

**INGL 6496 Sociolinguistics**

**Semester: March to May 2018**

**Professor and Timetable:**

**Professor:** Dr. Nicholas Faraclas

**Office:** Pedreira 4

**Office Hours:** Friday from 12-1:00pm and 6:20-7:30pm and Saturday from 12:20 to 1pm, from 4:20 to 6:30pm, and by appointment

**Telephone:** 787-764-0000 ext. (1) 89611 #

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**Timetable:** Section 6496-3U1: Saturday 1:00 – 4:20pm **Classroom:** to be determined

**Title, Course Number and Credit Hours:**

INGL 6496 Sociolinguistics (45 Hours/3 Credits)

**Prerequisites, Corequisites, and Other Requirements:** None.

**Course Description:**

One of the most dynamic areas of contemporary linguistic study and research, Sociolinguistics focuses on the use of language in society. Because so many of the most talented minds in Linguistics have been actively engaged in this field of study, the number of theoretical, methodological, and practical approaches to Sociolinguistics has multiplied over the past few decades. This course is designed to explore most of the major current developments in Sociolinguistics, in order to equip students with the overview that they need to do meaningful work on language and society.

**Course Objectives:** By the end of the course, the students will be able:

- 1) To understand, manipulate, and critically question the basic concepts and categories used by sociolinguists in their work.
- 2) To identify and describe the different processes involved in relating language to society.
- 3) To conduct theoretical and descriptive research on a wide variety of aspects of sociolinguistics.
- 4) To explain and question the principal theoretical assumptions made by sociolinguists.
- 5) To participate in academic discourse in the field of sociolinguistics (read academic publications, take part in debates, conferences, etc.)
- 6) To contribute in an effective way to the integration of fellow students with special challenges and needs into the learning environment.
- 7) To participate in team work designed to make necessary adjustments for the inclusion of students with special challenges and needs.

**Outline of the Course (Course content and calendar):**

Readings (textbook): MM=Miriam Meyerhoff. 2006. *Introducing Sociolinguistics*. London: Routledge.

Weeks 1 & 2: Introduction and Variation, Language, and Style. Readings: MM 1-53

Week 3: Language Attitudes. Readings: MM 54-80

Week 4: Politeness and Face. Readings: MM 81-101  
 Week 5: Multilingualism and Language Choice. Readings: MM 102-126  
 Week 6: Real Time and Apparent Time. Readings: MM 127-154  
 Week 7: Social Class. Readings: MM 155-183  
 Week 8: Social Networks and Communities of Practice. Readings: MM 184-200  
 Week 9: Gender. Readings: MM 201-237  
 Week 10: Language Contact. Readings: MM 238-264  
 Week 11: Looking Back and Looking Ahead. Readings: MM 265-270  
 Week 12: Projects and Presentations.

TOTAL 12 weeks: 45 hours/3 credits

**Teaching Strategies:** As much as possible a participatory, student centered pedagogy will be used in this class, with students actively engaged in learning processes whereby they can use their existing knowledge to shed light on areas of understanding about language which they may not have previously explored, through the use of such methods as discussion, Socratic questioning, group work, fieldwork, active research, lectures, textual analysis, critical analysis of audio visual materials, etc.

**Resources and Equipment Rerquired:**

- 1) Richardson Seminar Room (English Department) for student research
- 2) Ferri Screening Room (English Department) for video presentations
- 3) English Department Laboratory for student access to computers and the internet.

**Methods of Evaluation:** Evaluation procedures will be determined in consultation with students and adjusted for students with special needs.

	Class participation	20%	
3	Partial Examinations	40%	
1	Research Project	40%	
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>100%</b>

**Grading System:** A=90-100%; B=80-89%; C=70-79%; D=60-69%; F=0-59%

**Reasonable Accomodation:**

Students with access to Vocational Rehabilitation Services should contact the professor at the beginning of the semester in order to plan any special arrangements and equipment necessary in accordance with the recommendations of the Office of Challenged Students' Affairs (OAPI) in the office of the Dean of Students. In addition, any students with special needs or who require any type of assistance or special arrangements should contact the professor.

**Academic Integrity**

The University of Puerto Rico promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Article 6.2 of the UPR Students General Bylaws (Board of Trustees Certification 13, 2009-2010) states that academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: fraudulent actions; obtaining grades or academic degrees by false or fraudulent simulations; copying the whole or

part of the academic work of another person; plagiarizing totally or partially the work of another person; copying all or part of another person's answers to the questions of an oral or written exam; taking or getting someone else to take the exam on his/her behalf; as well as enabling and facilitating another person to perform the aforementioned behavior. Any of these behaviors will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the disciplinary procedure laid down in the UPR Students General Bylaws.

### **Bibliography:**

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Fuentes del Internet:

<http://www.utexas.edu/courses/linguistics/resources/socioling/>

<http://www.voices.com/articles/languages-accent-and-dialects/sociolinguistics.html>

<http://www.pbs.org/speak/speech/sociolinguistics/labov/>

[http://www.expocentral.com/directory/Science/Social\\_Sciences/Linguistics/Sociolinguistics/more2.html](http://www.expocentral.com/directory/Science/Social_Sciences/Linguistics/Sociolinguistics/more2.html)

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