

SOCIOLINGUISTICS

Instructor: **Dr.sc. Danica Škara**

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Office Hours: Wednesday: 12-13h and by
appointment

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.

Wardhaugh, R. (2006). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* (5th Ed.). Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. (available in the central library)

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

- ✚ Taxonymy: animal
- ✚ Taboo and euphemisms.

Week 10: Solidarity and Politeness: Wardhaugh Chapter 11.

✚ *Address forms.*

✚ *Politeness*

Week 11: *Language and gender.* - Wardhaugh Chapter 13.

✚ 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

Wardhaugh, R. (2006). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* (5th Ed.). Malden, MA: Blackwell Publishers. (Selected chapters)

b) selected readings

- C. Kramsch (1998): *Language and Culture*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- F. Coulmas (1998); *The Handbook of Sociolinguistics*, Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
- S. Romaine (2002) *Language in Society*, Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- J. Aitchison (1995): *Language Change: Progress or Decay?* Cambridge University Press.

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

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