ANTH 681: Keywords in Linguistic Anthropology
Professor Jennifer Roth-Gordon
University of Arizona
Spring, 2010

Course Information:
Class Time/Location: Wednesdays 10:00–12:30
Haury 310
My Contact Information: Email: jenrothg@email.arizona.edu
Office: Haury 301
Hours: Tuesdays 10:00-11:00, Thursdays 2:00-4:00
Phone: 626-0696

Course Description:
This advanced graduate seminar will delve into six critical themes (or “keywords”) in linguistic anthropology: culture, community, identity, heteroglossia, power, and ideology. We will be reading from the works of influential social theorists such as Mikhail Bakhtin, Michel Foucault, and Pierre Bourdieu and drawing heavily on recent articles by leading linguistic anthropologists. This class is designed for two main audiences: 1) linguistic anthropology graduate students who want a strong grounding in social theory and 2) cultural anthropology graduate students who would like to acquire familiarity with recent work in linguistic anthropology through a discussion of theoretical points of overlap. To emphasize our shared concerns, we begin with a study of one of the discipline’s most recognizable – and controversial – terms: culture.

Course Requirements:
• Attendance and Participation:
In a graduate-level seminar, it goes without saying that your active and informed participation is expected. As a courtesy, please let me know ahead of time if you will be late or unable to attend a session of class. Also, if, for whatever reason, you find it difficult to participate in class as often as you would like, please make efforts to contribute to the class in alternate ways, such as by contributing more frequently to the online discussion board. All students are asked to take an active role in working towards the success of this class. Auditing will only be permitted in exceptional cases. Frequent absences (3 or more) will negatively impact a student’s grade and may constitute grounds for dismissal from the class.

• Online Discussion:
In order to make the most of our class time together, all students will be required to participate in an online discussion of the readings. Each student is required to submit 10
online posts over the course of the semester, during 10 separate weeks. This means that you can skip 2 weeks of your choosing. Each post should be at least two long paragraphs in length and should contribute a cultural or linguistic example that pertains to the readings for the week. I especially encourage students to make use of the online format of this discussion, providing links to websites and videos we may further analyze during class discussion. Please present the necessary background to contextualize your example, as well as providing the connections you see to the topic for the week. The purpose of this forum is: 1) to stimulate our discussion for the week 2) to allow me to track student progress and 3) to allow you to digest and build on fellow classmate’s insights. This is an especially good forum for students who have trouble speaking up in class and who prefer to more carefully craft their comments. Please allow enough time for thoughtful reflection of the readings! Posts may be submitted no later than Tuesday at 10 pm. All students will need to print the week’s posts, read them, and bring them to class the following day. Online discussion and debate is strongly encouraged!

To access the discussion board: [http://d2l.arizona.edu](http://d2l.arizona.edu)
To get help with the discussion board: [http://help.d2l.arizona.edu/forstudents.html](http://help.d2l.arizona.edu/forstudents.html)

**Mid-term Paper:**

For your first paper, you will explore one of the keywords we have covered in a short paper of 8-10 pages. Outside reading is not required, as I am most interested in your thoughtful synthesis of the readings at hand. Working through data you have from ongoing or past research is always welcome and generally most productive for students, though you are also able to take examples from popular culture, the internet, the media, etc. (this includes developing the analysis of one of your weekly examples). A sample paper will be circulated in advance of the deadline. Please note that you are expected to cite generously from class readings and feel free to consult with me before the paper deadline. This paper is due on Friday, March 5th by noon.

**Final Paper(s):**

For your final paper, you have the option of focusing on one or more of the remaining keywords in a long paper (15-20 pages) or completing two additional short papers, each on different keywords (8-10 pages). Based on mid-term papers, some students may be encouraged to take the three-paper option. Should you choose one final paper, an abstract of your proposed topic is due April 2nd by noon. This final paper is due on May 5th by noon. Shorter papers will likewise be due on April 2nd by noon and May 5th by noon. All students are advised to meet with me at least once during the semester to discuss your progress in the class.
Grading:

Attendance, Participation, Online Posts: 25%
Mid-term Paper: 25%
Final Paper: 50%
(or two short papers, 25% each)

Course Readings:

All readings will be made available on the d2l class website. If you have trouble accessing the site for any reason, please email me. Readings are subject to change; please check the d2l site.

Class Schedule:

Week One: Introductions
January 13

Week Two: The Debate over Culture
January 20


Week Three: Globalization and Culture
January 27


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<th>Community</th>
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<td><strong>Week Four: Investigating Community Through Time and Space</strong></td>
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<td><strong>February 3</strong></td>
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| **Week Five: Subculture, Style, and Communities of Practice** |
| **February 10** |


*Week Eight: Culture, Community, and Identity – Connections*

*March 3*

→ *Paper #1 due Friday by noon.*

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**Heteroglossia**

*Week Nine: The Dialogic Imagination*

*March 10*


*Spring Break: No class*

*March 17*

*Week Ten: Heteroglossia and Intertextuality*

*March 24*


**Power**

*Week Eleven: Language and Symbolic Power*

**March 31**


→ **Paper #2, or abstract for the final paper, due by Friday at noon.**

*Week Twelve: Power, Discourse, and Resistance*

**April 7**


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**Week Thirteen: Ideology**

**April 14**


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**Week Fourteen: Language Ideologies**

**April 21**


Week Fifteen: Concluding Thoughts  
April 28

Week Sixteen: No class  
May 5

⇒ Final papers due by noon