Syllabus and classroom regulations for Introduction to Sociolinguistics: A Macro Perspective (Fall of 2011)

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Office: Room 26630
Class hours and place: 15:10-17:00, Tuesday, & 15:10-16:00, Friday
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Course description

This course introduces the interaction between language and social life in multilingual societies. It is designed for novices --any one interested in languages, literature, sociology, psychology, and behavior science.

Since most societies in the world are composed of multilingual rather than monolingual speakers, we will first look at some important issues in multilingual societies. We focus on how languages develop as the official, national or vernacular language in a multilingual society; how language policy made to accommodate both the needs of cross-ethnic communication and maintenance of minority languages; how do political and economic factors affect speakers’ language choice, such as between Mandarin, Southern Min, Hakka, and English?

Each class meeting is composed of two parts: the teacher’s introducing general concepts in sociolinguistics with examples from various speech communities around the world, and students’ discussion and presentation of how these concepts are applied to the speech community they have observed or participated in.

Text book


Articles related to sociolinguistics will be assigned as homework for oral presentation.

The book is available at 成大書城; TEL-06-2604180; 台南市東區崇善路158號 (忠孝國中斜對面,漢堡王隔壁)

Syllabus

WK1-2  Ch1: What do sociolinguists study?
WK3-4  Ch2: Language choice in multilingual communities
WK4  Course evaluation 期初教學意見反應調查
WK5-7  Ch3: Language maintenance and shift
WK8-10  Ch4: Linguistic varieties and multilingual nations
WK11  Midterm exam
WK12-14  Ch15: Attitudes and application
WK15-16  Ch5: National languages and language planning
WK15  Course evaluation 期末教學意見反應調查
WK17-18  Oral presentation of group homework II

Evaluation

Group homework I  10%; 15 minutes
Group homework II  15%; WK17-18; 15 -20 minutes
Individual homework 10%; observation of language use
Midterm exam 30%; written test; WK11
Overall participation 35%; students’ attendance; ‘before next class’; in-class participation; WK1-WK18

Registration for this course

1. Students who fail to complete their on-line registration for this course are advised to attend this course during WK1 to WK3. The teacher will sign in students with an on-time and full attendance record.
2. This course values greatly on students’ on-time and full attendance (from WK1 to WK18). Students who miss any class meeting, including those register during the third stage, are required to complete their leave request.