



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY
Faculty of Arts
School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures

SPAN 643.29
Language Attitudes
Winter 2020
W 15:00-17:45 CHE 110

REVISED COURSE OUTLINE – March 2020

INSTRUCTOR'S NAME: Dr. Angela George

OFFICE LOCATION: CHD 428

OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Wed 11-12pm

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DESCRIPTION

This course will cover the study of attitudes (beliefs, opinions, prejudices) towards languages and language varieties and how this affects speakers of those languages or varieties.

OBJECTIVES

Students will be able to

- identify concepts and issues related to language attitudes.
- identify strengths and weaknesses of multiple methods used to measure language attitudes.
- summarize and synthesize academic articles on language attitudes.
- lead a discussion on a topic related to language attitudes.

OUTCOMES

By the end of this course, students will increase their

- sociolinguistic knowledge, particularly as it pertains to language attitudes.
- knowledge of language attitudes as they affect various communities of speakers throughout the world, with particular emphasis on Spanish-speaking parts of the world.
- ability to synthesize material, particularly as it relates to language attitudes.
- knowledge on a specific issue related to language attitudes.

DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES

Homework	40%
Discussion leader	10%
Participation and preparation	10%
Critical Analysis Paper	20%
Final project	20%
Total	100%

No final Written Exam



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GRADING SCALE

A+ = 100-96 A = 95-91 A- = 90-86 B+ = 85-81 B = 80-76 B- = 75-71

C+ = 70-67 C = 66- 62 C- = 61-58 D+ = 57-54 D = 53-50 F = 49%

The official grading system (A=4, B=3, C=2, D=1) will be applied for the calculation of the final mark.

REQUIRED TEXTS

Required readings will be posted on D2L.

RECOMMENDED TEXTS

COURSE NOTES

The information on the course schedule posted on D2L is tentative and may change according to the needs of the class.

Homework (40%)

The first assignment is to write a reflection related to language attitudes. The second is to lead discussions on D2L about the readings. The third is to participate in discussions on D2L. The 4th is to compile an annotated bibliography related to a theme relevant to language attitudes keeping in mind the target language of interest. More details about each assignment will be announced on D2L.

Discussion leader (10%)

Each graduate student will lead a discussion based on readings assigned to all students ahead of time and including at least one unassigned article/reading. After the discussion, each student will write a reflection summarizing what was covered, aspects that went well and aspects to improve upon or teach differently in the future. The discussion should include at least one interactive activity.

Participation and preparation (10%)

Students are expected to participate actively in the class. A grade will be assigned at the end of the semester, taking into account each class session. It is necessary to read all assigned readings prior to coming to class, so that class time is not spent on reading. Instead, class time will be spent reviewing concepts covered in the material and relating them to their practical applications. Participation will be graded each day based on the following.

A: Very well prepared, contributes significantly to the quality of the class, participates above the level expected on all activities, demonstrates outstanding understanding of all assigned text and asks questions to understand the texts better.

B: Very well prepared, contributes significantly, demonstrates a high understanding of the readings and asks questions to understand better, participates actively.

C: Prepared, makes good comments, demonstrates adequate understanding of readings, participates sufficiently.

D: Not well prepared, contributes some, has read only superficially the readings.

F: Absent, sends text messages in class, very bad understanding of texts, poorly behaved, cannot make comments about the assigned texts.

This grade will be based on responding ideally by Friday each week a second time to the D2L discussion forum. In other words, student should read all other students' posts and post a short response of 25-50 words to get credit for participation.

Critical Analysis Paper (20%)



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Each student will choose a film, short video or piece of media (article, news, social media) related to the chosen topic and interpret it through the lens of at least one of the readings assigned in this class as well as any other scholarly sources you see fit. Each student will turn in a written essay of 1250 words in length, excluding citations. More information about this assignment will be provided. These papers will be published in a special issue of *Interlingua*, the Journal of the U of C's School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures.

Final project (20%)

Each student will produce a digital story that presents a critical analysis of a topic meaningfully related to the course's content. Building on the reading and writing done in this class and on class discussions, each student will produce a digital story on a topic related to language attitudes. Each student will turn in a proposal, deliver a work-in-progress presentation, submit their final project and write a written reflection about the experience.

This will all be completed digitally. The proposed plan is:

Step 1: Submit your 300 story to D2L (see Powerpoint from last class about digital storytelling if you did not attend the last class).

Step 2: Turn in revised story (based on feedback) and record your audio.

Recording: Recording of your voice should be in a quiet place, with no major background sounds if possible. Practice and record as if you were talking to someone instead of reading. You can record using your phone's voice notes. You can also download Audacity (free) and record in there, but if you don't know how to do this, just use your phone. Save the audio file in mp3 format.

Step 3: Attend a webinar on how to make the video via Zoom (in D2L). A link to join the webinar will be sent out when it gets closer. If you can't make the webinar, you can watch the recording of it, which will be posted on D2L.

Step 4: Make your video. (If you have problems with this, just let me know and this part can be modified.)

Step 5: Submit your video (or modified product) and post it to D2L for others to see.

Step 6: Watch your classmates' videos (or modified products).

Step 7: Write a short (0.5-1 page) reflection about your own video/assignment and your classmates' videos.

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);

b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;

c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or

d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted."

Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.



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3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

COPYRIGHT LEGISLATION

All students are required to read the University of Calgary policy on Acceptable Use of Material Protected by Copyright (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/acceptable-use-of-material-protected-by-copyright.pdf>) and requirements of the copyright act (<https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/C-42/index.html>) to ensure they are aware of the consequences of unauthorised sharing of course materials (including instructor notes, electronic versions of textbooks etc.). Students who use material protected by copyright in violation of this policy may be disciplined under the Non-Academic Misconduct Policy.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it. Please see <https://www.ucalgary.ca/legalservices/foip> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations according to the University policies and procedures listed below. The student accommodation policy can be found at: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/access/accommodations/policy>.

Students needing an Accommodation because of a Disability or medical condition should communicate this need to Student Accessibility Services in accordance with the Procedure for Accommodations for Students with Disabilities (<https://www.ucalgary.ca/policies/files/policies/procedure-for-accommodations-for-students-with-disabilities.pdf>).

Students needing an Accommodation in relation to their coursework or to fulfil requirements for a graduate degree, based on a Protected Ground other than Disability, should communicate this need, preferably in writing, to their Instructor or the Department Head/Dean or to the designated contact person in their Faculty.

FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES

Have a question, but not sure where to start?

The Arts Students' Centre is the overall headquarters for undergraduate programs in the Faculty of Arts. The key objective of this office is to connect students with whatever academic assistance they may require.

In addition to housing the Associate Dean (Undergraduate Programs and Student Affairs) and the Associate Dean (Teaching, Learning & Student Engagement), the Arts Students' Centre is the specific home to:

- Program advising
- Co-op Education Program
- Arts and Science Honours Academy
- Student Help Desk

Location: Social Sciences Room 102

Phone: 403-220-3580

Email: ascarts@ucalgary.ca



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Website: arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate.

For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at 403-210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Block.

Contacts for the Students' Union Representative for the Faculty of Arts: arts1@su.ucalgary.ca, arts2@su.ucalgary.ca, arts3@su.ucalgary.ca, arts4@su.ucalgary.ca.

INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

SUPPORT AND RESOURCES

A link to required information that is not course-specific related to student wellness and safety resources, can be found on the Office of the Registrar's website: <https://www.ucalgary.ca/registrar/registration/course-outlines>.