ENGL 4850 - Sociolinguistics

Fall 2026 Syllabus, Section 01, CRN 42601,

Credit hours: 3

Instructor

Cynthia Vigliotti

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Public Instructor Information

Instructor Title: Senior Lecturer
Instructor Professional Qualifications: B.A. English (1998); B.A. Religious Studies (1998); M.A. English (2001); TESOL Certification (2001); Ed.D. (Exp. 2027).
Instructor Office Location: DEBH
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Course Description

4850. Sociolinguistics. An investigation of the relationship between language and society. Includes discussion of dialects and standard language, language planning, linguistic identity, multi- and bilingualism, class, gender, ethnicity, and social interaction. Listed also as FNLG 4850. Prereq.: ENGL 2651 or ENGL 3755. 3 s.h.

Course Readings

Group	Title	Author	ISBN
Required	What Is Sociolinguistics? 2nd ed.	Van Herk, G.	9781118960745

Van Herk, G. (2017). What Is Sociolinguistics? Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 9781118960745

The course readings are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, research developments, current events, and/or to ensure better learning.

Schedule of Topics and Assignments

Week of	Reading(s)	Proposed Topic	Due/To Prepare for Class
8/24	Van Herk, Ch. 1	Introduction to the field	Food for Thought (FFT) 1 Module Quiz (Q) 1
8/31	Van Herk, Ch. 2	Language & Society	Q2
9/7	Van Herk, Ch. 3	Place	FFT 2 Q3
9/14	Van Herk, Ch. 4	Social Status	Q4
9/21	Van Herk, Ch. 5	Time	FFT 3 Q5
9/28	Van Herk, Ch. 6	Ethnicity	Q6
10/5	Van Herk, Ch. 7	Gender	FFT 4 Q7
10/12	Van Herk, Ch. 8	Style	Topics in Field Review 10/18
10/19	Van Herk, Ch. 9	Interaction	FFT 5 Q8
10/26	Van Herk, Ch. 10	Multilingualism	FFT 6
11/2	Van Herk, Ch. 14	Education	Q9
11/9	Van Herk, Ch. 12	Attitudes & Ideologies	Q10 Language in Education Project 11/15

11/16	Van Herk, Ch. 13	Language as a Social Entity	FFT 7
11/23	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break	Thanksgiving Break
11/30	Van Herk, Ch. 11	Language Contact	FFT 8
12/7	No New Readings	No New Topics	Accent Map Project 12/11

The course schedule, policies, procedures, and assignments in this course are subject to change in the event of extenuating circumstances, by mutual agreement, and/or to ensure better learning.