ENGLISH 3339.001: INTRODUCTION TO LINGUISTICS
Scotland Study Abroad Program
Summer II, 2014

Dr. Nancy Sullivan
Office: FC 282
Phone: Ext. 5996

Course Description:

ENGL 3339 is an introduction to linguistics from an applied linguistics perspective. While traditional building blocks for linguistic inquiry will be explored such as phonetics, morphology, and grammar, additional sub-fields will also be covered such as language acquisition, language and culture, and language variation. Students will become familiar with the basic tools and techniques used to analyze language and will study the organizing principles of language.

ENG 3339 aims to enhance an understanding of culture, rhetoric, and literature through the study of human language. By gaining a greater understanding of the systematic nature of language as well as the systematic variation in language (e.g., between children and adults, standard and non-standard language varieties, monolingualism and multilingualism), students will heighten their meta-linguistic awareness in ways that should extend to their general English studies. Because of our unique international setting, much of our study will include the language of Scotland, Scottish Gaelic.

Required Textbook:


Hard copy or e-copy

Student Learning Outcomes:
At the end of the semester, the student will be able to

1. demonstrate the ability to use linguistic techniques to code, analyze, and interpret patterns in language,
2. describe and identify the intricacies of various sub-fields of linguistics such as phonetics, phonology, morphology, and pragmatics,
3. analyze diversity and variability of language experience and language use,
4. describe and evaluate critically the relationship between language and social factors such as education, culture, and context, and
5. demonstrate effective written communication skills, including thoughtful analysis, logical synthesis, and appropriate language use and mechanics.
ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADES

Two quizzes @ 15 % each 30 %
Language Assignments 10 %
Research paper & presentation 25 %
Homework 30 %
Participation 5 %
Total possible: 100 %

A=90-100; B=80-89; C=70-79; D=60-69; F=below 60

Attendance:
Regular attendance is required in this course. Your quizzes will cover material in book and discussions, so attendance is vital to your success in this class. Also quizzes cannot be made up, so if you are absent and miss one, you will receive a zero. You will lose a participation point for each absence (1 “free” absence).

Language Assignments:
Each week you will have the opportunity to apply your linguistic knowledge (e.g., phonetics, morphology, language acquisition) gained from the book and discussions to the analysis of Scottish Gaelic.

Quizzes:
You will have weekly quizzes over the material covered in class that gives you the opportunity to show your engagement with the topic.

Homework:
There will be a reasonable number of short in-class worksheets and homework assignments of a practical nature. These will be reading responses, summaries/critiques, and discussion questions. These worksheets and assignments will be graded as follows:

3 Exceeds expectations
2 As expected
1 Below expectations
0 Either no submission OR far below expectations

Final Paper and Presentation:
You final paper will consist of examining a linguistic topic that focuses on Scotland. Please see list of possible topics at end of document. You will present your research during the last week of class (draft and presentation=5 out of the 30 points).

TESOL Certificate:
If you are pursuing a TESOL Certificate, be sure to contact Dr. Stephen Doolan during your final semester of Certificate coursework so that he can inform the registrar that you have completed your requirements and request that they note the certificate on your transcript: Stephen.doolan@tamucc.edu
Tentative Syllabus:

Week 1, 7/7
Chapters 1, 2, & 3
Language Assignment #1 (phonetics) due
Quiz #1

Week 2, 7/14
Chapters 5, 6 & 7
Language Assignment #2 (morphology) & #3 (grammar) due
Quiz #2

Week 3, 7/21
Chapters 12, 13, & 14
Language Assignment #4 (language education) due
Quiz #3

Week 4, 7/28
Chapter 18, 19, & 20
Language Assignment #5 (dialectal variation) due
Quiz #4

Week 5, 8/4
Presentations
Final Paper due

Academic Integrity/Plagiarism:

University students are expected to conduct themselves in accordance with the highest standards of academic honesty. Academic misconduct for which a student is subject to penalty includes all forms of cheating, such as illicit possession of examinations or examination materials, falsification, forgery, complicity or plagiarism. (Plagiarism is the presentation of the work of another as one’s own work.) In this class, academic misconduct or complicity in an act of academic misconduct on an assignment or test will result in an F on the assigned work.

Classroom/professional behavior:

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi, as an academic community, requires that each individual respect the needs of others to study and learn in a peaceful atmosphere. Under Article III of the Student Code of Conduct, classroom behavior that interferes with either (a) the instructor’s ability to conduct the class or (b) the ability of other students to profit from the instructional program may be considered a breach of the peace and is subject to disciplinary sanction outlined in article VII of the Student Code of Conduct. Students engaging in unacceptable behavior may be instructed to leave the classroom. This prohibition applies to all instructional forums, including classrooms, electronic classrooms, labs, discussion groups, field trips, etc.
Grade Appeals:

As stated in University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures, a student who believes that he or she has not been held to appropriate academic standards as outlined in the class syllabus, equitable evaluation procedures, or appropriate grading, may appeal the final grade given in the course. The burden of proof is upon the student to demonstrate the appropriateness of the appeal. A student with a complaint about a grade is encouraged to first discuss the matter with the instructor. For complete details, including the responsibilities of the parties involved in the process and the number of days allowed for completing the steps in the process, see University Procedure 13.02.99.C2.01, Student Grade Appeal Procedures. These documents are accessible through the University Rules Web site at http://www.tamucc.edu/provost/university_rules/index.html. For assistance and/or guidance in the grade appeal process, students may contact the Dean’s office in the college in which the course is taught or the Office of the Provost.

Disabilities Accommodations:

The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal anti-discrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you believe you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please call or visit Disability Services at (361) 825-5816 in Corpus Christi Hall 116. If you are a returning veteran and are experiencing cognitive and/or physical access issues in the classroom or on campus, please contact the Disability Services office for assistance at (361) 825-5816.

Additional Reading:


http://www.educationscotland.gov.uk/studyingscotland/resourcesforlearning/index.asp


Scotland’s National Heritage website http://www.snh.gov.uk/policy-and-guidance/

Possible research paper topics:

Language and the vote for independence (investigating the link between language and politics)
The history of Gaelic bilingual education in Scotland
Historical attitudes towards Scottish Gaelic
Attitudes towards bilingual signage in Scotland
The future of Scottish Gaelic in Scotland
Support for Gaelic in Scottish educations system (by people/government)