

Department of Anthropology

ANTH 4413A-001/9231A - Language and Ethnography

PROVISIONAL COURSE OUTLINE

Fall 2023-24

Version date: August 23, 2023

Instructor and course information:

Class day/time: Wednesday 9:30 am – 12:30 pm

Classroom: SSC 3227

Instructor: Dr. Tania Granadillo (she/they)

Office: SSC 3408

Office hours: To be announced on the course OWL site.

Email: tgranadi@uwo.ca

Credit Value: 0.5

Note: This course is cross-listed with graduate and undergraduate students.

Requisites:

Antirequisites: None

Prerequisites: For 4413, Enrolment in fourth year and by application available on the Anthropology Department website.

Course Description:

Ethnography and ethnographic writing is the cornerstone of anthropological methods. In this course, we will read a variety of ethnographies in order to better understand how language is employed in ethnographic research and writing. The goal will be three-fold: 1) to see how language is used effectively to present ethnographic findings; 2) to see the role of language-based data (such as interviews, surveys, etc) in ethnographic writings; 3) to see how research about language is presented in ethnographies.

Learning Outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

- Read, summarize, and critically evaluate language-related literature from academic and popular sources about ethnography
- Locate and synthesize research findings in anthropology with the purpose of formulating and effectively communicating well-supported arguments about ethnography and language
- Appreciate the history, key arguments and applications of different theoretical approaches used in ethnographic writing.
- Identify, evaluate and employ, in an ethical manner, appropriate methods for conducting ethnographic research and writing about it.

Course Materials:

Ahmed, Sara. *Complaint!* Durham: Duke University Press, 2021.

Bourgois, Philippe I. *In Search of Respect : Selling Crack in El Barrio*. Second edition., Cambridge University Press, 2003. (available to download from library site)

Davis, Jenny. *Talking Indian: Identity and Language Revitalization in the Chickasaw Renaissance*. Tucson: The University of Arizona Press, 2018. (available to download from library site)

De Leon, Jason. *The Land of Open Graves: Living and Dying on the Migrant Trail*. Berkeley, UNITED STATES: University of California Press, 2015. (available to download from library site)

1 more ethnography to be decided collectively depending on interests.

A small number of additional readings will be accessed through OWL's Course Readings feature. These readings are listed in the weekly schedule.

Evaluation:

Ethnography reports (4/5, 17.5% each)	70%
Discussion leader	20%
Book review	10%

Ethnography reports – 70%

Ethnography reports will be due one week after the ethnography discussion has been finished. The last one will be due during exam period, one week after the last day of class for undergraduate students. These reports are meant to summarize the most important points to the student as guided by the ethnography critical reading document. You do not need to include everything but those points that you think are most important to you. They should be around 500-750 words for undergraduates, 750-1000 words for graduate students. Top 4/5 will count, students may decide not to turn one in.

All required papers will be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between The University of Western Ontario and [Turnitin.com](https://www.turnitin.com).

Book review 10%

Each student will write a book review of either one of the ethnographies read or a different one. These will follow the guidelines and formatting provided in assignments. This will be due during the exam period, one week after the last day of class for undergraduate students.

Late Policy for Assignments

There will be a 2% reduction of the assignment grade for each day that an assignment is late (including weekends and holidays). Unless accommodation is granted, assignments that are not

handed in within 10 days of the due date (including weekends and holidays) may receive a grade of zero.

Academic Statements and Policies:

Academic Integrity - Statement on Plagiarism:

Students must write their assignments in their own words. Whenever students take an idea from another author, they must acknowledge their debt both by using quotation marks where appropriate and by proper referencing. It is also a scholastic offence to submit the same work for credit in more than one course. Plagiarism is a major scholastic offence.

Course Specific Conditions Required to Pass this Course:

None.

Use of OWL

Western's online course management program, will be used for providing the final course outline and weekly schedule (using the Syllabus page), providing, submitting and returning assignments (using the Assignments page) and communications with the class (using the Announcements and Messages tools). All grades will be posted in the OWL Gradebook.

Accommodation Policies:

No accommodations will be granted retroactively more than 10 days after an assignment's due date. Please see your academic counsellor immediately if you will be seeking accommodations based on medical or compassionate grounds.

All missed work must be made up by the end of the exam period in the applicable term.

Students with disabilities work with Accessible Education (formerly SSD) which provides recommendations for accommodation based on medical documentation or psychological and cognitive testing. The accommodation policy can be found here: [Academic Accommodation for Students with Disabilities](#).

Academic Rights and Responsibilities

All students should familiarize themselves with Western's current [Academic Policies in the Academic Calendar](#) which include, but is not limited to, academic consideration for medical illness, accommodation for religious holidays, academic appeals, academic accommodation for students with disabilities, as well as scholastic discipline.