How can we use Linguistic Anthropology for social change?

- Our FINAL EXAM is Tuesday, December 13, 10am – 12pm, Pearson 115 (our normal mtg space)

- "My struggle with American small talk" – from the New Yorker (thanks to Celine) here

Coffee and power - from our discussion on 12/1

As we look toward the semester's end, please remember you're invited to our campus Kwanzaa celebration on Friday, 12/9.

- You can RSVP for our campus Kwanzaa celebration here.

What is Kwanzaa? Jessica Williams and Phoebe Robinson explore.
Things are happening here on campus, in Philly, and elsewhere - Links of interest, we can add as we learn more:

- **Phone bank for #NoDAPL on campus 12/7**
- Using comedy to challenge the status quo, more on comedian Hari Kondabalu here << See vid on why he doesn't perform using an "Indian accent"
- **Your political beliefs don't justify racism,** student at Phillips Academy writes, here
- **Women's March on Washington** (for everyone) on January 21, here
- More about Million Women's March, here
- Philly solidarity with **Standing Rock Sioux Defenders against Dakota Access oil pipeline** in North Dakota, #NoDAPL, here

Link to Swat Writing Center - schedule an appointment!

Schedule an appointment or walk-in at the Writing Center to assist you with your 500-word essay!

News forum

Course Syllabus (preliminary)

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**Week 1 - Aug. 30, Sept. 1**

Introducing field research: Tanzania, Jordan, Siberia, Micronesia

Mongolian Shamanic Prayer Using a Tos-Karak

Copy of the handout we looked at in class on Thursday.
Week 2 - Sept. 6, 8

Language diversity, endangerment, revitalization, language hotspots

PLEASE PREPARE:

1. Living Language, Chapter 1 (your textbook)
2. When Languages Die, Chapter 1 (pdf below): We ask that you print out this chapter and annotate it with your notes/circles/highlighting, and bring it with you to class. On Tuesday, we'll discuss the 500-word writing assignment (due Thursday).

Harrison (2008) When Languages Die, Chapter 1

Reading discussion - Week 2

You may wish to post questions or thoughts as you prepare readings. Any of us can respond with insights and further questions.

Week 3 - Sept. 13, 15

Ethnographic fieldwork, documenting and living culture

PLEASE PREPARE:

1. Living Language, Chapter 2 (your textbook)
2. Watch two short videos from field interviews in Micronesia (take note of how these videos relate to key concepts and ideas we've discussed)
3. Dancing Skeletons, Chapters 1 + 2 (each are brief)

Reading discussion - Week 3

You may wish to post questions or thoughts as you prepare readings. Any of us can respond with insights and further questions.

VID: Yapese language importance and identity

Enduring Voice YouTube Channel (2013) from NSF REU Fieldsite in Micronesia !!
Week 4 - Sept. 20, 22

Language contact, dialects, codeswitching, creoles

Weekend assignment: Create your own 1-minute, 1 question mini-ethnographic interview!

- Email us the video clip by the start of class, so we can view them on Tuesday 9/20
- Annotate your interview by creating a transcript of some kind.

This week:

- We'll read Myers-Scotton (2003) for Thursday
- Guest Speaker (Thursday): Prof. Micheline Rice-Maximin (French, Francophone Studies)
- Due Thursday: Your 3rd critical 500-word essay

Your 1-minute interviews

Video and audio files here

Zentella (1997) The Hows and Whys of Spanglish


Please prepare this reading for Thursday

VID: Pingelapese language identity and status
Dettwyler (1994) Dancing Skeletons, Chapters 1 + 2
Week 5 - Sept. 27, 29

Orality, Ethnopoetics, Verbal Arts

Read and be prepared to discuss in class

(1) chapter 5 "Silent Storytellers" from When Languages Die

(2) Walter Ong (1982) Orality

(3) Watch at least the first 10 minutes of "Boktu Kirish", ***BE SURE TO TURN ON THE SUBTITLES/captions IN YOUTUBE***. We will discuss the text and some of the mnemonics and poetics in class.

Due: Your 4th critical 500-word essay will be due on Thursday.

**Here's more info on the conference Prof. Thomas is attending and presenting at this week on Death, Decay, and Disease in Language and Literature.

Harrison 2007 Lost Legends

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epic tale

Consonance
Assonance
Repetition
Rhyme

I do not like it Sam I am
I do not like green eggs and ham

Social/Cognitive transformations due to writing

Passing info socially "say hello to"

Not losing info

Knowledge base "sticky"

Fixed time/ideas

Storytelling/Poetics (Mnemonics)

Verbal Arts

L. games
Rhyme

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Walter Ong—Orality

Boktu Kirish, a Tuvan epic tale
Week 6 - Oct. 4, 6

Exploring social change in the lexicon via Corpus Linguistics

**Guest lecture: Patricia Irwin (Oct. 4)

NOTE ON READINGS: PLEASE **SKIM** THESE TWO ARTICLES, TO GET THE GIST OF THEM, AND BE PREPARED TO DISCUSS THE MAIN POINTS. YOU ARE BEING ASKED TO SKIM BECAUSE THE ARTICLES HAVE SOMEWHAT MORE TECHNICAL DETAIL THAN WE NEED AT THIS POINT, AND BECAUSE SKIMMING IS A VERY USEFUL SKILL.

Videos on using corpora:
PDF - Tricia Irwin's slides on using corpora - 10/4

These are the slides she shared with us today. Please take a look at the additional links to online tutorials and more information!

Keisling (2003) Dude

Thomson & Murachver (2001) “Predicting Gender from electronic discourse"

Siegel (2005) Dude

Week 7 - Oct. 18, 20
Language and cognition: Linguistic relativity and taxonomies.

NOTE: THESE READINGS ARE NOT ASSIGNED OVER FALL BREAK. YOU SHOULD PLAN TO READ THEM SOMETIME ON MONDAY, TUESDAY OR WEDNESDAY OF THIS WEEK (OCT. 16, 17, OR 18) AND COME TO CLASS THURSDAY PREPARED TO DISCUSS. ON TUESDAY, IN CLASS, WE WILL HAVE AN INTRODUCTORY LECTURE THAT Requires NO ADVANCE PREPARATION.

Reading #1 Laura Ahearn chapter 4 "LANGUAGE, THOUGHT AND CULTURE"

Reading #2 Geoffrey Pullum "The Great Eskimo Vocabulary Hoax"
Week 8 - Oct. 25, 27

The language of race and racism

Pullum 1991

Week 7 Discussion BOARD - Post anything relevant!
This week, we want to continue discussing the nuanced social life of language.

On Tuesday, we'll discuss perspectives on the "Black Gay Vernacular" as explored by E. Patrick Johnson, a performer, cultural critic, and ethnographer. More about him here.

Then, on Thursday, we'll be joined by Prof. Ute Bettray, from the interdisciplinary program in Gender and Sexuality, to help us get further into understanding intersections in gender and sexuality. You'll read a chapter from Judith Butler on "Gender is Burning", a critique and response to the film *Paris is Burning*.

**Week 9 - Nov. 1, 3**

Language, gender, and sexuality

This week, we want to continue discussing the nuanced social life of language.

On Tuesday, we'll discuss perspectives on the "Black Gay Vernacular" as explored by E. Patrick Johnson, a performer, cultural critic, and ethnographer. More about him here.

Then, on Thursday, we'll be joined by Prof. Ute Bettray, from the interdisciplinary program in Gender and Sexuality, to help us get further into understanding intersections in gender and sexuality. You'll read a chapter from Judith Butler on "Gender is Burning", a critique and response to the film *Paris is Burning*.
BEFORE YOU READ: Watch this - It's a 6-min clip of E. Patrick Johnson talking about his ethnographic work, field interviews, and how identity connects to social justice.

ALSO, BEFORE YOU READ: To assist you in enjoying the read by Patrick Johnson (2004), we recommend that you view at least the trailer of the 1990 documentary Paris is Burning, noting what particular voices the film includes, and how they may (not) be portrayed. The dvd (and vhs) recordings of the film are available through Tri-Co libraries, with a copy on reserve at McCabe (Swarthmore).

Here's a link to the documentary from Youtube (the full version may not be here)
E. Patrick Johnson (2004) Mother knows best

For Tuesday
(On Black Gay Male language and subjectivity...and more!)
If you find yourself coming across references to cultural moments, films, actors you’re unfamiliar with, take an active approach to finding out who the author is engaging with, by doing a preliminary Google search.

Judith Butler on what gender is and why we should care

For Thursday's discussion:
Week 10 - Nov. 8, 10

Onomastics: The Power of Names

"There are no neutral names, categories, labels or terms." — Teresa L. McCarty

Nomen est omen ("name is destiny") — Titus Maccius Plautus (c. 254 – 184 BCE)

Link to more about personal names in ASL communities here
Week 11 - Nov. 15, 17

Language and environment

This week, we'd like to spend some time discussing the ways we think about our "natural" world.

- Black, Wilcox, and Pratt (2014) - Nicknames in Prison
- Keith Basso (1996) chapter 1 from "Wisdom Sits in Places"
- Keith Basso (1967) Linguistic Acculturation
- Eli Clare (2016) "Notes on Cure, Disability, and Natural Worlds"
- Keuffer and Larson 2009 "Responsible use of language in scientific writing and science communication"
- Video from Eli Clare - Optional

Here's a video from a talk by our first author, Eli Clare (to watch is OPTIONAL, but he's talking about the reading we ask you prepare; it's also valuable to take in his presentation style and speech as a person with Cerebral Palsy). Clare just spoke on these topics at Swat two weeks ago.
Week 12 - Nov. 22

TBD film screening; No class on the 24th (Thanksgiving)
Film Festival of Shorts <<

Week 13 - Nov. 29, Dec. 1

Language and Power

For Thursday, Dec. 1 - Please read the concluding chapter of the book by Ahearn - pp 59-91, Chapter 12.
Consider how this chapter relates to recent political events, and come prepared to discuss key themes!

Week 13.5 - Dec. 6

Last class meeting topic: "All the things"
Review

Discussion - Come with topics *you’d like to discuss* as a way of wrapping up our semester together!

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**THE LINGUIST LIST**

27.5003, Jobs: Swedish; Turkish; Computational Linguistics: Computational Linguist, Nuance Communications, Aachen, Germany

27.5002, Books: Where Metaphors Come From: Kovecses

27.5001, Books: Integrating Chinese Linguistic Research and Language Teaching and Learning: Tao (ed.)

27.5000, Books: La imperfectividad en la prensa española y su relación con las categorías semánticas de modalidad y evidencialidad: Böhm

27.4999, Books: The Plurilingual TESOL Teacher: Ellis

27.4998, Books: Understanding and Interaction in Clinical and Educational Settings: Saferstein

27.4997, Books: Früher Fremdsprachenerwerb im Elementarbereich: Seifert

27.4996, Books: L2 Selves and Motivations in Asian Contexts: Apple, Da Silva, Fellner (eds.)

27.4995, Software: Computational Linguistics; Semantics: WNetSS API

27.4994, Calls: Germanic; Slavic; General Linguistics / Verges: Germanic & Slavic Studies in Review (Jrnl)

27.4993, Calls: Text/Corpus Linguistics / Quaderns de Filologia: Estudis Lingüístics (Jrnl)
UPCOMING EVENTS

Abstract Submission Deadline - Undergraduate Journal of Critical Educational Policy
Saturday, December 10, 5:30 PM

Kwanzaa Celebration (Swarthmore) - Everyone is Invited for Lunch!
Monday, December 12, 12:00 PM

Go to calendar...
New event...

QUICKMAIL

Compose New Email
Signatures
View Drafts
View History
Alternate Emails

LATEST NEWS

Add a new topic...
(No news has been posted yet)

RECENT ACTIVITY

Activity since Tuesday, December 6, 2016, 11:13 AM
Full report of recent activity...

No recent activity

ACTIVITIES

Forums
Resources