

# Language in Society

LING 1305 - Online

**Dr. Clay Butler**

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office hrs: *by appointment,  
normally over Zoom***Description**

In this course, we will consider language from a social perspective, one in which language only becomes meaningful in its social context. A social approach emphasizes the ways we use language to create and manage our social identities, such as gender, ethnicity, and many others. Some of the topics to be explored touch on dialects, regional variation, slang, minority languages, power and status, language and gender, bilingualism, code-switching, pidgins and creoles, and some applied fields of sociolinguistics (e.g., language and law, language and healthcare, etc.).

**Class Format**

This course will be conducted completely within **Canvas**, where you will find a series of learning modules containing all of the course material. This is a **self-paced, asynchronous** course. All quizzes, video lectures, and exams are open on the first day of class, and you may finish the course as quickly as you like. All assignments have a suggested “due” date; however, all assignments will remain open until the *Final Due Date*.

- Final Due Date **June 2, 2022** at 11:59 pm *all quizzes and exams*

**Texts**

- (1) Van Herk, Gerard (2018) *What is Sociolinguistics?* (2<sup>nd</sup> ed) Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons
- (2) Articles: *These are available for free through < Canvas : Reading List >.*

**Grading**

- 20% **Textbook Quizzes** - covering topics in the textbook
- 20% **Articles Quizzes** - covering topics in the articles
- 60% **Exam 1, 2, & 3** - covering the lectures, each worth 20%

**Grading Standards:**

|          |          |          |          |        |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|--------|
|          | 88-89 B+ | 78-79 C+ | 68-69 D+ | 0-59 F |
| 92-100 A | 82-87 B  | 72-77 C  | 62-67 D  |        |
| 90-91 A- | 80-81 B- | 70-71 C- | 60-61 D- |        |

**Contacting Me**

There are three easy ways to talk with me:

- **Email** I prefer you email me directly rather than sending a message through Canvas because I may not see a Canvas message for days
- **Zoom** This is a particularly good way to review a quiz or exam

## Technology Expectations

To succeed in this class, you must have reliable access to a PC and the internet. You are expected to:

- have access to a secondary computer in case your primary computer fails
- have access to a secondary internet connection in case your primary connection fails
- contact the Help Desk for help with technical problems (254.710-4357, M-F from 8 am to 5 pm)
  - contact me for help with course content
- start assignments early enough so you can go to a plan B if you have problems

## Articles

The articles are available for free through the library's online course reserve system:

- in Canvas, click **Reading List** on the left side of the page (under "Home")
- save or print each item ASAP. Do not wait until a quiz to look for an article

**The articles are all FREE.** If you get a message saying you need to pay for an article, you are not logged in correctly. Contact the library *Help Desk* for assistance < [baylor.edu/helpdesk](http://baylor.edu/helpdesk) > or 254.710.4357.

## Zoom

There will be scheduled Zoom meetings held throughout the term. These sessions are NOT required; they are opportunities for you to ask questions and hear about other students' concerns. I will not introduce new, critical material in these meetings, and I will NOT take attendance. If you are unable to attend a meeting, they will be recorded and available in < Canvas : Zoom : Cloud Recordings >. Remember, you are always welcome to request a Zoom meeting with me.

### **Due**

- **4:00 pm**, see the *Schedule* or < Canvas : Syllabus > for dates

## Other stuff

Academic Success: Every student who has been admitted to Baylor can be successful in my class. Familiarize yourself with the culture of success we have at Baylor by stopping by the *Paul L. Foster Success Center* in Sid Richardson or by going to: [www.baylor.edu/successcenter/](http://www.baylor.edu/successcenter/).

Academic Integrity: You are not allowed to copy any part of the quizzes or exams for this course in any form or to share information about the contents. All quizzes and exams for this course are subject to the academic policies and procedures of Baylor University and regulated by the *Baylor University Honor Code*.

Plagiarism or any form of cheating involves a breach of student-teacher trust. This means that any work submitted under your name is expected to be your own, neither composed by anyone else as a whole or in part, nor handed over to another person for complete or partial revision. Be sure to document all ideas that are not your own. Instances of plagiarism or any other act of academic dishonesty will be reported to the Honor Council and may result in failure of the course. Not understanding plagiarism is not an excuse. I expect you, as a Baylor student, to be intimately familiar with the Honor Code at: [www.baylor.edu/honorcode/](http://www.baylor.edu/honorcode/).

Students Needing Accommodations: Any student who needs academic accommodations related to a documented disability should inform me immediately at the beginning of the semester. You are required to obtain appropriate documentation and information regarding your accommodations from the Office of Access and Learning Accommodation (OALA). Stop by the first floor of Sid Richardson, East Wing in the Paul L. Foster Success Center or call (254) 710-3605 or email [OALA@baylor.edu](mailto:OALA@baylor.edu).

**Military Student Advisory:** Veterans, active duty military personnel, and dependents are encouraged to connect with the VETS program, a space dedicated to supporting our military-connected students. Please communicate, in advance if possible, any special circumstances (e.g., upcoming deployment, drill requirements, disability accommodations).

**Civil Rights Policy and Sexual and Interpersonal Misconduct Policy:** Baylor University does not tolerate unlawful harassment or discrimination on the basis of sex, gender, race, color, disability, national origin, ancestry, age (over 40), citizenship, genetic information or the refusal to submit to a genetic test, past, current, or prospective service in the uniformed services, or any other characteristic protected under applicable federal, Texas, or local law (collectively referred to as Protected Characteristics).

If you or someone you know would like help related to an experience involving:

- Sexual or gender-based harassment, sexual assault, sexual exploitation, stalking, intimate partner violence, or retaliation for reporting one of these types of prohibited conduct, please visit [www.baylor.edu/titleix](http://www.baylor.edu/titleix), or contact us at (254) 710-8454, or [TitleIX\\_Coordinator@baylor.edu](mailto:TitleIX_Coordinator@baylor.edu).
- Harassment (excluding those issues listed in #1) or adverse action based on Protected Characteristics, please visit [www.baylor.edu/civilrights](http://www.baylor.edu/civilrights), or contact us at (254) 710-7100 or [Civil\\_Rights@baylor.edu](mailto:Civil_Rights@baylor.edu).

## Quizzes

There are two sets of reading quizzes on Canvas:

- one covering chapters from the **textbook** (13 total), and
- another covering **articles** (13 total).

They are designed to encourage your careful reading of the chapter or article. The questions are all multiple choice or true/false. There are no essay or short-answer questions. Also, the questions are generally sorted in the same order as the chapter or article.

I recommend reading the material all the way through first, then starting the quiz. You will definitely want the chapter or article in front of you while you are taking the quiz.

The quizzes are NOT timed, but once you start you must work until finished; you cannot start, save your work and restart later. When they are due, they will submit even if you are in the middle of a question.

### **Due**

- all open on the first day of class
- **11:59 pm** on the day on the *Schedule*

### **Dropped Quizzes**

I understand that there are exceptional circumstances, such as losing your Wi-Fi connection, that make it hard to complete assignments on time, every time. To accommodate for difficult circumstances, I will drop

- 2 lowest scores for the **textbook** quizzes, and
- 2 lowest scores for the **article** quizzes.

If you cannot complete a quiz within the window, lose your internet connection at the worse moment, become too sick to think straight, or just forget there is a quiz due, count it as one of your dropped scores. It is your responsibility to have a plan for reliable internet and a plan B if your first plan fails.

Please do not ask to retake a quiz or take a quiz after the deadline has passed.

## Exams

All exams are taken on **Canvas** using the **LockDown Browser** (but not the webcam).

### **Due**

- open the first day of class
- see the *Schedule* for the suggested day to take each exam
- must be completed by the **Final Due Date**
- **40 minutes** to complete once started

### **Allowances & Expectations**

- you may use your notes (including PowerPoints) on the exam
- you may NOT use your textbook
- you may only access printed materials (no digital documents or internet browsing)
- you must work alone and must not communicate with anyone during an exam

The exams only cover material from the **class lectures**. While some of the information is also mentioned in the textbook or in articles, the questions are specifically from the class lectures. They are not comprehensive; they only cover material since the previous exam. Exam 3 counts as the Final Exam but is the same format, length, and weight as the others.

Exams have **3 parts**:

Matching: match the names of people, theories, key terms, etc. presented in class lectures

Lecture Questions: answer True/False and Multiple-Choice questions

Short Answer: answer the following short-answer questions

- Aim for **4-5 sentences**.
- Do not use information gathered from the internet or another outside source. No credit will be given for an answer that might be technically correct, but is not based on things learned in our class.
- Excellent answers will include key terms, important people, and relevant examples.

**Exam 0** is a practice exam that allows you to see the format and practice with the technology.

## **LockDown Browser**


This course requires the use of the LockDown Browser for online exams (not for quizzes). Following are some notes to help you prepare.

### **Preparing for an exam...**

- download the LockDown Browser on each device you might use for the exams...
  - <https://download.respondus.com/lockdown/download.php?id=755512061>
- watch this video to learn about the LockDown Browser...
  - <https://web.respondus.com/lockdownbrowser-student-video/>
- read through this page from Baylor's HelpDesk to learn best practices for using the LockDown Browser...
  - <https://www.baylor.edu/helpdesk/index.php?id=972776>

- practice by taking Exam 0 to be sure the technology works and you know the procedure
  - *take Exam 0 as many times as needed. It is not graded. For example, if you decide to use a different computer for an exam, you should practice retaking this exam on the new computer before starting the live exam.*

***Taking an exam...***

- use a device with the LockDown Browser installed
- have your DUO authentication device with you, then put it away as soon as you've approved the logon
- click the LockDown Browser icon, which looks like this... 
- login to Canvas. Each time you start Canvas in the LockDown Browser, you will have to re-enter your BearID and accept a DUO authentication
- open the LING 1305 course and navigate to the exam
- click "Take the Quiz"
- keep all of your electronic devices off and out of reach while taking the exam
- remain in your seat for the duration of the exam
- LockDown Browser will prevent you from accessing other websites or applications during the exam

***Late Policy***

- Since the *Final Due Date* is at the absolute end of the term, any assignment not completed by that date will receive a zero.