SOCIOLINGUISTICS

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**Syllabus**

The course offers an overview of the main topics of sociolinguistics, as well as provides a basic introduction to the most important methods used in sociolinguistic research and analysis.


This course will address the following topics:

Week 1:  *Introduction ? What is sociolinguistics?* - Chapter 1.
   - Relationships between language and society
   - Sociolinguistics and related disciplines
   - Some basic methodological concerns
Week 2:  *Language, dialects and varieties.* - Chapter 2.
   - Language and dialects
   - Regional dialects
   - Social dialects styles and register
Week 3:  *Pidgins and creoles.* - Chapter 3.
   - Lingua francas
   - Pidgins and creoles
   - Theories and origin
Week 4: choosing a code - Chapter 4.
   - Diglossia
   - Bilingualism and multilingualism
   - Code switching
Week 8:  *Language and culture.* - Chapter 9.
   - The Whorfian hypothesis
   - Kinship terms
   - Color terminology
Week 9:  *Language and culture.* - Chapter 9
   - Taxonomy: animal
   - Taboo and euphemisms.
Week 10: Solidarity and Politeness: Wardhaugh Chapter 11.
  - Address forms.
  - Politeness

  - Male and female differences

Week 12: Language and disadvantage - Wardhaugh Chapter 14.
  - Black English
  - Bernstein and codes

Week 13: Language planning. - Wardhaugh Chapter 15.
  - A variety of situations (Spain, Baltic countries)

Week 14: Test

**Literature**

a) compulsory


b) selected readings

- F. Coulmas (1998); The Handbook of Sociolinguistics, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers LTD.

**Useful Links:**

International Journal of the Sociology of Language (de Gruyter) is dedicated to the field of the sociology of language.

Journal of Multilingual & Multicultural Development (Multilingual Matters) publishes articles on many aspects of multilingualism and multiculturalism.

SIL Notes on Sociolinguistics provides a forum for discussion by SIL members and others engaged in similar work in any area of sociolinguistics.

**Exam**

In the final exam, students will be required to provide definitions of key sociolinguistic notions included in the compulsory literature.

**Grading:**

90% - 100%: excellent (5)
80% - 90%: good (4)
70% - 80%: average (3)
60%- 70%: pass (2)
0 - 60%: fail (1)

Concerns:
If your experience difficulty with the course, your performance, my instructions, deadlines or
need considerations, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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