PAAS399/LING396: Sociolinguistic Issues in Japanese

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Course description:

This course explores sociolinguistic issues in Japanese: how variations in language (pronunciation, pronouns, sentence final particles, honorifics, etc.) and social variables (gender, regional, and group identities, age, etc.) are related as well as how variations in language are used to construct identities. We will also review the status of the languages of Japan and the historical context towards standardization and issues relating to marginalization and revitalization of minority languages.

Previous study of Japanese is not required but recommended.

Proposed assignments:

- Attendance 5%
- Online discussion 20%
- Assignments: 20%
- Mid term 15%
- Final exam: 15%
- Final paper: 25%

Proposed reading list:


