

## School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Course Outline

### LING 221, Sociolinguistics, Trimester 2, 2006

1. Course Coordinator: Meredith Marra (see details below)

2. Staff:

Lecturers (There will also be several guest lecturers)

**Dr Meredith Marra**

VZ404

Ext. 5636

Office hours: as posted on door

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<http://www.vuw.ac.nz/lals>



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**Tutors will provide their contact details and office hours at your first tutorial**

3. Class times and rooms:

**Lectures:** Mon, Wed, Thurs 3-4pm HMLT105  
(the web resources class on 20 July will be held in the Cybercommons)

**Tutorials:** ONE per week. Indicate your preferred times on the tutorial choice form  
*Tutorial lists will be posted on the Linguistics undergraduate notice board during the first week of teaching. Your first tutorial will be in the week beginning 17 July. Check the lists before that date. You may not change tutorials without consulting the course co-ordinator.*

#### 4. Announcements:

The Linguistics undergraduate notice board is next to VZ 309. Keep an eye on it for any additional information. The final exam timetable will be posted there when it is available.

On occasion we will also post information on Blackboard.

**Web contact:** [www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.blackboard.vuw.ac.nz)

**5. LALS main office:** VZ210, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Von Zedlitz Building, Kelburn Parade

**6. LING 221 Course Administrator:** Vivien Trott, Undergraduate administration  
Tel: 463-5894

#### 7. Aims:

This course aims to investigate some of the ways in which linguistic and social variables interact in speech communities. We will examine both multilingual and monolingual speech communities. The course will introduce students to ways of analysing language in a range of social contexts.

#### 8. Objectives:

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

1. Outline the major relationships between language and society.
2. Define the main sociolinguistic concepts used to analyse these relationships.
3. Identify the main features of studies of sociolinguistic variation.
4. Describe the most common methodologies for studying language in society.

More specific objectives are provided in the LING 221 Coursebook.

#### 9. Content:

A detailed lecture outline is provided at the end of this document.

#### 10. Texts:

##### **Coursebook:**

There is a LING 221 Coursebook which is **essential** for all those taking this course. It contains lecture outlines and information on assessment, penalties, and information on penalties for plagiarism in assignments and in the final exam etc.  
You cannot manage without it.

In response to feedback from students, we have also prepared a book for tutorials which incorporates readings and exercises. Although these readings are available online via Blackboard, students find it useful to have hard copies of these articles. We therefore recommend you buy this Tutorial book from student notes as well.

##### **Required text:**

*You will find this the most useful single textbook to buy for this course.*  
Holmes, Janet 2001 (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. London: Longman.

**Recommended:**

*These are available in the library.*

Coulmas, Florian (ed) 1997. *The Handbook of Sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Coupland, Nikolas & Adam Jaworski (eds) 1997. *Sociolinguistics; A Reader and Coursebook*. London: Macmillan.

Fasold, Ralph 1984. *The Sociolinguistics of Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Fasold, Ralph 1990. *The Sociolinguistics of Language*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Hudson, Richard 1996. 2nd edition. *Sociolinguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mesthrie, Rajend, Joan Swann, A. Deumert & William L. Leap 2000. *Introducing Sociolinguistics*. Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press.

Richards, Jack C. & Richard W. Schmidt (eds) 1983. *Language and Communication*. London: Longman.

Romaine, Suzanne 1994. *Language in Society*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Saville-Troike, Muriel 2003 (3rd ed) *The Ethnography of Communication*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Thomas, Linda & Shan Wareing 1999. *Language, Society and Power: an Introduction*. London: Routledge.

Trudgill, Peter 2000 (4th edition) *Sociolinguistics: An Introduction to Language and Society*. Harmondsworth: Penguin.

Trudgill, Peter & Jenny Cheshire (eds) 1998. *The Sociolinguistics Reader*. Vol. 1. London: Arnold.

Wardhaugh, Ronald 2002. (4th ed) *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Blackwell.

**See the course bibliography for a complete list of references for the course.**

**Web and computer-based resources:**

We have developed an extensive set of computer-based learning materials to assist you to acquire the concepts and critical skills for this course. These can be accessed in the [Language Learning Centre](#). You will find them invaluable in preparing for written assessment tasks and the final exam.

A programme for learning and revising key terms and concepts is available on [Blackboard](#).

**There will be a special class in the Cybercommons at the usual lecture time on Thursday in the second week of lectures to teach you how to access material in Blackboard and how to find references in the library.**

**Vicbooks** has two locations - Student Union Building on Kelburn Campus and Rutherford House on Pipitea Campus (which stocks textbooks for Law and Commerce only).

We distribute student notes (for Law (all stages) and Commerce from stage 2 upwards only) from the Pipitea shop and the student notes shop on the ground floor of the Student Union Building.

Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at [www.vicbooks.co.nz](http://www.vicbooks.co.nz) or can email an order or enquiry to [enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz](mailto:enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz)

We can courier books to customers or they can be picked up from either shop the day after placing an order online.

We can be contacted by telephone

Kelburn 463 5515

Pipitea 4636160

Opening hours

8am - 6pm Mon - Fri (during termtime - we close at 5pm in the holidays)

10am - 1pm Saturday

## 11. Assessment:

1. There are TWO in-course written assignments for LING 221
  - (i) A critical review (550 words max) 15% **DUE 4pm,Thurs 10 August 2006**
  - (ii) A research assignment (2000 words max) 25% **DUE 4pm,Thurs 21 September 2006**
2. A formal oral presentation to at least one tutorial with a written summary to the tutor (this grade will also incorporate tutorial participation) 10%
3. A final 2 hour examination conducted by the Faculty in the final exam period covering all topics discussed during the course. 50%

Students must attempt all parts of the assessment in order to pass the course. A student's final grade will take account of all these pieces of work and will be awarded in consultation with her/his tutor.

Assignments should be handed in to the School Office (vZ 210) on the 2nd floor of the von Zedlitz building by 4pm on the due date. Keep a back-up copy of all assessed work.

**N.B.** Note that if no work is submitted for assessment before the last three weeks of teaching, there will be nothing on which to base an aegrotat consideration.

## 12. Penalties:

In line with school policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other evidence of exceptional circumstances. If you require an extension for good reasons, ask the course coordinator ahead of the date for handing in the assignment.

**ONLY ASSIGNMENTS CARRYING A COVER-SHEET SIGNED BY THE COURSE COORDINATOR HAVE A VALID EXTENSION PERMITTED TO THEM.**

The assignments are due on the **Thursdays at 4:00 pm.**

Unless you have a valid extension granted for your assignment, the following penalties will apply:

For assignments handed in after Thursday 4:00 pm but before the following Thursday at 4:00 pm, the maximum grade possible is C and no personal comment will be provided. Assignments handed in after this time receive no mark.

Plagiarism is not acceptable in assessed work, and will be penalised. The penalty will depend on the severity of the plagiarism. See General University Policies.

## 13. Relationship between assessment and course objectives:

The work required is designed to assess how well you have achieved the course objectives. The critical review and the tutorial presentation will ensure you are familiar with basic sociolinguistic concepts, and will assess your ability to understand, interpret, evaluate and present sociolinguistic material (objectives 1 and 2). The research assignment focuses on sociolinguistic variation (objective 3); it will assist you to become familiar with a range of research methods (objective 4), and to develop skills in sociolinguistic analysis. The final exam will require you to demonstrate your familiarity with sociolinguistic concepts, will assess the breadth of your reading in sociolinguistics, and will require you to apply what you have learnt to the analysis of material presented in the exam (ie all objectives). Satisfactory completion of all these tasks will ensure you know enough sociolinguistics to proceed to more advanced study in this area.

#### 14. Workload:

In order to make satisfactory progress in this course you should expect to devote, on average, 15 hours a week to it. This includes attendance at lectures, tutorials and discussion classes, preparation for tutorials, background reading and preparation for assignments and the exam. Some students will find they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

#### 15. Mandatory Course Requirements (Terms):

In addition to the assessment requirements which contribute to their final grade, students are also required to

- i) make a satisfactory attempt at the two graded assignments
- ii) attend *at least* nine of the eleven tutorials (we recommend students attend *all* tutorials)
- iii) undertake satisfactory preparation for tutorials

Tutorials are an essential component of the learning experience in this course and you are expected to attend all tutorials unless you are ill. You should inform your tutor if you are unable to attend a tutorial, and arrange to attend at another time if possible.

"Satisfactory" means that there is evidence that the topic has been taken seriously and a reasonable amount of effort has been devoted to the work.

Where a student has been excused from a tutorial, they are required to complete exercises to ensure the material is covered. These exercises can be found on Blackboard and should be handed to the tutor at the next tutorial. All students will find these exercises useful for revision.

All specified terms requirements (ie (i)-(iii) above) must be completed by 5pm on 13 October 2006 in order to satisfy mandatory requirements.

#### **PLEASE SEE BLACKBOARD FOR GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND STATUTES. THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE UNDER "COURSE INFORMATION"**

Students should familiarise themselves with the University's policies and statutes, particularly the Assessment Statute, the Personal Courses of Study Statute, the Statute on Student Conduct and any statutes relating to the particular qualifications being studied; see the Victoria University Calendar available in hard copy or under 'About Victoria' on the VUW home page at [www.vuw.ac.nz](http://www.vuw.ac.nz).

## LING 221 Sociolinguistics LECTURE OUTLINE 2006

**Please note that this outline is subject to change  
(see Blackboard for the most up to date version)**

- July 10 Introduction  
Analysis of communicative events  
Formal and informal contexts; speech and writing
- July 17 Models of multilingualism  
Diglossia  
Web resources for 221demo session **Cybercommons**
- July 24 Code switching  
Code switching  
Language maintenance and shift
- July 31 Team taught class: preparation for assignment 1  
Language death and loss  
Maori Language Revival
- August 7 Language Maintenance in New Zealand  
Pidgins and creoles  
Standards and vernaculars
- August 14 Language policy and language planning  
Language policy and language planning: Melanesia  
Team taught class on accents of English
- MID TRIMESTER BREAK**
- September 4 Attitudes to accents  
Attitudes to language  
Team taught class on project topics: assignment 2 prep
- September 11 Attitudes to Maori  
Maori in NZ sociolinguistic context  
Social dialectology: aims and methods
- September 18 Social dialectology:  
Social dialectology:  
Social networks in social dialectology
- September 25 Ethnicity in social dialectology  
Age differences and language change  
Language and gender in social dialectology
- October 2 Style in social dialectology  
Accommodation theory  
Style and audience design
- October 9 Sociolinguistics, socio-pragmatics and beyond  
Team taught class on preparation for final exam  
Conclusion