

MURRAY STATE UNIVERSITY

Revised 9/15

DEPARTMENT: English and Philosophy

COURSE PREFIX: ENG

COURSE NUMBER: 362

CREDIT HOURS: 3

I. TITLE: Ethnolinguistics in the US

II. COURSE DESCRIPTION: From an ethnolinguistic perspective, this course provides an introduction to the study of varieties of English across the United States. Students will examine the history of linguistic diversity in the United States, along with perspectives on language and identity and current issues in language policies in the US. Prerequisites: ENG 105 or ENG 150.

III. COURSE OBJECTIVES: Class activities will be centered on the attainment of the course objectives listed below. These objectives are understood to be reflective of, but not limited to those behaviors advocated by the Kentucky Education Reform Act guidelines. Following each objective, and enclosed in parentheses, are numbers which reference the Kentucky Teacher Standards for Preparation and Certification (KTS) addressed by that objective. Students who have completed the course should be able to

- A. identify characteristics of major speech communities in the US such as African American, immigrant, and refugee communities; (KTS #1, 4, 8)
- B. use linguistic methods to assess varieties of speech in English; (KTS #3, 4, 5)
- C. characterize and analyze important issues that affect language policy in the US; (KTS #1, 3) and
- D. understand the history of language development in the US. (KTS #1)

The EPSB Themes of Diversity, Assessment, and Literacy/Reading will also be explored in the course through classroom discussion and classroom projects.

IV. CONTENT OUTLINE: The interaction of language and culture will be examined through several foci: a historical overview of language diversity and policy in the United States, examination of the ethnolinguistics of specific language and ethnic groups in the US (including texts, contexts and issues in education and the culture at large), and a close analysis of current issues in language use and policy from an ethnolinguistic perspective.

V. INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES: Instruction for the course will include lecture, discussion, Blackboard posts, and student presentations.

VI. FIELD, CLINICAL AND/OR LABORATORY EXPERIENCES: None.

VII. TEXTS AND RESOURCES: Students will have access to University resources, including electronic course materials and library resources.

Texts may include

Farr, M., Seloni, L., & Song, J. (Eds.) (2009). *Ethnolinguistic diversity and education: Language, literacy and culture*. New York: Routledge.

Winterowd, W.R. (1991). *The Culture and Politics of Literacy*. New York: Oxford University Press.

VIII. GRADING PROCEDURES: Students will be graded on their understanding of the material they have read and on their ability to communicate, in an intellectually rigorous and imaginative way, what they have learned through activities such as course assignments, discussions, and projects. Grades will be assigned according to the standard scale (90-100% = A; 80-89% = B; 70-79% = C; 60-69% = D; <60% = E).

IX. ATTENDANCE POLICY: Students are expected to adhere to the MSU Attendance Policy outlined in the current MSU Bulletins.

X. ACADEMIC HONESTY POLICY:

Murray State University takes seriously its moral and educational obligation to maintain high standards of academic honesty and ethical behavior. Instructors are expected to evaluate students' academic achievements accurately, as well as ascertain that work submitted by students is authentic and the result of their own efforts, and consistent with established academic standards. Students are obligated to respect and abide by the basic standards of personal and professional integrity.

Violations of Academic Honesty include:

Cheating - Intentionally using or attempting to use unauthorized information such as books, notes, study aids, or other electronic, online, or digital devices in any academic exercise; as well as unauthorized communication of information by any means to or from others during any academic exercise.

Fabrication and Falsification - Intentional alteration or invention of any information or citation in an academic exercise. Falsification involves changing information whereas fabrication involves inventing or counterfeiting information.

Multiple Submission - The submission of substantial portions of the same academic work, including oral reports, for credit more than once without authorization from the instructor.

Plagiarism - Intentionally or knowingly representing the words, ideas, creative work, or data of someone else as one's own in any academic exercise, without due and proper acknowledgement.

Instructors should outline their expectations that may go beyond the scope of this policy at the beginning of each course and identify such expectations and restrictions in the course syllabus. When an instructor receives evidence, either directly or indirectly, of academic dishonesty, he or she should investigate the instance. The faculty member should then take appropriate disciplinary action.

Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to the following:

- 1) Requiring the student(s) to repeat the exercise or do additional related exercise(s).
- 2) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) on the particular exercise(s) involved.
- 3) Lowering the grade or failing the student(s) in the course.

If the disciplinary action results in the awarding of a grade of E in the course, the student(s) may not drop the course.

Faculty reserve the right to invalidate any exercise or other evaluative measures if substantial evidence exists that the integrity of the exercise has been compromised. Faculty also reserve the right to document in the course syllabi further academic honesty policy elements related to the individual disciplines.

A student may appeal the decision of the faculty member with the department chair in writing within five working days. Note: If, at any point in this process, the student alleges that actions have taken place that may be in violation of the Murray State University Non-Discrimination Statement, this process must be suspended and the matter be directed to the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access. Any appeal will be forwarded to the appropriate university committee as determined by the Provost

XII. NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES:

Policy Statement

Murray State University endorses the intent of all federal and state laws created to prohibit discrimination. Murray State University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, veteran status, or disability in employment, admissions, or the provision of services and provides, upon request, reasonable accommodation including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford individuals with disabilities equal access to participate in all programs and activities. For more information, contact the Executive Director of Institutional Diversity, Equity and Access, 103 Wells Hall, (270) 809-3155 (voice), (270) 809-3361 (TDD).

Students with Disabilities

Students requiring special assistance due to a disability should visit the Office of Student Disability Services immediately for assistance with accommodations. For more information, students should contact the Office of Student Disability Services, 423 Wells Hall, Murray, KY 42071. 270-809-2018 (voice) 270-809-5889(TDD).