

Syllabus

COURSE SYLLABUS

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ENG 358 Language and Society, 80558, Fall 2015

TR 12:30pm - 1:45pm, HL325

Information about my professional life and research interests can be found [at this website](#).

Course Policies and Procedures

This course consists of a series of activities and assessments to assist you in achieving the outcomes/objectives for the course and instructional units/modules. You will have a reading assignment from Holmes every week in addition to various combinations of lectures, discussions, two quizzes, and two examinations. By mid-term you should begin reading your Extended reading book, ***English as a Global Language***. The Extended reading book will be covered on Quiz #2 and the Final Examination.

Course Description

In this course you will attain an advanced understanding of the *sociocultural* nature of human language. Language may be studied at several structural or functional levels (such as phonology or syntax, for example). However, your attention in this course will be directed to the components of *society* and *culture* and to the relationships between these components and language variation within and across individuals.

You will also be encouraged in the class to carefully examine your beliefs about your own language and your attitudes toward the language varieties that you and those around you use. Doing so will help you better understand the change that language constantly undergoes in personal and social use. Examining your beliefs and attitudes will also help you become more aware of the variation in language use from one group to the next and from one individual to the next.

Catalogue Course Description

Hours: Three

A study of human social behavior and sociocultural interaction as they constrain language acquisition, use, and structure. Topics include sociolinguistics relativity, communicative competence, multilingualism, social and regional dialects, speech-act types, language styles, gender-related issues, and sociolinguistics field methodology. Prerequisite Eng 102.

Course Outline/Calendar	
Week 1	8/31 – 9/6 Holmes Chapter 1
Week 2	9/7 – 9/13 Holmes Chapter 2
Week 3	9/14 – 9/20 Holmes Chapter 3
Week 4	9/21 – 9/27 Holmes Chapter 4
Week 5	9/28 – 10/4 Holmes Chapter 5
Week 6	10/5 – 10/11 Holmes Chapter 6
Week 7	10/12 – 10/18 Holmes Chapter 7
Week 8	10/19 – 10/25 Holmes Chapter 8
Week 9	10/26 – 11/1 Mid-Term Examination
Week 10	11/2 – 11/8 Holmes Chapter 9
Week 11	11/9 – 11/15 Holmes Chapter 10
Week 12	11/16 – 11/22 Holmes Chapter 11
Week 13	11/23 – 11/29 <i>Thanksgiving</i>
Week 14	11/30 – 12/6 Holmes Chapter 12
Week 15	12/7 – 12/13 Holmes Chapter 13
Week 16	12/16 – 12/17 Final Examination

Student Learning Outcomes A student who completes **English 358** will:

1. become aware of the constant interplay between language and society in both English-speaking as well as in societies that speak other languages
 2. become aware of his/her attitudes to varieties of English and other languages
 3. learn the linguistic components of varieties of language (phonology, morphology, syntax, etc.)
 4. learn to respect all varieties of language
 5. learn to put this respect into play in the language-teaching classroom
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Textbooks

- Holmes, Janet (2013) **An Introduction to Sociolinguistics**. (4th ed.) Routledge. REQUIRED TEXT
 - Crystal, David (2012) **English as a Global Language**. (2nd ed.) Cambridge University Press. REQUIRED TEXT
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**Extended
Reading**

The spread of the English language throughout the world is an unprecedented phenomenon in recorded history. No language has ever been used by so many people in so many places. What Zamenhof had hoped for in the creation of the artificial language Esperanto (a world-wide *lingua franca*) is now being realized by a natural language—English. While English may not be spoken as a mother-tongue in many countries of the world (Spanish is spoken in more countries than English), English enjoys the distinction of serving as an official language and being used as a second language in numerous domains in former English colonies. English is also the most studied foreign language world-wide. These three Circles of English—the Inner Circle (native-speaker English), the Outer Circle (English as a Second Language) and the Expanding Circle (English as a Foreign Language)—together secure the language's status as a global *lingua franca* (Kachru, 1985 & 1995). According to Crystal (1997:5), between 1.2 and 1.5 billion people know English; the language's nearest rival, Chinese, is spoken by 1.1 billion. This is the subject of the book ***English as a Global Language* (C)**.

I would suggest you begin reading ***English as a Global Language* (C)** at the latest by mid-term (after the mid-term examination in Week 9). Of course you can begin earlier, but the book should not be referred to in Discussions or questions until after Week 9. It's a second-part-of-the-semester activity (much like a term paper would be). It's a fascinating read, and it will open your eyes to the possible future of English world-wide. Enjoy!

Phonetic Transcription Key Appendix 1 is a key to the phonetic transcriptions used in Holmes. The transcription system used is IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) and the variety used for examples is (for the most part) British English (note that the word *church* has no 'r' in it). Holmes herself is originally from northern England although she has taught in New Zealand for a number of years now.

Communication: This is a web-enhanced course. Some assignments will be exchanged via **Office Hours and Email** eCollege. I will usually contact you with a wrap-up email after each class and at other times throughout the week. **You are expected to check your email at least once a day.**

I check my own practically constantly, so email is the best way to get a hold of me with any question, suggestion, etc. In case the issue you email me about is not private and relevant to all students, I may choose to answer it as if asked anonymously for the benefit of all of you.

I'm on campus most of the time. If you want to meet outside of my office hours posted above, just email me.

Grading policy

You are of course expected to read and complete assigned work according to given deadlines. Therefore, at the beginning of each week make sure you know what tasks are due, plan ahead, and ask any questions you might have.

It is my policy not to accept late work. I will give you what I consider ample time to complete your readings and assignments, so I expect work to be turned in on time. Work that is late will receive zero points. Make it a habit, however, to turn in your work well ahead of the deadline so as to have time to recover from any technical problems by the deadline. If you have any questions about this policy, please contact me.

Here is a preliminary breakdown of the components of grades:

points

100	Mid-Term Examination
100	Final Examination
25	Journal (1)
75	Participation
20	Quizzes (2)
320	Total

grade points

A	288 and above
B	256-287
C	224-255
D	192-223
F	191 and below

Access and

Navigation Pearson LearningStudio (eCollege) Access and Log in Information

This face-to-face course will be enhanced using Pearson LearningStudio, the learning management system used by Texas A&M University-Commerce. To get started with the course, go to [myLeo](http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx). <http://www.tamuc.edu/myleo.aspx>

You will need your CWID and password to log in to the course. If you do not know your CWID or have forgotten your password, contact Technology Services at 903.468.6000 or helpdesk@tamuc.edu.

It is strongly recommended you perform a "Browser Test" prior to the start of your course. To launch a browser test, login to Pearson LearningStudio, click on the "My Courses" tab, and then select the "Browser Test" link under Support Services.

Pearson LearningStudio Student Technical Support

Texas A&M University-Commerce provides students technical support in the use of Pearson LearningStudio.

Technical assistance is available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week.

If you experience LearningStudio (eCollege) technical problems, contact the LearningStudio helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511 (toll free) or visit [Pearson 24/7 Customer Support Site](http://247support.custhelp.com/) <http://247support.custhelp.com/>

The student help desk may be reached by the following means 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

- **Chat Support:** Click on '*Live Support*' on the tool bar within your course to chat with a Pearson LearningStudio Representative.
- **Phone:** 1-866-656-5511 (Toll Free) to speak with Pearson LearningStudio Technical Support Representative.

Accessing Help from within Your Course: Click on the '*Tech Support*' icon on the upper left side of the screen inside the course. You then will be able to get assistance via online chat, email or by phone.

Note: Personal computer problems do not excuse the requirement to complete all course work in a timely and satisfactory manner. Each student needs to have a backup method to deal with these inevitable problems. These methods might include the availability of a backup PC at home or work, the temporary use of a computer at a friend's home, the local library, office service companies, an Internet cafe, or a bookstore, such as Barnes & Noble, etc.

Policy for Reporting Problems with Pearson LearningStudio

Should students encounter Pearson LearningStudio based problems while submitting assignments/discussions/comments/exams, the following procedure **MUST** be followed:

1. Students must report the problem to the help desk. You may reach the helpdesk at 1-866-656-5511.
2. Students **MUST** file their problem with the helpdesk and obtain a helpdesk ticket number.
3. Once a helpdesk ticket number is in your possession, students should email me to advise me of the problem and to provide me with the helpdesk ticket number.
4. At that time, I will call the helpdesk to confirm your problem and follow up with you.

PLEASE NOTE: Your personal computer/access problems are not a legitimate excuse for filing a ticket with the Pearson LearningStudio Help Desk. You are strongly encouraged to check for compatibility of your browser **BEFORE** the course begins and to take the Pearson LearningStudio tutorial offered for students who may require some extra assistance in navigating the Pearson LearningStudio platform. **ONLY** Pearson LearningStudio based problems are legitimate.

myLeo Support

Your myLeo email address is required to send and receive all student correspondence. Please email helpdesk@tamuc.edu or call us at 903-468-6000 with any questions about setting up your myLeo email account. You may also access information at [myLeo](https://leo.tamuc.edu). <https://leo.tamuc.edu>

Learner Support

Go to the following link [One Stop Shop](http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/)- created to serve you by attempting to provide as many resources as possible in one location. <http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/onestopshop/>

Go to the following link [Academic Success Center](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/)- focused on providing academic resources to help you achieve academic success.
<http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/academicSuccessCenter/>

Course- and

University- By staying in the class after reading this syllabus, you are obligated
Specific contractually to meet class requirements and follow *all* course, department,
Procedures and university policies.

Syllabus Change Policy

The syllabus is a guide. Circumstances and events, such as student progress, may make it necessary for the instructor to modify the syllabus during the semester. Any changes made to the syllabus will be announced in advance.

University Specific Procedures

Academic Dishonesty

The text below is copied from the university procedure: 13.99.99.R0.03

Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Definitions

Academic dishonesty includes the commission of any of the following acts.

This listing is not, however, exclusive of any other acts that may reasonably be called academic dishonesty.

Clarification is provided for each definition by listing some prohibited behaviors

ABUSE AND MISUSE OF ACCESS AND UNAUTHORIZED ACCESS: Students may not abuse or misuse computer access or gain unauthorized access to information in any academic exercise.

CHEATING: Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized materials, information, notes, study aids or other devices or materials in any academic exercise. Unauthorized materials may include anything or anyone that gives a student assistance, and has not been specifically approved in advance by the instructor.

COMPLICITY: Intentionally or knowingly helping, or attempting to help, another to commit an act of academic dishonesty.

FABRICATION: Making up data or results, and recording or reporting them; submitting fabricated documents.

FALSIFICATION: Manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately

represented in the research record.

FORGERY: Making a fictitious document, or altering an existing document, with the intent to deceive or gain advantage.

MULTIPLE SUBMISSIONS: Submitting substantial portions of the same work (including oral reports) for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor of the class for which the student submits the work.

PLAGIARISM: The appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit. [See the Department of Literature and Languages Plagiarism Statement for further details and information on the requirements for MLA attribution which apply in this course and the Course Policy on Plagiarism.]

SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING GROUP PROJECTS: If someone in a group commits academic misconduct, the entire group could be held responsible for it as well. It is important to document clearly who contributes what parts to the joint project, to know what group members are doing, and how they are acquiring the material they provide.

UNIVERSITY RULES ON RESEARCH: Students involved in conducting research and/or scholarly activities at Texas A&M University-Commerce must also adhere to standards set forth in 15.99.03.R1 Ethics in Research and Scholarship.

VIOLATION OF DEPARTMENTAL OR COLLEGE RULES: Students may not violate any departmental or college rule relating to academic matters.

Academic Dishonesty Reporting Procedure

Procedure 13.99.99.R0.03 Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty

The faculty member will submit a copy of the Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form to the Provost with copies sent to the student, student's major Department Head/Director, the Academic Dean/Director of School, and the Provost's office as soon as is practicable, preferably within ten (10) university business days of discovery of the alleged incident.

If the Provost determines this alleged incident is a first offense, the faculty member will be notified. If student accepts responsibility for charge, and accepts/agrees with penalty (as determined by faculty member which may be a grade reduction for course, a zero for the assignment, requirement for extra requirements or training, or a combination of the above), then that concludes the disciplinary action.

The faculty member must send the records of the penalty by submitting the Faculty/Staff Adjudication of First Offense of Undergraduate Student Academic Dishonesty Form to the Provost Office, Academic Dean/Director of School, and Department Head/Director as soon as practicable, preferably within five (5) days of the agreement.

A student may appeal the charge or the penalty by writing to the Department Head/Director, and then to the Academic Dean/Director of School. The decision

of the Academic Dean/Director of School regarding the student's appeal of a first offense is final. The Academic Dean/Director of School must include the decision on the Student's Appeal of First Offense of Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty Form, submit the form and a copy of the records of the appeal for the first offense to the Provost Office as soon as practicable, preferably within five (5) university business days of the appeal decision.

If the Provost Office determines that the student has a previous finding of academic dishonesty on file, the disciplinary process will immediately be transferred to the jurisdiction of the Academic Dean/Director of School. (See section 2.8). A second offense may result in separation (suspension or expulsion) from the University. The Academic Dean/Director of School adjudicates all such cases via the hearing process in section 3 and may impose less severe sanctions if the circumstances warrant.

Drop Policy: The university drop procedure allows for an online process.

Students who are eligible may drop their classes through their myLeo with a "Q" drop grade without Instructor approval.

This procedure does not apply to students with advising holds (Athletes, International Students, Honor Students, University College students etc.). If you have an advising hold, you will have to complete a Drop/Add form and get approvals manually and turn the form in to the Registrar's Office for processing.

NOTE: The process of dropping is manually done at the Registrar's office and is not automatically posted when you submit the form through myLeo.

The Drop/Add form is located online at: [TAMUC Drop Form](#)

The deadline to drop with a "Q" drop grade can be found on the Academic Calendar at: [TAMUC Academic Calendar](#)

The drop process steps are:

- Go to myLeo
- Go to Registration, Records & Grades
- Registration
- Register/Add or Drop Classes
- Select a Term
- Under "Action", click on Course Drop
- Click on "Submit Changes" at bottom form
- These forms must be turned in to the Registrar's Office for processing.

If you only are enrolled in one class or need to drop all your classes, you will not be able to drop through the online procedure. The Withdrawal Form is available at: [TAMUC Withdrawal Form](#)

These forms must be turned in to the Registrar's Office for processing.

Incomplete Grades: The Incomplete grade is reserved for those students who have been active in class and have maintained a passing grade until nearly the

end of the course. If circumstances in the last two weeks of the semester (following the final course drop deadline) make it impossible for a student to hand in the last assignments(s), then the Incomplete can be granted. The student must request the incomplete grade and supply documentation concerning the circumstances that have made it impossible for course work to be completed.

Students who have failed to turn in assignments in earlier weeks are *not* eligible for an Incomplete and will not be granted one. Anyone who is unable to complete the work in the semester they are enrolled will not be able to do it alone in the following term.

If the missing work is not handed in by the end of the following year, the grade automatically goes to an F in accordance with university policy. There is no appeal for that grade change.

Plagiarism

Department of Literature and Languages Policy: Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and learners are expected to do likewise. Penalties for learners guilty of plagiarism can include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1, 2, 3])

The Department of Literature and Languages defines plagiarism as occurring when a writer deliberately uses someone else's language, ideas, or other original (not common-knowledge) material without acknowledging its source both in the text of the essay or paper and in a Works Cited page.

Course Policy: Students must acknowledge and document all sources (summarized, paraphrased, or quoted) using the MLA Handbook (7th edition) rules. Students do not have to buy the MLA Handbook: there are copies in the library and in the Hall of Languages Writing Center as well as multiple online sites that give information on MLA guidelines.

Purdue OWL MLA resource: <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/747/01/>

This acknowledgement must be in textual attribution, that is, in the text of the sentences and not just in parentheses at the end of paragraphs and in Works Cited pages. Textual documentation requires clear identification of the source (including author's name and title) within your text, as part of the beginning sentences for summaries and paraphrases. In addition, page or paragraph numbers (for online sources) must be given for direct quotes.

Plagiarism is not excused by saying "I did not mean to do it!" Unintentional plagiarism is still plagiarism. If you are summarizing/paraphrasing information from the source and fail to incorporate textual attribution, it still can be a case of plagiarism.

Using quoted material without parenthetical attribution and correct Works Cited

entries is academic dishonesty verging on plagiarism.

The first instance of plagiarism on a draft will result in a 0 for that assignment. The second instance of intentional or unintentional plagiarism will result in the faculty member filing the form required by the Academic Dishonesty Reporting Procedure which is described above.

Online resources on plagiarism:

[Plagiarism: What it is and How to Recognize and Avoid it](#)

Student Conduct

All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment. (See current Student Guidebook).

Students should also consult the Rules of Netiquette for more information regarding how to interact with students in an online forum: [Netiquette](#)

Student Grievances [Department of Literature and Languages]

Students who have concerns regarding their courses should first address those concerns with the assigned instructor in order to reach a resolution.

Students who are unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation or have not been able to meet individually with their instructor, whether in-person, by email, by telephone, or by another communication medium, should then schedule an appointment with the Department Head or Assistant Department Head by completing a Student Grievance Form (available in the main office, HL 141).

In the event that the instructor is the Department Head, the student should schedule a meeting with the Dean of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Humanities after following the steps outlined above; if the instructor is the Assistant Department Head, students should schedule a meeting with the Department Head. Where applicable, students should also consult University Procedure 13.99.99.R0.05 ("Student Appeal of Instructor Evaluation").

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

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 have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library- Room 132

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
Email: Rebecca.Tuerk@tamuc.edu
Website: [Office of Student Disability Resources and Services](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)
[http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/
/StudentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/](http://www.tamuc.edu/campusLife/campusServices/StudentDisabilityResourcesAndServices/)

Nondiscrimination Notice

Texas A&M University-Commerce will comply in the classroom, and in online courses, with all federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and related retaliation on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability, age, genetic information or veteran status. Further, an environment free from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be maintained.
