlebk)

[351&db=nlebk](https://web-p-ebSCOhost-com.acg.idm.oclc.org/ehost/detail/detail?vid=0&sid=f9e6840b-eac3-45db-ac65-5046e10d700b%40redis&bdata=JnNjb3BIPXNpdGU%3d#AN=2358351&db=nlebk)

Labov, W. (2009). The social stratification of (r) in New York City department stores. In N. Coupland & A. Jaworski (Eds.), *The New Sociolinguistics Reader* (pp. 49-59). Palgrave Macmillan.

Milroy, L. (2000). Britain and the United States: Two Nations Divided by the Same Language (and Different Language Ideologies). *Journal of Linguistic Anthropology*, 10(1), 56–89.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/43103225>

Soukup, B. (2001). 'Y'all come back now, y'hear!?' Language attitudes in the United States towards Southern American English. *Views*, 10(2), 56-68.

Cameron, D. (2013). The one, the many and the Other: Representing multi- and mono-lingualism in post-9/11 verbal hygiene. *Critical Multilingualism Studies* 1(2), 59-77.

[file:///C:/Users/User/Desktop/Cameron\\_THE%20ONE\\_%20THE%20MANY.pdf](file:///C:/Users/User/Desktop/Cameron_THE%20ONE_%20THE%20MANY.pdf)

Below a link to the April 13, 2012 talk upon which the above article is based:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbz5KPQrUAs&ab\\_channel=UAgeRmanDepartment](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wbz5KPQrUAs&ab_channel=UAgeRmanDepartment)

Milroy, J., & Milroy, L. (2012). *Authority in language: investigating standard English*. Routledge.

	<p><a href="http://public.ebookcentral.proquest.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=956969">http://public.ebookcentral.proquest.com/choice/publicfullrecord.aspx?p=956969</a></p> <p>Giles, H., &amp; Watson, B. M. (Eds.). (2013). <i>The social meanings of language, dialect and accent: international perspectives on speech styles</i>. Peter Lang.</p> <p>Trudgill, P. (2004). <i>New Dialect Formation: The Inevitability of Colonial Englishes</i>. Blackwell.</p> <p>Jones, M., &amp; Singh, I. (2013). <i>Exploring language change</i>. Taylor and Francis.</p> <p>Coates, J. (2016). <i>Women, men and language: a sociolinguistic account of gender differences in language</i> (3rd ed.). Routledge.</p> <p>Smith, J., &amp; Durham, M. (2019). <i>Sociolinguistic Variation in Children's Language: Acquiring Community Norms (Studies in Language Variation and Change)</i>. Cambridge University Press. <a href="https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316779248">https://doi.org/10.1017/9781316779248</a></p> <p>Mihalicek, V., &amp; Wilson, C. (Eds.). (2016). <i>Language files: Materials for an introduction to language and linguistics</i> (12<sup>th</sup> ed.). The Ohio State University Press.</p> <p>Meyerhoff, M. (2019). <i>Introducing sociolinguistics</i>. Routledge: Taylor Francis Group.</p> <p>Oxford English Dictionary (online) <a href="http://www.oed.com/">www.oed.com/</a> (Great resource on a variety of topics, including language change and variation, in addition to dictionary entries.</p>
<p><b>INDICATIVE MATERIAL:</b> (e.g. audiovisual, digital material, etc.)</p>	<p><b>REQUIRED MATERIAL:</b> Power points and videos will be posted on BB</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDED MATERIAL:</b> Recordings of native speakers of English dialects and English spoken in the accents of other languages <a href="https://www.dialectsarchive.com/">https://www.dialectsarchive.com/</a></p> <p>Exploring the diversity in phonetics across language families covering hundreds of regional languages, dialects and accents. <a href="https://soundcomparisons.com/#/en/Englishes/map/brother/Lgs_Sln">https://soundcomparisons.com/#/en/Englishes/map/brother/Lgs_Sln</a></p> <p>Do You Speak American? A PBS series with many links, quizzes, videos, and essays about language variation in the United States <a href="http://www.pbs.org/speak/">http://www.pbs.org/speak/</a></p> <p>More info will be posted on BB</p>
<p><b>COMMUNICATION REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>Using verbal and written skills using academic English.</p>
<p><b>SOFTWARE REQUIREMENTS:</b></p>	<p>MS Office and Blackboard CMS Google Forms, Sketch Engine</p>
<p><b>WWW RESOURCES:</b></p>	<p>Journals <a href="#">@Language in Society.</a> <a href="#">@Journal of Sociolinguistics.</a> <a href="#">@Language Variation and Change.</a> <a href="#">@Research</a></p>
<p><b>INDICATIVE CONTENT:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Sociolinguistic Variation</b> Regional and social dialects</li> </ul>

Standard and vernacular languages

- **Language and Gender**

'Sexist' language

- **Stylistic Variation**

Accommodation theory

Register

- **Politeness**

Politeness markers in different languages (emphasis on Greek and English)

- **Language Change**

Reasons for language change

- **Language Maintenance and Shift**

Language shift, death and revival

- **Multilingualism**

Diglossia; Bilingualism and multilingualism;

Code switching and code mixing

Pidgins and Creoles

Lingua Francas

- **Language Planning**

National and official languages

Planning for an official national language