

SOCIOLINGUISTICS 371  
SYLLABUS, Spring 2011  
Office: Tu 4-5, Th 4-6

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### **371 SOCIOLINGUISTICS**

is an introduction to the study of language in its social setting  
focused on observing, collecting and analyzing data  
for students who know at least one foreign language

#### **371 SOCIOLINGUISTICS** examines

- language power
  - language contacts and conflicts
  - linguistic and political dominance
  - bilingualism and diglossia
  - speech communities
  - history and ongoing change in American English
- and other issues relevant to language as it functions in society.

#### **YOUR GRADE depends on:**

- **Attendance and active class participation** 20%
- **Textbook problems and topic assignments** 20%
- **Midterm and final exams** 30%
- **Class presentation** based on your original data 15%
- **Research paper** on the topic of your presentation (due within one week after the presentation; 10 pages, including data and bibliography) 15%

**Study materials:** R. Wardhaugh's *Introduction to Sociolinguistics*  
online documentary *Do You Speak American?*  
*Language Files*, 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> ed. (for students without LIN 110)

Reference: David Crystal's *Encyclopedia of Language*  
*Encyclopedia of the English Language*