

ANT 210 LANGUAGE AND CULTURE (3 hrs) A. R. Maxwell---25C ten Hoor  
Fall 2003 Off. Hrs. M 10-11, WF 10-11:30 a.m., and by appointment  
COURSE DESCRIPTION: Human activity in its linguistic, cultural,  
and social contexts; interrelationships between culture and natural  
language; the influences of language and culture on thought and  
behavior.

OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE: To present an introduction to the  
structure of language and its relationship to human culture.  
Students will become familiar with basic linguistic concepts and  
processes, and how these relate to culture and social  
structure.

PREREQUISITES: Sophmore Standing.

REQUIRED TEXT: Edward FINEGAN, Language, Its Structure And Use 2nd  
ed. (pb) 1994, Fort Worth: Harcourt College Pub.

FILMS: all films are 60 mins. in length; when they are announced,  
PLEASE PLAN YOUR SCHEDULE ACCORDINGLY! Dates films to be Announced  
1. In Search of the First Language 2. The Royal Archives of Ebla

ATTENDANCE POLICY: No attendance is taken. Students are required  
to attend all classes and are responsible for all material  
presented in class whether they are present or not. Past  
experience has shown that cutting class more than one time per  
month can have a disastrous effect on a student's grade.

ASSIGNMENTS: 1 quiz-exam, 2 hour-exams, 1 problem-exam, and  
approximately 25 homework assignments, chosen to illustrate  
particular principles of linguistic structure (these assignments  
may consist of assigned problems and in-class quizzes the exact  
number and dates of which cannot be specified at the outset of the  
semester).

EXAMINATIONS: Exams must be taken on the day and time scheduled.  
No make-up examinations will be given.

- (1) Two hour examinations are required; they are scheduled at  
approximately 1/3 and 2/3 of the way through the  
semester. Dates are announced the first day of class.
- (2) An examination to test the ability to complete linguistic  
problems. The date of this exam is announced the first  
day of class.
- (3) A required final examination will be given at the time and  
date published in the University's schedule. There will  
be no exceptions to this University rule.
- (4) All examinations are written, consisting of definitions /  
identifications, essays, and selected exercises.

EXAMINATIONS MUST BE WRITTEN IN STANDARD EXAMINATION BOOKS  
available at local bookstores. Failure to follow this  
direction will result in an exam score lowered one full  
grade.

PROBLEMS AND HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS: It is not possible to specify  
the number and dates in advance. Each assignment will be given in  
class, and a student is responsible for receiving, completing, and  
submitting each problem or assignment regardless of whether the  
student is in class on the day the assignment is made. All  
assignments must be handed in on the day scheduled; once the  
corrected assignments have been passed back to the students who  
passed them in on time, no late assignments will be accepted.  
MY MAILBOX is in Room 19-C ten Hoor.

REVIEWS: If students wish, a review session will be held in the class period preceding an examination. It is the responsibility of the students in the class to bring questions, problems, etc. to the review session to ask the instructor for clarification and explanation. All questions will be answered in detail, even if the question asked is to be on the examination. The instructor will not "perform" a review.

GRADING: (1) A score of at least 50% of the possible points are necessary to pass an examination. "A" = the highest 12.5 percentiles of points on an examination; "B" = the second highest 12.5 percentiles of points; "C" = the third highest 12.5 percentiles of points, "D" = the fourth highest 12.5 percentiles of points; and "F" = the bottom 50 percentiles of points on an examination. "+"s" and "-"s" are awarded as appropriate.

(2) A perfect score on a problem/assignment will be awarded an "A+"; lower letter grades will be recorded as they are warranted.

(3) COURSE GRADES are calculated as follows:

- a. Problem/Assignment (including quizzes) Average = 40% of the course grade;
- b. Each of the 3 exams = 10% of the course grade (total 30%);
- c. Final Examination = 30% of the course grade. Total 100%.

#### COURSE OUTLINE --

##### I. LINGUISTIC FOUNDATIONS

###### A. Introduction - The Study of Language.

the functions of language; le language VS. la langue VS. la parole; grammars; linguistic units; language as auditory phenomena vs. written representations of language; languages vs. dialects; writing systems (alphabets, syllabaries, ideographic writing systems).

READING: Finegan, Chap. 1, 'Language and Linguistics'.  
Probs. 1.6 (TYPED), 1.8 (TYPED).

Chap. 13, 'Dialects: Linguistic Variation across Regions and Social Groups'.  
Probs. 13.1 (TYPED), 13.3 (TYPED), 13.4 (TYPED), 13.6 (TYPED), 13.9 (TYPED).

###### B. Phonology - Phonetics.

articulatory phonetics and acoustic phonetics; phonetic transcription (the International Phonetic Alphabet); the phoneme  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 2, 'Phonetics: The Sounds of Language'.

Probs. 2.1, 2.3, 2.5 (TYPED); 2.2, 2.4, 2.8.

###### C. Phonology - Phonemics.

the concept of the phoneme; significant vs. nonsignificant contrast; phonetic similarity and complimentary distribution  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 3, 'Phonology: The Sound Systems of Language'.

Probs. 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.8, 3.9, 3.10; 3.x, Five Examples of Minimal Pairs in English (or your native language).

- D. Morphology - The Function of Form in Language.  
the concept of the morpheme; types of morphemes; derivational and inflectional morphology  
(D. cont.)  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 4, 'Morphology and Lexicon: Structured Meaning in Words'.  
Probs. 4.1, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, 4.10, 4.13, 4.14; 4.x, Five Examples of Inflections and Five Examples of Derivations in English (or your native language IF it uses affixes).
- E. Lexicography - The Linguistic Embedding of Cultural Information.  
the concept of the lexeme; types of lexemes; cultural information and ethnographic research; C. S. Morris' sign theory; reference theory; the ethnographic analysis of meaning; semantic infiltration  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 6, 'Semantics: The Study of Meaning in Words and Sentences'.  
Prob. Five Examples of Each of the Three Different Kinds of Lexemes in English (or your native language).
- F. Orders and Arrangements - Structure in Language and Culture.  
the index; the key; the taxonymy; the paronymy; the paradigm; the typology; the stageonomy  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 6, 'Semantics: The Study of Meaning in Words and Sentences'.
- G. Syntax - The Organization of Utterances.  
sentences and sentence structure; phrase structure; transformational rules  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 5, 'Syntax: Sentences and Their Structure'.
- H. Universals - Possibilities and Limitations.  
formal vs. substantive universals; implicational vs. nonimplicational universals  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 8, 'Language Universals and Language Typology'.
- I. Diachrony - Historical Time and Language.  
the language family and daughter languages; internal reconstruction and the protolanguage; glottochronology and lexicostatistics  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 9, 'The Historical Development of Languages'. Chap. 14, 'The Historical Development of English'.
- J. Written Language - The Permanent Record of Human Speech.  
types of writing systems, the origin of writing  
READING: Finegan, Chap. 15, 'Writing'.  
FILM: 'The Royal Archives of Ebla'.
- K. Culture - The Basis of Meaning.  
history of the concept in anthropology; the materialist vs. the ideational controversy; Goodenough's solution  
HANDOUT 1. Definitions of Culture.  
READING:

- L. Kinship - The Meaning of Kinship Terms.  
reference vs. address terminology; consanguineal vs. affinal terminology; lineal vs. collateral kinsmen; kin types, kin classes, and kin terms; A. L. Kroeber's 1909 ground-breaking analysis; the formal semantic analysis of kinship terminology dimensions and features of meaning  
(L. cont.)  
HANDOUT 2. Schedule of Consanguineal Kinship Terminology.  
HANDOUT 3. Diagram of Degrees of Collaterality.  
READING:
- M. Pronouns - Deixis and Person Reference.  
grammar and semantics: Indo-European-type pronominal systems; the Malay/Indonesian pronominal system; the Hanunóo (Philippines) pronominal system; the Palaung (Burma) pronominal system  
READING:
- N. Linguistic Relativity - The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis.  
color and color terms; language structure and thought; SAE ("Standard Average European") vs. Hopi; linguistic coding: perception and memory retention  
READING:

	Ag 20	Ag 22
Ag 25	Ag 27	Ag 29
Se 1 LABOR DAY NO CLASS	Se 3	Se 5
Se 8	Se 10 Quiz EXAM	Se 12
Se 15	Se 17	Se 19
Se 22	Se 24 EXAM # 1	Se 26
Se 29	Oc 1	Oc 3
Oc 6	Oc 8	Oc 10
Oc 13	Oc 15	Oc 17
Oc 20	Oc 22 EXAM # 2	Oc 24
Oc 27	Oc 29	Oc 31
No 3	No 5	No 7
No 10	No 12	No 14
No 17	No 19 PROBLEM EXAM	No 21
No 24	No 26	No 28 THANKSGIVING NO CLASS
De 1	De 3	De 6
FINAL EXAM Tuesday Dec. 9; 8:00-10:30 a.m.		

University of Alabama Academic Dishonesty Policy:

"All acts of dishonesty in any work constitute academic misconduct. This includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarism, fabrication of information, misrepresentations, and abetting of any of the above. The Academic Misconduct Disciplinary Policy will be followed in the event that academic misconduct occurs. Students should refer to the Student Affairs Handbook, which can be obtained in the Office of Student Life and Services."

University of Alabama Disability Policy:

"If you are registered with the Office of Disability Services, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible to discuss any course accommodations that may be necessary. If you have a disability but have not contacted the Office of Disability Services, please call 354-5175 or visit Osband Hall to register for services."