

**ANT 253H: Language and Society
Summer 2013**

INSTRUCTOR:

M. Danesi (416-585-4412) e-mail: marcel.danesi@utoronto.ca
Office: Birge Carnegie, 26

TA:

E. Tsao (the.eugenia@gmail.com)

TEXTBOOKS:

M. Danesi, *Linguistic Anthropology: A Brief Introduction* (Toronto: Canadian Scholars' Press, 2012).

GRADING:

3 In-class tests: 60%
Test 1: 20% (May 28)
Test 2: 25% (June 11)
Test 3: 15% (June 20)

Final essay: 40% (Due: June 21)

ESSAY

The essay should be 5-6 pages double-spaced and follow the style of the AAA (American Anthropological Association). More information will be given during one of the classes. The essay can be done individually or in groups of 2-3 (maximum).

FINAL ESSAY TOPICS:

- (1) Study of any aspect of the relation between language structure and society
- (2) Study of any aspect of slang and its relation to society
- (3) Study of any aspect of metaphor and its relation to cognition or culture
- (4) Study of any aspect of linguistic relativity
- (5) A cross-cultural comparison of any of the above
- (6) Study of any aspect of the relation of language to culture
- (7) Study of any aspect of dialect variation
- (8) Analysis of any aspect of Internet language or text-messaging
- (9) Any other topic

NOTE: Essays suspected of plagiarism will be assessed according to the university policy regarding plagiarism. The policy can be found at www.artsci.utoronto.ca/osai/students.

LATE PENALTY: A late penalty of one percentage point per day will be used for late essays unless a valid reason is provided and permission granted by the instructor.

OUTLINE:

(Tuesdays and Thursdays, 6-8 PM, MP 203)

(1) May 14/16 (chapters 1-2)

Studying Language

Language Levels

(2) May 21/23 (chapter 3)

Language and Social Phenomena

(3) May 28/30 (chapter 4)

May 28: TEST 1

May 30: Conversation and Discourse

(4) June 4/6 (chapters 5-6)

Variation

Language and Cognition

(5) June 11/13

June 11: TEST 2

June 13: Essay format lecture (TA)

(6) June 18/20 (chapter 7)

June 18: Metaphor

June 20: TEST 3