



ENG 358.001E (20181): Language & Society

COURSE SYLLABUS: Spring 2018

David Tabolt Hall 203

MW 2:00 – 3:15 p.m.

Instructor: Shigehito Menjo

Office Location: David Tabolt Hall Room 106

Office Hours: Monday and Wednesday 12:00- 1:30 or by appointment

University Email Address: Shigehito.Menjo@tamuc.edu.

Preferred Form of Communication: email: shigehito.menjo@tamuc.edu

Communication Response Time: within approx. 24 hours – 48 hours during the week

COURSE INFORMATION

Textbook Required

Holmes, J. (2013). An introduction to sociolinguistics. (4th edition). London, U.K., & New York, NY: Routledge.

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 to 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 examine carefully your beliefs about your own language and your attitudes toward the language varieties that you and others 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.

Student Learning Outcomes

A student who completes ENG 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 to respect all varieties of languages and to put this respect in the language-teaching classroom.

Syllabus/schedule subject to change

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

Attendance (10%) and Participation (10%): The class lectures will focus on discussions of readings you have completed for that week; your responses and ideas will be central to the class. You are expected to come to class fully prepared, with completion of the reading and writing assignments and get ready to share your ideas with the class.

Review sheets (20%): A chapter review sheet will be provided to you on Wednesday of each week. The purpose of this review sheet is to get you prepared for the quizzes and final exam. **You are required to turn in the completed review sheet on the Monday of the following week during class time. (No email submissions are allowed!)** Graded review sheets will be returned to you to prepare for the quizzes and final exam.

Assignments (10%): There will be one online discussion assignment each instructional week. The instructor will introduce the discussion topic during Wednesday's class time. You are required to post your responses to the discussion area by **11:59pm, Sunday** of each instructional week. You are also required to comment on two of your classmates' responses for each week's topic.

Quizzes and final exam (50%): There will be two quizzes and a final exam, all held during regular class times in our classroom. The first quiz (10%) will be in Week 6, and the second one (10%) in Week 11. The final exam (30%) will be in the final week and cover all the content we have discussed throughout the semester. (See course outline for detailed schedules.) Question forms include multiple choices, true/false, filling-in-blanks, short answers, and essay questions. The best way to get prepared is by attending the weekly lectures and studying the review sheets.

Grading Scale

A: 90-100% B: 80-89% C: 70-79% D: 60-69% F: 59%-Below

Note: An 'A' grade reflects work that is clearly superior and exceeds the minimum criteria in all dimensions. A 'B' grade means a good, solid performance which fulfills the requirements for a particular assignment.

COMMUNICATION AND SUPPORT

Course materials posted on eCollege

After each instructional day, I will post my course materials, including handouts, lecture notes, assignments, and supplementary materials on eCollege. You are responsible of checking your eCollege shell for this information to prepare for assignments, quizzes, and final exam.

Interaction with Instructor Statement

First of all, read the syllabus before sending email. If answers to your questions are stated in the syllabus, don't expect my reply.

Your instructor's communication preference is e-mail, and his address is: shigehito.menjo@tamuc.edu. I will endeavor to reply within 24 hours on weekdays (Mon – Fri). However, please remember that I am a person and circumstances may keep me away from my email for extended periods of time, so be patient.

When emailing me, you **MUST** follow the genre conventions of a formal letter. They must include a subject title, a greeting (“Hi, Mr. Menjo,” for example), specific details and explanation in the body of your email, and a closing (“Thank you, *Your Name*” for example). Emails must be properly proofread and be relatively free of grammar and spelling errors. I have received too many emails that are nearly incomprehensible because the sender has not taken the time to proofread. Sending your emails from your cell phone is not an excuse for poor formatting and spelling/grammar.

Each time you send me a new email about a new topic, please compose a new email; do not reply to some old email threads unless we discuss the same issue. It can be very confusing and makes it difficult to reply to your emails. Create a new email with a new subject line such as “Question About Paper,” or “Missing Class on Friday.”

Finally, in a case when you submit your assignments through email, do not just send me a blank email with files attached. Follow the genre conventions of a letter. Failed to follow these guidelines, your email will be deleted and not replied.

COURSE AND UNIVERSITY PROCEDURES/POLICIES

Attendance, Submission, late work, and make-up work policies:

- **Attendance:** You are expected to attend every class and come to class on time. However, I understand that life happens to all of us; we all get sick, may have car troubles, family emergencies, etc. Thus, you are given 6 absences for no penalties. Use those free passes wisely. More than 7 absences will result in the loss of 10 points (a full letter grade) from your final grade.

Email the instructor in advance when you know that you will not be in class. Although your absence may still be counted, your participation, attitude in class, professional and business manner will be taken into consideration.

Three tardiness can be penalized as an absence, and the decision is entirely at the instructor’s discretion.

The university has no policy for “excused absences” except for university sanctioned events. If you have to miss a class due to illness or university sanctioned events, you are required to bring the written proof from a doctor, or an event organizer(s) to be excused. You also contact me (preferably before class) to obtain assignment information.

- **Submission Policy: Dropbox on eCollege is the main tool** for you to submit any assignment unless the instructor tells the class an alternative way. If you submit your work through email, **you are responsible for keeping track of your submission.**

Your writing assignments **have to be saved as Word files.** If you use some other word processing software such as Pages, LibreOffice, Google Doc, make sure that you save your file in Microsoft Word format. The extension should be .doc or .docx. If you don’t know how to convert your documents to Word format, learn it. Google it. There are a plenty of websites that show how to do it.

DO NOT use the PDF format or any other format. If you submit writing assignments as PDF or any other formats, **10% of your grade on the assignment** will be deducted.

Submit your assignments at latest 15 minutes before the deadline because it may take several minutes for your submission to arrive to Dropbox. Moreover, unexpected technical problems on your computer may happen. Make it a habit to submit 30 minutes before the deadline.

- **Late work:** Assignments and review sheets are due on the dates indicated on the course outline. You are given a 24-hours grace period to submit your work after the deadline. It means that after the deadline, you still have 24 more hours to submit your assignment without penalties. After that period, **10 points (a full letter grade) will be deducted from your grade for each day.** If you submit your work the next day after the grace period, 10 points will be deducted; 20 points will be deducted two days after the grace period.

If there is a crisis that prevents you from meeting a deadline, you can request an extension to turn the work in late without a penalty. The approval of an extension is entirely at the instructor's discretion and will depend on the reason for your absence, your record of completion of work, and attendance. All extensions must be confirmed by email 24 hours before the assignment is originally due unless a crisis is emergency.

- **Quizzes and final exam:** they are given on the dates printed on the course outline. Make-up quizzes are extremely rare and will only be given in the case of excused absences or unexpected illnesses documented with doctors' notes. **Final exam is scheduled by the university; in no circumstances can final exam be rescheduled.**

Grievance Procedure:

Students who have concerns about this course or the instructor should speak *first* to the instructor about those concerns. If the student is unsatisfied with the outcome of that conversation, the next person in the chain of command is the Chair of the Department, Dr. Hunter Hayes. Students should contact him via e-mail at Hunter.Hayes@tamuc.edu.

Academic Honesty:

The official departmental policy: "Instructors in the Department of Literature and Languages do not tolerate plagiarism and other forms of academic dishonesty. Instructors uphold and support the highest academic standards, and students are expected to do likewise. Penalties for students guilty of academic dishonesty include disciplinary probation, suspension, and expulsion. (Texas A&M University-Commerce Code of Student Conduct 5.b [1,2,3]) Texas A&M University-Commerce does not tolerate **plagiarism** and other forms of academic **dishonesty**. Conduct that violates generally accepted standards of academic honesty is defined as academic dishonesty. "Academic dishonesty" includes, but is not limited to, plagiarism (the appropriation or stealing of the ideas or words of another and passing them off as one's own), cheating on exams or other course assignments, collusion (the unauthorized collaboration with others in preparing course assignments), and abuse (destruction, defacing, or removal) of resource material.

University Specific Procedures

Student Conduct

Tenets of Common Behavior statement: 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](http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html)
<http://www.albion.com/netiquette/corerules.html>

TAMUC Attendance

For more information about the attendance policy please visit the [Attendance](#) webpage and [Procedure 13.99.99.R0.01](#).

<http://www.tamuc.edu/admissions/registrar/generalInformation/attendance.aspx>

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/academic/13.99.99.R0.01.pdf>

Academic Integrity

Students at Texas A&M University-Commerce are expected to maintain high standards of integrity and honesty in all of their scholastic work. For more details and the definition of academic dishonesty see the following procedures:

[Undergraduate Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.03](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/undergraduates/13.99.99.R0.03UndergraduateAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

[Graduate Student Academic Dishonesty 13.99.99.R0.10](#)

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/13students/graduate/13.99.99.R0.10GraduateStudentAcademicDishonesty.pdf>

ADA Statement

Students with Disabilities

Students with Disabilities information: 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:

Student Disability Resources & Services

Texas A&M University-Commerce Gee Library, Room 162

Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835 Fax (903) 468-8148

StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu

Nondiscrimination Notice

A&M-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.

Campus Concealed Carry Statement

Texas Senate Bill - 11 (Government Code 411.2031, et al.) authorizes the carrying of a concealed handgun in Texas A&M University-Commerce buildings only by persons who have

been issued and are in possession of a Texas License to Carry a Handgun. Qualified law enforcement officers or those who are otherwise authorized to carry a concealed handgun in the State of Texas are also permitted to do so. Pursuant to Penal Code (PC) 46.035 and A&M-Commerce Rule 34.06.02.R1, license holders may not carry a concealed handgun in restricted locations.

For a list of locations, please refer to the [Carrying Concealed Handguns On Campus](#) document and/or consult your event organizer.

Web url:

<http://www.tamuc.edu/aboutUs/policiesProceduresStandardsStatements/rulesProcedures/34SafetyOfEmployeesAndStudents/34.06.02.R1.pdf>

Pursuant to PC 46.035, the open carrying of handguns is prohibited on all A&M-Commerce campuses. Report violations to the University Police Department at 903-886-5868 or 9-1-1.

COURSE OUTLINE

Note: Schedule is flexible and subject to change.

Week 1 (1/17): Introduction

Week 2 (1/22): Holmes Chapter 1

(1/24): Holmes Chapter 2

Week 3 (1/29 & 1/31): Holmes Chapter 3

Week 4 (2/05 & 2/07): Holmes Chapter 4

Week 5 (2/12 & 2/14): Holmes Chapter 5

Week 6 (2/19 & 2/21): **Quiz #1 (Monday, 2/19)**; Holmes Chapter 6

Week 7 (2/26 & 2/28): Holmes Chapter 7

Week 8 (3/05): Holmes Chapter 8

(3/07): Holmes Chapter 9

Week 9 (3/12 & 3/14): Spring Break

Week 10 (3/19 & 3/21): Holmes Chapter 10; Review

Week 11 (3/26 & 3/28): **Quiz #2 (Monday, 3/26)**; Holmes Chapter 11

Week 12 (4/02 & 4/04): Holmes Chapter 12

Week 13 (4/09 & 4/11): Holmes Chapter 13

Week 14 (4/16 & 4/18): Holmes Chapter 14

Week 15 (4/23 & 4/25): Holmes Chapter 15; Holmes Chapter 16

Week 16 (4/30 & 5/02): Final Review

Final exam schedule: TBA