

LING 395: Language and Society (1.5 units) Spring 2025 – University of Victoria



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Schedule

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays from 9:30 AM to 10:20 AM

Prerequisites

Second-year standing

Description

This course will introduce you to the relationship between language and society. Language plays a central role in communication, influencing who we are, how we are perceived, and how we function as social beings. We will explore these issues from two perspectives:

- (1) The ways in which social structure influences the way people speak (e.g., gender, age, socioeconomic status, etc.)
- (2) The ways in which societies deal with language (e.g., attitudes, policy, bilingualism, etc.).

Textbook

• Van Herk, Gerrard. 2018. What is Sociolinguistics? 2nd ed. Wiley-Blackwell.

Instructor

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Office hours (tentative): Fridays from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM (CLE C249)