



ENG 358.01W (22280) Language & Society

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2020

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Nabiha El Khatib

Office Location: Virtual Office on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)

Office Hours: Online office hours daily; on-site by appointment

University Email Address: Nabiha.ElKhatib@tamuc.edu

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required

Holmes, J., & Wilson, N. (2017). *An introduction to sociolinguistics* (5th ed.). New York, NY: Routledge.

Additional Texts and Materials

- [How to email a professor](#)
- Uploaded to myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) as needed

Course Description

In this course you will attain an advanced understanding of the sociocultural nature of human language. Language may be studied at several structural or functional levels (such as phonology or syntax, for example). However, your attention to this course will be directed to the components of society and culture and to the relationships between these components and language variation within and across individuals. You will also be encouraged to examine carefully your beliefs about your own language and your attitudes toward the language varieties that you and others use. Doing so will help you better understand the change that language constantly undergoes in personal and social use. Examining your beliefs and attitudes will also help you become more aware of the variation in language use from one group to the next and from one individual to the next.

Student Learning Outcomes

A student who completes ENG 358 will:

1. become aware of the constant interplay between language and society in both English- speaking as well as in societies that speak other languages.
2. become aware of his/her attitudes to varieties of English and other languages.
3. learn to respect all varieties of languages and to put this respect in the language-teaching classroom.

The syllabus and course calendar are subject to change

Instructional Methods

Since this is an online class, all content will be delivered to you through myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace). Each week, you will read one to two chapters from the assigned textbook, complete a homework assignment(s) and a review sheet(s), and discuss the content or any additional questions in a discussion thread.

Minimal Technical Skills Needed

Using myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace), Microsoft Word and PowerPoint, other presentation and graphics programs as needed.

Student Responsibilities or Tips for Success in the Course

- Regularly log in to the course shell on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) and customize myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) notifications.
- Stay on top of the reading assignments.
- Complete all assignments in a timely manner.
- If you do not understand particular course content, ask questions rather than make assumptions.
- Remember that many questions you may have regarding grades, technical problems, course policies, etc. can be answered by simply checking the syllabus or the course shell.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Assignments (15%): There will be one or two assignments each week on the assigned readings. Read well the policy on submitting assignments below (under course policies).

Review sheets (20%): A chapter review sheet(s) will be provided to you each week. The purpose of this review sheet is to get you prepared for the quizzes and final exam.

Discussions (15%): There will be one online discussion assignment each week. You are required to post your responses to the discussion area by **11:59pm, Friday** of each week. You are also required to comment on two of your classmates' responses for each week's topic by **11:59 pm, Sunday**.

Quizzes and final exam (50%): There will be two quizzes and a final exam. Each quiz will be %10. The final exam (30%) will be in the final week and cover all the content we have discussed throughout the semester. Question forms include multiple choices, true/false, filling-in-blanks, short answers, and essay questions.

More details for each assessment type below can be found on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) under each week. If there is a discrepancy between the syllabus and the course shell, follow the instructions in the course shell.

GRADING SCALE

Final grades in this course will be based on the following scale: A = 90%-100%, B = 80%-89%, C = 70%-79%, D = 60%-69%, F = 59% or Below

Note: An 'A' grade reflects work that is clearly superior and exceeds the minimum criteria in all dimensions. A 'B' grade means a good, solid performance which fulfills the requirements for a particular assignment.

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The weight of each assessment on final grades is as follows:

Assignments	15%
Review Sheets	20%
Discussions	15%
Quizzes	20%
Final Exam	30%

COURSE POLICIES

Submitting Assignments

All assignments are to be submitted via myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace). Emails, hard copies, etc. will not be graded. **Dropbox on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) is the main tool** for you to submit any assignment unless the instructor tells the class an alternative way. If you submit your work through email, **you are responsible for keeping track of your submission.**

Your writing assignments **have to be saved as Word files.** If you use some other word processing software such as Pages, LibreOffice, Google Doc, make sure that you save your file in Microsoft Word format. The extension should be .doc or .docx. If you don't know how to convert your documents to Word format, learn it. Google it. There are a plenty of websites that show you how to do it. **DO NOT use the PDF format or any other format.**

Submit your assignments at latest 15 minutes before the deadline because it may take several minutes for your submission to arrive to Dropbox. Moreover, unexpected technical problems on your computer may happen. Make it a habit to submit 30 minutes before the deadline.

If you miss discussion posts, a review sheet, an assignment, quiz or the final exam, you will receive a grade of zero.

Quizzes and final exam: they are given on the dates printed on the course outline. **Final exam is scheduled by the university; in no circumstances the final exam can be rescheduled.**

Grievance Procedure

Students who have concerns about this course or the instructor should speak *first* to the instructor about those concerns. If the student is unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation, the *next* person in the chain of command is Dr. Lucy Pickering, associate professor and director of the Applied Linguistics Laboratory. Dr. Pickering's email is Lucy.Pickering@tamuc.edu. If the student could not resolve the issue the *last* person in the chain of command to contact is Dr. Hunter Hayes, Department Head. Students should contact him via e-mail at Hunter.Hayes@tamuc.edu.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

Unless stated otherwise, the instructor will grade assignments within a week, and respond to emails within one business day. Please refer to the syllabus and/or our myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) course shell before

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sending an email to your instructor. You may not receive a response if your questions are already answered on the syllabus or on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace).

When emailing me, you **MUST** follow the genre conventions of a formal letter. They must include a subject title, a greeting (“Hi, Ms. Khatib,” for example), specific details and explanation in the body of your email, and a closing (“Thank you, *Your Name*” for example). Emails must be properly proofread and be relatively free of grammar and spelling errors. I have received too many emails that are nearly incomprehensible because the sender has not taken the time to proofread. Sending your emails from your cell phone is not an excuse for poor formatting and spelling/grammar.

Each time you send me a new email about a new topic, please compose a new email; do not reply to some old email threads unless we discuss the same issue. It can be very confusing and makes it difficult to reply to your emails. Create a new email with a new subject line such as “Question about Paper.”

Finally, in a case when you submit your assignments through email do not just send me a blank email with files attached.

Problems with myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)

Should you encounter myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/ exams, the following procedure must be followed:

- Report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-903-468-6000 or HelpDesk@tamuc.edu . See myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) Technical Support for more details.
- File the problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number.
- Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, email the instructor to inform her of the problem and provide her with the helpdesk ticket number.

You must complete these steps prior to the deadline. Your instructor will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you.

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer and internet access problems are not legitimate excuses for filing a ticket with the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) Help Desk. Only myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)-based problems are legitimate reasons to contact the Help Desk. You strongly are encouraged to check for your internet browser compatibility **BEFORE** the course begins and take the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) platform.

Other Problems

Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a

computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

Syllabus

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

Course materials posted on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace)

I will post course materials, including lecture notes, PowerPoints, assignments, and other supplementary materials on myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace). You are responsible of checking your myLeo Online (D2L Brightspace) shell for this information. The supplementary materials are not a replacement for the textbook. You have to read the book chapters well to be able to complete assignments, quizzes, and final exam.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Browser support

D2L is committed to performing key application testing when new browser versions are released. New and updated functionality is also tested against the latest version of supported browsers. However, due to the frequency of some browser releases, D2L cannot guarantee that each browser version will perform as expected. If you encounter any issues with any of the browser versions listed in the tables below, contact D2L Support, who will determine the best course of action for resolution. Reported issues are prioritized by supported browsers and then maintenance browsers.

Supported browsers are the latest or most recent browser versions that are tested against new versions of D2L products. Customers can report problems and receive support for issues. For an optimal experience, D2L recommends using supported browsers with D2L products.

Maintenance browsers are older browser versions that are not tested extensively against new versions of D2L products. Customers can still report problems and receive support for critical issues; however, D2L does not guarantee all issues will be addressed. A maintenance browser becomes officially unsupported after one year.

Note the following:

- Ensure that your browser has JavaScript and Cookies enabled.
- For desktop systems, you must have Adobe Flash Player 10.1 or greater.
- The Brightspace Support features are now optimized for production environments when using the Google Chrome browser, Apple Safari browser, Microsoft Edge browser, Microsoft Internet Explorer browser, and Mozilla Firefox browsers.

Desktop Support

Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)	Maintenance Browser Version(s)

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Microsoft® Edge	Latest	N/A
Microsoft® Internet Explorer®	N/A	11
Mozilla® Firefox®	Latest, ESR	N/A
Google® Chrome™	Latest	N/A
Apple® Safari®	Latest	N/A

Tablet and Mobile Support

Device	Operating System	Browser	Supported Browser Version(s)
Android™	Android 4.4+	Chrome	Latest
Apple	iOS®	Safari, Chrome	The current major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version) and the previous major version of iOS (the latest minor or point release of that major version). For example, as of June 7, 2017, D2L supports iOS 10.3.2 and iOS 9.3.5, but not iOS 10.2.1, 9.0.2, or any other version. Chrome: Latest version for the iOS browser.
Windows	Windows 10	Edge, Chrome, Firefox	Latest of all browsers, and Firefox ESR.

- You will need regular access to a computer with a broadband Internet connection. The minimum computer requirements are:
 - 512 MB of RAM, 1 GB or more preferred
 - Broadband connection required courses are heavily video intensive
 - Video display capable of high-color 16-bit display 1024 x 768 or higher resolution
- **For YouSeeU Sync Meeting sessions 8 Mbps is required.** Additional system requirements found here: <https://support.youseeu.com/hc/en-us/articles/115007031107-Basic-System-Requirements>
- You must have a:
 - Sound card, which is usually integrated into your desktop or laptop computer
 - Speakers or headphones.
 - *For courses utilizing video-conferencing tools and/or an online proctoring solution, a webcam and microphone are required.
- Both versions of Java (32 bit and 64 bit) must be installed and up to date on your machine. At a minimum Java 7, update 51, is required to support the learning management system. The most current version of Java can be downloaded at: [JAVA web site](http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp)
<http://www.java.com/en/download/manual.jsp>
- Current anti-virus software must be installed and kept up to date.
- Running the browser check will ensure your internet browser is supported.
 - Pop-ups are allowed.
 - JavaScript is enabled.
 - Cookies are enabled.
- You will need some additional free software (plug-ins) for enhanced web browsing. Ensure that you download the free versions of the following software:
 - [Adobe Reader](https://get.adobe.com/reader/) <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - [Adobe Flash Player](https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/) (version 17 or later) <https://get.adobe.com/flashplayer/>
 - [Adobe Shockwave Player](https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/) <https://get.adobe.com/shockwave/>
 - [Apple Quick Time](http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/) <http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/>
- At a minimum, you must have Microsoft Office 2013, 2010, 2007 or Open Office. Microsoft Office is the standard office productivity software utilized by faculty, students, and staff. Microsoft Word is the standard word processing software, Microsoft Excel is the standard spreadsheet software, and Microsoft PowerPoint is the standard presentation software. Copying and pasting, along with attaching/uploading documents for assignment submission, will also be required. If you do not have Microsoft Office, you can check with the bookstore to see if they have any student copies.

ACCESS AND NAVIGATION

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You will need your campus-wide ID (CWID) and password to log into the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact the Center for IT Excellence (CITE) at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

Note: Personal computer and internet connection problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, Starbucks, a TAMUC campus open computer lab, etc.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Brightspace Support

Need Help?

Student Support

If you have any questions or are having difficulties with the course material, please contact your Instructor.



Technical Support

If you are having technical difficulty with any part of Brightspace, please contact Brightspace Technical Support at 1-877-325-7778 or click on the **Live Chat** or click on the words “[click here](#)” to submit an issue via email.

System Maintenance

D2L runs monthly updates during the last week of the month, usually on Wednesday. The system should remain up during this time unless otherwise specified in an announcement. You may experience minimal impacts to performance and/or look and feel of the environment.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. The Code of Student Conduct is described in detail in the [Student](#)

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[Guidebook](#). Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)

Attendance

For information about the attendance policy, please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

Academic Integrity

The official departmental policy: “Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1,2,3]) Texas A&M University- Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty, see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Gee Library- Room 162

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Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835

Fax (903) 468-8148

Email: studentdisabilityservices@tamuc.edu

Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/studentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination because of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so.

Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations. For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:
<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses.

Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868, or at 9-1-1.

COURSE CALENDAR

Week #	Assigned Readings	Discussion Posts + Replies / Review Sheets / Assignments / Quizzes / Final Exam
Week 1 (1/13 – 1/19)	(If you bought the book, read chapters 1 and 2 which are assigned for Week 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Post: Meet and Greet. Initial post is due Friday 1/17. Replies are due on Sunday 1/19. • Familiarize yourself with D2L by doing the student tutorial. Post your questions if you have any in the discussion thread on D2L.
Week 2 (1/20 – 1/26)	Holmes & Wilson Chapters 1 & 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts on each chapter. Initial posts are due on Friday 1/24. Replies are due on Sunday 1/26. • Two assignments and two review sheets are due on Sunday 1/26.
Week 3 (1/27 - 2/2)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 1/31. Replies are due on Sunday 2/2. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 2/2.
Week 4 (2/3 – 2/9)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 2/7. Replies are due on Sunday 2/9. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 2/9.

Week 5 (2/10 – 2/16)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 2/14. Replies are due on Sunday 2/16. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 2/16.
Week 6 (2/17 – 2/23)	<p style="text-align: center;">Quiz #1; Holmes & Wilson Chapter 6</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 1: All chapters including this week's reading are included. The quiz will be open on 2/21, 2/22 & 2/23. • Review sheet is due on Sunday 2/23.
Week 7 (2/24 – 3/1)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 2/28. Replies are due on Sunday 3/1. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 3/1.
Week 8 (3/2 – 3/8)	Holmes & Wilson Chapters 8 & 9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 3/6. Replies are due on Sunday 3/8. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 3/8.
Week 9 (3/9- 3/15)	Spring Break	<p>No assignments for this week. I encourage you to review all chapters covered, including review sheets, assignments, discussion posts, etc. for Quiz 2, which is on Week 13. If you have any questions please post them in my Virtual Office on D2L.</p>

Week 10 (3/16 – 3/22)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 3/20. Replies are due on Sunday 3/22. • Review sheet is due on Sunday 3/22.
Week 11 (3/23 – 3/29)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 3/27. Replies are due on Sunday 3/29. • Review sheet is due on Sunday 3/29.
Week 12 (3/30 – 4/5)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 4/3. Replies are due on Sunday 4/5. • Assignment and review sheet are due on Sunday 4/5.
Week 13 (4/6 – 4/12)	<p style="text-align: center;">Quiz #2;</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Holmes & Wilson Chapter 13</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quiz 2: All chapters including this week’s reading are included. The quiz will be open on 4/10, 4/11 & 4/12. • Review sheet is due on Sunday 4/12.
Week 14 (4/13 – 4/19)	Holmes & Wilson Chapter 14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 4/17. Replies are due on Sunday 4/19. • Review sheet is due on Sunday 4/19.

Week 15 (4/20 – 4/26)	Holmes & Wilson Chapters 15 & 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Last Discussion Posts: Initial post is due on Friday 4/24. Replies are due on Sunday 4/26. • Last review sheet is due on Sunday 4/26.
Week 16 (4/27 – 5/1)	Final Review	Study all the chapters covered since the beginning of the semester. Review all assignments, review sheets, videos, quizzes, etc. If you have any questions please post them in my Virtual Office.
Finals Week (5/2 – 5/8)	Final exam: Tuesday, May 5	Final Exam: Tuesday, May 5