

LNGT 102- Fall 2024
Schedule of Topics, Readings, and Due Dates

NOTE: *All assigned readings are available on Canvas, unless otherwise noted*

Sept 10 (T): Course introduction and overview. In class watch “[PBS Crash Course: Sociolinguistics](#).” Introduction to linguistic relativity (i.e., Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis) & other terms.

Sept 12 (Th): Mesthrie et al. pp. 1-20 (Sections 1.1-1.3). Review key terms (see handout from class, also on Canvas). Discuss Project 1. Preview readings for Tues.

Due by Sun Sept 15 on Canvas: **Post ideas for Project 1** and/or respond to ideas from others.

Sept 17 (T): Watch Boroditsky’s [\(2017\) TED talk](#). Also research criticism of Linguistic Relativity/Sapir-Whorf/—e.g., critical review by [Wang \(2017\)](#) or blog post by [Bannerjee \(n.d.\)](#)

Sept 19 (Th): Jigsaw reading on relevance of Linguistic Relativity/Sapir-Whorf Theory to other fields. Choose 1:

- a. Psychology (e.g., [Frothingham, 2023](#); [Green, 2023](#))
- b. Environmental Studies (e.g., Kim & Filimonau, 2017- [abstract](#) here; full text on Canvas)
- c. Music (e.g., [Mannion et al, 2012](#))
- d. Economics (e.g., Chen’s [2012 TED talk](#) and [2013 blog post](#) with Yale magazine)
- e. Other fields (e.g., history, sociology, STEM?) (e.g., [Raskoff, 2013](#)- or find your own 😊)

Scrapbook opp, Thurs Sept 19th thru Sat 21st- [Clifford Symposium](#) (theme: Housing & Belonging)

Due by Fri 9/20 (midnight): Group lists for Project 1 (1 member post names and topic on Canvas).

Due by Sun 9/22 (midnight): Group Proposal for Project 1 (post on Canvas):

1. Which linguistic community do you intend to study?
2. What aspects of this community will you examine most closely? *
3. What are some reputable sources you will draw on?
4. Which concepts from class (thus far) do you expect to be most relevant?

Over weekend: Watch *American Tongues* via [Kanopy streaming](#).

Due: by **Mon 9/23:** Contribute to Canvas online discussion about the film.

Sept 24 (T)- Kendall et al (2018): “African American Language” (pdf on Canvas or use [direct link](#)).
[Alternative media- [talk by Dr. Lisa Green](#)]. Continue discussing *American Tongues*.

Scrapbook opp, **Wed 9/25**, 4:30pm: Online talk with Karen Yin, of [Conscious Style Guide](#) .
[RSVP HERE](#)

Sept 26 (Th): Read Sandel (2015)- “Dialects” and skim Starks & McRobbie “Collecting Sociolinguistics Data.”

***Fri Sept 27:** **Scrapbook opp**, - Fall Faculty Forum (and other events for Fall Family Weekend)

Over the weekend: Prepare for group presentations.

Oct 1 (T): Eckert (2012): “3 Waves of Variation Study” (topic: language variation and social class). Also begin presentations for Project 1.

Oct 3 (Th): Jigsaw Reading: **Choose:** Igoudin (2011- Asian American girls’ use of AAE)
OR Melgarejo & Bucholtz (2020- Latinx linguistic representations in *Jane the Virgin*) (topic: Complicating racial/ethnic language variation).
Continue presentations for Project 1.

Due by **Sun Oct 6:** Group abstract and bibliography for Project 1 (post to Canvas).

Oct 8 (T): Watch before class: “[Register variation in ASL](#)” (5 min) and [Signing Black in America](#) (27 min). Finish presentations for Project 1.

Oct 10 (Th): NO IN-PERSON CLASS. Complete online **asynchronous** activities focused on pp. 1-25 of Holmes Ch 10: “Style, Context, and Register”- **due:** Thurs midnight.

Due Sun Oct 13: Response paper (individual) from Project 1 (post to Canvas).

Oct 15 (T): Review for quiz. Also preview readings/media on code-switching, prestige, and power.

Oct 17 (Th): **Quiz 1.** After, join online discussion about language choice and code-switching (incl McWhorter article about Kamala Harris; also preparing to read Holmes Ch 2 and 4).

Oct 22 (T): NO IN-PERSON CLASS. Complete online asynchronous activities focused on Holmes Ch 2- “Language Choice in Multilingual Communities.”- **due:** Tues midnight.

Oct 24 (Th): Holmes Ch 4- “Linguistic Varieties and Multilingual Nations.” Debrief quiz.

Due Sun Oct 27 (Canvas): First 3-4 entries for Sociolinguistics Scrapbook (see syllabus for details).

Oct 29 (T): Damico et al (2008) “Language and Power” and Tannen (1995) “Power of Talk” (topics: Language and power, intro to gendered language interactions)

Oct 31 (Th): Holmes Ch 12: “Gender, Politeness, etc.” (ONLY pp. 301-313 & 322-329). Also read Grant (2023, NYTimes) **OR** McBee (2018, NYTimes). Opportunity to earn Halloween candy! 🍬

Due Nov 3 (Sun) on Canvas: Proposal(s) for final project (Qs next p) **OR** Schedule mtg w/ Prof S.

1. What question would you like to answer, and why is this a relevant question? (cite at least 1 course reading or outside source)
2. What data will you analyze? (and How will you collect the data, if necessary?)
3. What do you expect to find (i.e., your hypothesis)?
4. What do you need to be successful in this project?

Nov 5 (T)- *ELECTION DAY* Luu (2016) “Linguistics of Mass Persuasion” (Part [I here](#) and [II here](#), or pdf on Canvas). Come with examples from current politics (U.S. and globally).
Optional: [Duseja & Jhamtani \(2019\)](#) on the “Sociolinguistics of echo chambers”

Nov 7 (Th)- [Vox interview](#) with Gretchen McCullough. (topic: Sociolinguistics in Digital Interactions—texting, social media, etc). In class: Be prepared to share examples from your digital life—possibly include in Scrapbook!

Due Nov 10 (Sun): 4 more entries for Scrapbook (see syllabus for details).

Nov 12 (T) Holmes Ch 5: “National Languages and Language Planning.” Possible guest speaker.
Time at end of class to discuss survey/interview questions and recruitment.

Nov 14 (Th) - Shapiro (2014) and (2024). (topic: Sociolinguistics & Education)
Time at end of class to share Scrapbook entries.

Due Nov 17th (Sun): Final 2 entries of Sociolinguistics Scrapbook. Also for EC on participation grade: Read and respond to up to 5 classmates’ entries.

Nov 19 (T) Baird et al (2018) study (pdf with highlights). Also watch [Baugh \(2019\) TEDx talk](#) or read Baugh (2005). (topic: Linguistic profiling and discrimination).

Nov 21 (Th) (topic: linguistic justice). Reading: Explore assigned website for your group (see notes from Tuesday). There will be time in 2nd half of class to distribute and take one another’s surveys, and/or to sign up for interviews 😊

Due by Fri Nov 22nd: Updates on final project (in researcher journal)- **OR** sign up for mtg.

****Nov 25-29 **THANKSGIVING BREAK******

Dec 5 (T)- Research mini-presentations I. Course response forms.

Dec 7 (Th)- Research mini-presentations II. Course wrap-up and possible work time.

Due Dec 10th (Tues, extensions available by request): Final Paper for Research Project, plus Researcher’s Memo (both on Canvas).