Course Name: Language, Culture, and Society
Course Number: ANTH 350
Credits: 4 Credits

COURSE CREDITS:
(4) This course combines approximately 120 hours of instruction, online activities, and assignments for 4 credits.

PREREQUISITES, CO-REQUISITES AND ENFORCED PREREQUISITES:
3 credits of social science.

COURSE DESCRIPTION FROM CATALOG

ANTH 350. LANGUAGE, CULTURE AND SOCIETY (4).
An examination of the communicative functions of language and the role of language in the construction of social relations. Covers the origins, structure, and diversity of language. Explores the relationships between language and thought and the use of linguistic models in the study of culture. (SS) PREREQS: 3 credits of social science.

Baccalaureate Core Course Attributes: Liberal Arts Social Core

CONTACT INFORMATION:
Instructor: Julianne Freeman, Ph.D.
E-mail: freemanj@onid.orst.edu

Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information. For accuracy, please check the ECampus Schedule of Classes to see the most current instructor information. You can search for contact information by name from the OSU Home Page.

LEARNING RESOURCES:

Required Texts:
You will need both the textbook and workbook/reader. We’ll read a chapter a week, many of the articles of the reader, and practice some exercises from the workbook.

NOTE: For textbook accuracy, please always check the textbook list at the OSU Bookstore website. Sample syllabi may not have the most up-to-date information.

Students can also click the OSU Beaver Store link associated with the course information in the Ecampus schedule of classes for course textbook information and ordering.

COURSE SPECIFIC MEASURABLE STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

Course Description: This core course in linguistic anthropology explores many facets of language, introduces many linguistic concepts, and touches on the history of linguistic anthropology within the broader field of anthropology. This course will give you the tools to think more deeply and analytically about language: what language is, how it is structured, and how it is used. You will be exposed to how linguists break language down into its constituent parts, how differences in both language structure and language usage vary across and within cultures and societies, and how people acquire language and communicative competence. You will also learn about language change, language revitalization, and language ideology. In learning about linguistic anthropology, you will learn about the role that language plays in shaping human culture and human identities.

Language in Culture Certificate: This class can count for the Language in Culture Certificate, as well as the major and minor in anthropology. Consult your adviser and check this website:
http://oregonstate.edu/cla/anthropology/programs/undergraduate

Learning Objectives:

- Identify how linguistic anthropology matters
- Articulate an understanding of the nature of human language
- Record the story of languages in your family through short ethnographic survey
- Demonstrate the importance of (one’s) language for shaping thought
- Compare your language and culture to another
- Apply basic phonological and morphological concepts
- Differentiate theories of language evolution in children and for the human species
- Examine language as a system of power
- Recognize the use of language for political purposes

COURSE CONTENT AND POLICIES:

Conversant Project Papers:
For the Conversant Project papers, you will meet someone from a different culture (who grew up speaking a language other than English), interview her or him about language use in their own country and in the US as a foreigner, and report on what you have learned in two separate papers. Start thinking about who you could work with: family members, friends and work relations make excellent partners. You can also meet someone through conversant programs—all institutions of higher education (including OSU) encourage their domestic students to meet international students. (A good place to start is international programs or English language institute).

Midterm and Final Exam:

The midterm will be available during Week 5 and the final during Week 10. The exams will cover the basic concepts, terms, readings from the previous 5 weeks of material. A study guide will be provided to help you study for the exam.

Discussion Board:

There are seven separate forums for you to participate in on the discussion board, including a help board for questions about assignments or other practical matters. Five of the forums are thematic, and there is also a free board, where you can start your own thread by posting things relevant to this class, from the most academic-oriented (online articles and reference websites) to personal stories (of traveling abroad, learning language, teaching, raising a child), to news segments and youtube clips. Include comments and a link. Please strive to be thoughtful (and respectful) in your posts.

Guidelines and Expectations for Productive and Effective Online Communication:

- Online threaded discussions are public messages, and all writings in this area will be viewable by the entire class or assigned group members. If you prefer that only the instructor sees your communication, send it to me by email, and be sure to identify yourself and the class.
- Posting of personal contact information is discouraged (e.g. telephone numbers, address, personal website address).
- The discussion board is your space to interact with your colleagues related to current topics or responses to your colleague’s statements. It is expected that each student will participate in a mature and respectful fashion.
- Participate actively in the discussions, having completed the readings and thought about the issues.
- Pay close attention to what your classmates write in their online comments. Ask clarifying questions, when appropriate. These questions are meant to probe and shed new light, not to minimize or devalue comments.
- Think through and reread your comments before you post them.
- Assume the best of others in the class and expect the best from them.
- Value the diversity of the class. Recognize and value the experiences, abilities, and knowledge each person brings to class.
- Disagree with ideas, but do not make personal attacks. Do not demean or embarrass others. Do not make sexist, racist, homophobic, or victim-blaming comments at all.
- Be open to the possibility that others may not agree with you.

Course Delivery:

This course will be delivered via Canvas, your online learning community, where you will interact with your classmates and with me. Within the Canvas site you will access the learning materials,
tutorials, and syllabus, discuss issues, submit assignments, take exams, email other students and the instructor, and participate in online activities.

A list of required readings and assignments are available in the weekly modules.

Technical Assistance:

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE:

Assessment/Course Requirements:

Your final grade will be calculated in the following manner:

- First assignment (Family survey or dialect quiz) 10 points
- Second assignment ('Morphonology' problem) 10 points
- Reading assignments 30 points
- Conversant Project papers 60 points
- Midterm and Final Exam 60 points
- Discussion Board Participation 30 points

**TOTAL** 200 points

The total will be divided by two and the regular grading scale (out of 100) then applies. There is no extra credit possibility offered in this class, but a few extra points may be granted for exceptional participation on discussion boards.

Note that you must retain copies of all your assignments for your own records.

Grading scale:

- A = 93-100%
- A- = 90-92%
- B+ = 87-89%
- B = 83-86%
- B- = 80-82%
- C+ = 77-79%
- C = 73-76%
- C- = 70-72%
- D+ = 67-69%
- D = 63-66%
- D- = 60-62%
- F = below 60%
**Academic Honesty:**

I hope that academic dishonesty will not be an issue in this class. Cheating, plagiarism, or fabrication are acts of academic dishonesty and, in accordance with OSU’s policy on academic dishonesty, will not be tolerated. Members of the college community are expected to be honest and forthright in their academic endeavors. To falsify the results of one’s research, to present the words, ideas, data or work of another as one’s own, or to cheat on an examination corrupts the essential process of learning. Anyone caught engaging in any form of academic dishonesty may fail the course.

**STATEMENT REGARDING STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

Oregon State University is committed to student success; however, we do not require students to use accommodations nor will we provide them unless they are requested by the student. The student, as a legal adult, is responsible to request appropriate accommodations. The student must take the lead in applying to Disability Access Services (DAS) and submit requests for accommodations each term through DAS Online. OSU students apply to DAS and request accommodations at our Getting Started with DAS page.

Students with accommodations approved through DAS are responsible for contacting the faculty member in charge of the course prior to or during the first week of the term to discuss accommodations. Students who believe they are eligible for accommodations but who have not yet obtained approval through DAS should contact DAS immediately at 541-737-4098.

**ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AND STUDENT CONDUCT (OSU POLICY)**

Students are expected to be honest and ethical in their academic work. Intentional acts of academic dishonesty such as cheating or plagiarism may be penalized by imposing an “F” grade in the course.

Student conduct is governed by the universities policies, as explained in the Office of the Dean of Student Life: Student Conduct and Community Standards. In an academic community, students and faculty, and staff each have responsibility for maintaining an appropriate learning environment, whether online or in the classroom. Students, faculty, and staff have the responsibility to treat each other with understanding, dignity, and respect.

Students are expected to conduct themselves in the course (e.g. on discussion boards, email postings, etc.) in compliance with the university’s regulations regarding civility. Students will be expected to treat all others with the same respect as they would want afforded to themselves. Disrespectful behavior (such as harassing behavior, personal
insults, inappropriate language) or disruptive behaviors are unacceptable and can result in sanctions as defined by Student Conduct and Community Standards.

For more info on these topics please see:
- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Student Conduct and Community Standards - Offenses
- Policy On Disruptive Behavior

**PLAGIARISM**

You are expected to submit your own work in all your assignments, postings to the discussion board, and other communications, and to clearly give credit to the work of others when you use it. Academic dishonesty will result in a grade of “F.”

- Statement of Expectations for Student Conduct
- Avoiding Academic Dishonesty

**TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:**

If you experience computer difficulties, need help downloading a browser or plug-in, assistance logging into the course, or if you experience any errors or problems while in your online course, contact the OSU Help Desk for assistance. You can call (541) 737-3474, email osuhelpdesk@oregonstate.edu or visit the OSU Computer Helpdesk online.

**TUTORING**

For information about possible tutoring for this course, please visit our Ecampus NetTutor page. Other resources include:

- Writing Center
- Online Writing Lab

**STUDENT EVALUATION OF TEACHING**

We encourage you to engage in the course evaluation process each term – online, of course. The evaluation form will be available toward the end of each term, and you will be sent instructions through ONID. You will login to “Online Services/MyOSU” to respond to the online questionnaire. The results on the form are anonymous and are not tabulated until after grades are posted. Course evaluation results are very important and are used to help improve courses and the learning experience of future students. Results from questions are tabulated anonymously and go directly to instructors and unit heads/supervisors. Unless a comment is “signed,” which will associate a name with a comment, student comments on the open-ended questions are anonymous and forwarded to each instructor. “Signed” comments are forwarded to the unit head/supervisor.