



**Department of Anthropology**  
**ANTHRO 2252B-200: Languages in Canada**  
**BRIEF COURSE OUTLINE**  
**Winter 2027**

*Date: June 17, 2026*

**Instructor and course information:**

Instructor: Dr. Pennesi

Method of delivery: blended (2 hours in person, one hour asynchronous)

Credit value: 0.5

Antirequisites: Anthropology 2152A/B.

Prerequisites: None.

Please ensure you have the correct requisites by checking [the Academic Calendar](#).

**Course Description:**

Language has long been one of the defining issues of Canada. This course examines language issues in Canada from an anthropological point of view, addressing two central questions: What can we learn about Canada by studying language? And what can we learn about language by studying Canada? Through a variety of discussions and activities, students will gain a deeper understanding of how language has always played a central role in constructing national, group and individual identities in Canada, especially through legislation and education. Students will explore linguistic variation in Canada and the relations between Indigenous languages, the two official languages (French and English), and heritage languages. We will consider conceptions of language as a resource, a right, a problem, a commodified skill, a component of identity, and an art form.

A full course schedule including a week-by-week breakdown of topics and assigned readings will be available on the course’s OWL Brightspace site before the first day of class.

**Course Materials:**

No textbook. Required readings will be available through the Course Readings tool on the course site.

**Evaluation:**

Grades will be based on the following:

Weekly	Participation (in class and online)	10%
Weekly	Quizzes	15%
Feb.	Linguistic Landscape Assignment	25%
March	Language Biography	20%
April	Current Events Podcast	30%

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