

HUM130 Language & Culture

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Course Description:

This course is designed to gain understanding of the relationship between language & culture - within a single linguistic community & cross-culturally, as well as building multicultural communication skills. Emphasis will be given to the power of language as an agent of cultural consensus building and meaningful cross-cultural communication necessary in the development of both personal growth and professionalism in realm of diversity and globalization.

Required Texts:

Our Voices: Original Essays in Culture, Ethnicity, and Communication 6th Edition
ISBN: 978-0-19-025523-7

Living Language: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology
ISBN-10: 1405124415 ISBN-13: 978-1405124416

Don't Sleep, There Are Snakes: Life and Language in the Amazonian Jungle
ISBN-10: 0307386120 ISBN-13: 978-0307386120

Course Objectives:

Upon completion of the course, it is expected that students will gain the ability to:

- Effectively participate in both intracultural and intercultural communication
- Understand theories on the interrelationship of language & culture
- Understand cross-cultural communication patterns and styles
- Identify ways language is used to express, create, and reinforce culture
- Gain a greater global perspective of diversity - culturally and linguistically

Assignments and Grading:

Weekly reading assignments from the course texts are expected to be read before class meets each week. Following completion of the readings, please log on to Moodle and post a response to the corresponding question(s) in the weekly forum – there are 10 forums this semester. Posts will facilitate in-class discussion. Forum posts account for 30% of the final grade. (150 pts total)

There will be 9 quizzes throughout the semester. Quizzes will be taken after the weekly discussion/lecture. Combined quiz scores account for approx. 20% of final grade. (100 pts. total)

You are expected to read *Don't Sleep, There are Snakes* at a timely pace. Essay questions regarding the material are posted on Moodle, as well as a dropbox for essay submissions in week 6 (you should have read through chapter 9 by this point) and week 12 folders. Responses are worth 15 points per question. Essay grades constitute 20% of final grade. (100 pts. total)

In lieu of a final exam you will create a group final project for in-class presentation. The specific requirements and expectations regarding the final project will be discussed well in advance, and you will be allotted time throughout the semester to check in with your group. Throughout the semester you will be given time to work within assigned groups to prepare a group research presentation. Research findings will be presented the last week of class, and will account for the remaining 30% of the final grade. (150 points)

Classroom etiquette & attendance:

Please do not use cell phones or other electronics during class. Laptops are permitted only if being used for lecture notes or if permission is given to work on class assignments during a class period. I expect you to attend every class, be on time for class, and be prepared to stay for the full class period. If you have an emergency that prevents you from attending a class, please contact me as soon as possible to discuss the possibility of making up missed work.

Academic Honesty Policy:

Students are expected to do their own work on all assignments. Students engaging in plagiarism or cheating of any kind, including handing in another person's work as their own, will receive a 0 on that assignment; second offenses will result in a final grade of 0 for the course. I encourage you to consult the KVCC Student Handbook regarding your rights and responsibilities in terms of school conduct and academic honesty.

Contact info:

Please check your KVCC email account often as this is the venue I will use to contact you. If you need to reach me please use the KVCC email as well to receive the quickest response. I will be available before each class starts and after class if you would like to speak with me. If I am not in the classroom at that time I will be in office #7413 – additional office hours are Tues. 11:30-12:30 or by appointment.

Weekly reading assignments: We will cover material from our texts each week. The class schedule page will list the reading materials and key terms for each week from the assigned chapters. The selected readings and key terms will be used to facilitate discussion, as well as appear on module quizzes.

Moodle class forum: Each week a discussion question that corresponds to the weekly reading topics will be posted on Moodle. Please log in to our class Moodle section and post a response to the question. The discussion board forums are located on our home page inside of the folders with the corresponding week's number. One additional post is also required: please read your classmates' responses and choose one to comment on, i.e. this assignment requires 2 posts per week - your personal reflection and a comment post. This is a graded assignment. Forum boards will close each Friday after we have covered the week's material.

Quizzes: In lieu of traditional tests a quiz will be given at the end of each module that covers the material from that particular section. Throughout the semester we will be watching several movies and video clips during class. It is to your advantage to watch them as questions from them may appear on the quizzes. Quizzes will also include material from lecture notes, key terms, and reading assignments. Quizzes must be taken through the class Moodle site by the posted date/time and cannot be made up.

Moodle assignments must be completed by 10pm each Friday!

It is important to arrive to class on time and be prepared to participate in all discussions and exercises. You are also expected to be respectful of our shared space and discussions by being supportive and compassionate towards your classmates - this includes not discussing others' personal experiences shared within the classroom with others. In other words...what's said in Hum130, stays in Hum130 ☺

****Class Assignment Schedule is subject to change***

Wk 1	Linguistics and Anthropology Film: <i>The Grammar of Happiness</i> LL p. 12-17 & 31-49 Forum & Quiz 1 <i>phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics</i>
Wk 2	Languages of the World Debate Day Film: <i>The Linguists</i> LL Ch. 11 p. 240-258 OV Ch. 25, 27 Forum & Quiz 2 <i>Safe, Endangered, Moribund, and Dead languages</i>
Wk 3	Communication: Types, Terminology, and Functions LL 1-12 & 17-22 *Additional reading on Moodle Forum & Quiz 3 <i>expressive, conative, referential, poetic, phatic, metalinguistic</i>
Wk 4	Community & Acquisition <i>Linguistic Genius of Babies</i> Map Exercise LL Ch. 3 & 5 OV Ch. 10, 14, 26, 29 Forum
Wk 5	Language, Thought, & Culture Film: <i>East & West</i> Forum & Quiz 4 LL p. 23-30 & Ch. 4 OV Ch. 9, 12, 32 Article: Case study China <i>Is it Culture or Language?</i> <i>habitus, icon, index, semiotics, symbol</i>
Wk 6	Language & Identity *Discussion of Final Projects OV Ch. 4, 5, 24, 26 *Snakes Essay I due via Moodle dropbox by 10pm 2/20
Wk 7	Class, Race, and Communication Forum LL Ch. 10 OV Ch. 13, 30, 33, 34, 35 <i>ethnicity, ethnonym, race, vernacular</i>
Wk 8	Gender Identity & Expression Forum & Quiz 5 LL Ch. 9 OV Ch. 6, 8, 10 *Work on final projects
~ Spring Break ~	
Wk 9	Multiculturalism/Multilingualism and Globalization LL Ch. 6 OV Ch. 21, 26, 30, 40 Forum & Quiz 6 <i>code-switching, code-mixing, diglossia</i>
Wk 10	Religion, Diversity, and Communication Film: <i>Arranged</i> OV Ch. 6, 7, 16, 28 *Snakes Essay II due via Moodle dropbox by 10pm 4/11
Wk 11	Body Language & Non-verbal Communication Quiz 7 LL Ch. 8 OV Ch. 22, 31, 38 *Last group projects meetings <i>illocution, locution, performativity, perlocution</i>
Wk 12	Language Evolution - Case Study: CHINA TedTalks: <i>Texting</i> OV Ch. 2, 17, 41 Articles: <i>Diagraphia: Chinese Characters in the 21st Century</i> , and <i>Absence and presence of "rights" in Chinese Language</i> *Module's Vocabulary worksheet will be completed in class
Wk 13	Dialects, Stereotypes, and Governance PBS: <i>The Gullah</i> OV Ch. 1, 3, 15, 18, 19 Forum & Quiz 8 <i>Deference, accommodation, dialect, accent</i>
Wk 14	Language, Culture, and Power Forum & Quiz 9 LL Ch. 12 OV Ch. 1, 20, 23, 27, 40 <i>body hexis, erasure, hegemony, heterodoxy, iconization, orthodoxy</i>
Wks 15	~Final Project Presentations~

