

# Anthropology 3620: Language and Culture

Fall 2011

**Instructor:** Jack B. Martin  
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Office hours: M 3-5pm or by appointment

**Lecture:** MW 7 (1:55-2:45) TUR L011

<b>TAs:</b>	Pio Saqui	Haiyan Xing
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	Phone: TBA	Phone: (352) 392-2253 x 253
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<b>Sections:</b>	01EG F 5 (11:45-12:35) WEIM 1084	01E1 F 5 (11:45-12:35) CHE 0316
	01EH F 6 (12:50-1:40) LEI 0104	01E2 F 6 (12:50-1:40) CHE 316
	01E0 F 7 (1:55-2:45) LEI 0104	0318 F 7 (1:55-2:45) CHE 0316

**Description:** Language allows humans to express basic needs, to pass on knowledge, and to organize society. We use it to persuade, to teach, to learn, to sing, to cure, to pray, to deceive, to swear, to scold, to praise, to read and write, to bond, to flirt, to play, and to imagine. This course focuses on language as an aspect of human culture. We consider structural properties of human languages, the major families of languages in the world, how languages differ, how and why speakers differ within communities, and how an outsider can come to understand and appreciate the basic principles at work within another language.

## Required text:

Bonvillain, Nancy. 2011. *Language, Culture, and Communication: The Meaning of Messages*, Sixth ed., Prentice Hall.

## Supplemental readings:

Bonvillain, Nancy. 2010. "Language and Culture." Pp. 67-92 in *Cultural Anthropology*. Prentice Hall.

Lakoff, George, and Mark Johnson. 1980. "Metaphors We Live By" "and the systematicity of Metaphorical Concepts." Pp. 3-9 in *Metaphors We Live By*. University of Chicago Press. Reprinted in Susan D. Blum, *Making Sense of Language*, pp. 92-94.

Lippi-Green, Rosina. 1994. "Standard Language Ideology, and Discriminatory Pretext in the Courts." *Language in Society* 23(2): 163-198.

Barrett, Rusty. 2006. "Language Ideology and Racial Inequality: Competing Functions of Spanish in an Anglo-owned Mexican Restaurant." *Language in Society* 35: 163-204.

Baron, Naomi S. 2008. "Going mobile." Pp. 127-160 in *Always On: Language in an Online and Mobile World*. Oxford University Press.

### **Tentative schedule:**

Note: We may announce minor adjustments to this schedule during the semester. "B" below means Bonvillain 2011 (the textbook). "B 2010" refers to a supplemental reading.

Week 1. 8/22, 8/24, 8/26.	Introduction; Language families of the Old World. B 2010
Week 2. 8/29, 8/31, 9/2.	Phonetics; Phonology. B ch. 2
Week 3. (9/5), 9/7, 9/9.	(Labor Day); Phonology.
Week 4. 9/12, 9/14, 9/16.	Morphology.
Week 5. 9/19, <b>9/21</b> , 9/23.	Semantics; <b>Exam 1</b> .
Week 6. 9/26, 9/28, 9/30.	Types of languages.
Week 7. 10/3, 10/5, 10/7.	Language and cultural meaning. B ch. 3, Lakoff and Johnson
Week 8. 10/10, 10/12, 10/14.	Ethnography of communication. B ch. 4
Week 9. 10/17, 10/19, 10/21.	Communicative interactions. B ch. 5
Week 10. 10/24, <b>10/26</b> , 10/28.	Class and race. <b>Exam 2</b> . B ch. 9, Barrett
Week 11. 10/31, 11/2, (11/4).	Language and gender; (Homecoming). B ch. 10
Week 12. 11/7, 11/9, (11/11).	Language change and grammaticalization; (Veterans Day).
Week 13. 11/14, 11/16, 11/18.	Writing; Computer-mediated communication; Baron
Week 14. 11/21, 11/23, (11/25).	Multilingual nations; (Thanksgiving). B ch. 11
Week 15. 11/28, 11/30, 12/2.	Bilingual communities; Review. B ch. 12
<b>Thursday, 12/15.</b>	<b>Final exam, 5:30pm-7:30pm.</b>

### **Assignments:**

Homework	15%	(10% for four four-page papers; 5% for problems)
Midterm exams	50%	
Final exam	35%	

**Grading scale:** A= .93-1.00; A-= .90-.92; B+= .88-.89; B= .83-.87; B-= .80-.82; C+= .78-.79; C= .73-.77; C-= .70-.72; D+= .68-.69; D= .63-.67; D-= .60-.62; F= ≤.59.

**Class materials:** Aside from the textbook, class materials will be posted on the e-Learning site. These will include supplemental readings, handouts, maps, and links. You will find it helpful to have copies of the handouts in class.

**Attendance:** Attendance is required. Questions on exams will come from material presented in class. Your grade may be lowered if you have noticeably poor attendance.

**Late work and make-up exams:** We can't accept late assignments. Everyone is allowed to miss one homework assignment, though, without penalty. Make-up exams will only be allowed with an excused absence.

**Etiquette:** Please try not to distract others by surfing the web, texting, letting your phone ring, arriving late, reading a paper, etc. Try not to dominate question sessions. Try to ask questions that are useful to others.

**Academic integrity:** As members of the UF community, you pledge to hold yourselves and your peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/honorcodes/honorcode.php>). These actions are dishonest: citing ideas from others without acknowledging your sources; submitting someone else's work as your own; submitting the same assignment for two courses without permission; taking an online exam in a group and discussing answers; looking at someone else's answers; working together on an assignment without permission; completing an assignment in class while the answer is being given; maintaining or consulting banks of exams without the instructor's permission; lying to explain an absence or late assignment.

**ADA Statement:** Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.