GAVILAN COLLEGE
5055 Santa Teresa Blvd
Gilroy, CA 95023

Course Outline

COURSE: ANTH 13 DIVISION: 10 ALSO LISTED AS:

TERM EFFECTIVE: Summer 2026

SHORT TITLE: LINGUISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY

LONG TITLE: Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology

Units	Number of Weeks	Type	Contact Hours/Week	Total Contact Hours/Units
3	18	Lecture:	3	54 / 3 Units of Lecture
		Lab:	0	0
		Other:	0	0
		Total:	3	54

Out of Class Hrs:	108.00
Total Learning Hrs:	162.00

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This introductory course serves as a foundation for understanding language from an anthropological perspective, addressing such core questions as how, what, when, where, why and with whom we communicate. This course surveys three core areas in linguistic anthropology--structural linguistics: phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax, as well as the biocultural basis of language; historical linguistics: origins and evolution/change, dialects, and language families; and sociocultural linguistics: language acquisition in cultural context, emphasizing the relationship between language and culture, and issues of language conservation and loss. C-ID (ANTH 130).

CREDIT STATUS: D - Credit - Degree Applicable

GRADING MODES

L - Standard Letter Grade

REPEATABILITY: N - Course may not be repeated

SCHEDULE TYPES:

02 - Lecture and/or discussion
05 - Hybrid
71 - Dist. Ed Internet Simultaneous
72 - Dist. Ed Internet Delayed

STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Evaluate theories about the relationship between language and culture.
2. Evaluate linguistic anthropology methods and theories.
3. Analyze the diversity and complexity of languages over time.
4. Demonstrate the ability to analyze languages in social and cultural contexts.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

By the end of this course, a student should:

1. Explain the anthropological approach to language and communication.
2. Analyze and exemplify how language and culture are acquired and interrelated.
3. Identify the structural properties of language.
4. Analyze non-verbal communication cross-culturally.
5. Describe the biocultural origins and development of language through time.
6. Analyze the inequality in societies as evidenced by the variation in the societal evaluation of different language use patterns based on gender, class, race, and ethnicity.
7. Describe the ways in which beliefs about languages and speakers have social consequences.
8. Describe factors and consequences of language change (such as loss) over time.
9. Evaluate the economic, political, and social impact of computer technology as it relates to language use in the information age.
10. Examine the impact of globalization on world languages, such as Englishization, multilingualism, and the preservation or revival of endangered languages.

COURSE CONTENT:

Conveying Meaning (3 hours)
The Research Process in Linguistic Anthropology (3 hours)
Language Acquisition and Socialization (3 hours)
Language, Thought, and Culture (3 hours)
Language Variation and Change (4 hours)
Language Acquisition and Socialization (3 hours)
Midterm (2 hours)
Language, Thought, and Culture (3 hours)
Language Variation and Change (3 hours)
Global Communities of Multilingual Users (5 hours)
Online Communities and Internet Linguistic Practices (3 hours)
Performance, Performativity, and the Constitution of Social Reality (3 hours)
Language and Gender (3 hours)
Language Endangerment and Revitalization (3 hours)
Final Exam (2 hours)

METHODS OF INSTRUCTION:

Weekly lectures (narrated) - Weekly readings - Instructional videos - Video tutorials and lectures - Discussion forums - Group work - Research projects - Office hours

OUT OF CLASS ASSIGNMENTS:

Required Outside Hours 30

Assignment Description

Reading Assignments and Quizzes: Students will complete weekly readings from the assigned textbook and selected topical articles. They are expected to read critically, take thorough notes, and engage actively with weekly lecture materials. Quizzes aligned with the readings and lectures will be administered regularly to reinforce comprehension and retention of key concepts.

Required Outside Hours 20

Assignment Description

Writing Assignments and Quizzes: Students will complete weekly quizzes to assess their understanding of course materials. In addition, they will write short analytical responses to assigned readings and develop more extensive essays based on independent research and original fieldwork. These assignments are designed to strengthen students? ability to apply linguistic concepts and communicate their analyses effectively.

Required Outside Hours 20

Assignment Description

Interactive Discussion Forums: Students will participate in weekly discussion forums, contributing thoughtfully to ongoing conversations about course topics. Each student will post an original response and provide substantive, constructive engagement with at least two classmates? posts. These discussions are designed to foster critical thinking, collaboration, and application of key linguistic concepts.

Required Outside Hours 18

Assignment Description

Research Project: Students will design and carry out a research project exploring a topic within the field of linguistic anthropology. They will conduct original fieldwork employing linguistic anthropological methods and analyze their findings in relation to relevant theoretical frameworks. The project will culminate in a midterm essay, comprehensive final paper, and presentation of their research?either in class or through an interactive discussion forum?to share insights and engage with peer feedback.

METHODS OF EVALUATION:

Writing assignments

Evaluation Percent 40

Evaluation Description

Essays, response papers, discussions

Objective examinations

Evaluation Percent 40

Evaluation Description

Multiple choice and essay quizzes and exams

Problem-solving assignments

Evaluation Percent 10

Evaluation Description

Quizzes and exams

Skill demonstrations

Evaluation Percent 10

Evaluation Description

Research presentations

REPRESENTATIVE TEXTBOOKS:

Languages and Worldview, Manon Allard-Kropp, Open Educational Resources Collection, 2020 or a comparable textbook/material.

12 Grade Verified by: Debbie Klein

Essentials of Linguistics (2nd edition), Catherine Anderson; Bronwyn Bjorkman; Derek Denis; Julianne Doner; Margaret Grant; Nathan Sanders; and Ai Taniguchi, eCampusOntario, 2022 or a comparable textbook/material.

ISBN: 9781927565506

12 Grade Verified by: Debbie Klein

OTHER MATERIALS:

Living Language: An Introduction to Linguistic Anthropology (3rd edition), Laura Ahearn, Wiley Blackwell, 2021.

ISBN: 1119608147

12 Grade Verified by: Debbie Klein

ARTICULATION and CERTIFICATE INFORMATION

GAV GE:

- GAV Area 1B
- GAV Area 4
- GAV Area 5
- GAV Area 6
- GAV Area 7

CSU TRANSFER:

- Transferable CSU

UC TRANSFER:

- Transferable UC

SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:

Basic Skills: N
Classification: Y
Noncredit Category: Y
Cooperative Education: N
Program Status: 1 Program Applicable
Special Class Status: N
C-ID (ANTH 130)
Prior to College Level: Y
Non Credit Enhanced Funding: N
Funding Agency Code: Y
In-Service: N
Occupational Course: E
Course Control Number: CCC000655079
Sports/Physical Education Course: N
Taxonomy of Program: 220200
CIP: 450201