Introduction
This course explores how the understanding of language can guide and inform sociological inquiries. More specifically, the course intends to examine the intimate yet complex relations between language and several key sociological concepts, including power, hegemony, identification, and legitimacy. It also offers an overview of key sociological approaches to language, including sociolinguistics, conversation analysis, discourse analysis. The course is not designed to be a linguistics course. The emphasis on exploring language from sociological and anthropological points of view makes this class quite different from the perspective of modern linguistics.

The course is divided into two parts:

- We begin (Part One) with a survey of how language is understood in various major sociological/anthropological traditions, emphasizing how the relation between language and society is conceptualized.

- Next, in Part Two, we turn to the actual processes of how power, identities, authority, and legitimacy are played out in language. The emphasis here is to explore how language plays a socially constitutive role in everyday life.

Readings
All course readings are on e-reserves (http://reserves.ucsd.edu/).

Course Requirements
Your grade for the quarter will be calculated on the basis of the following four course requirements:

1. Five short responses to the course readings (no more than 2 pages long, due on the Fridays of Wk 2, 4, 6, 8, 10) (10%).

2. A close-book, in-class short-answer mid-term exam on February 8 (20 %).

3. A take-home essay assignment, due in Week 7 (30 %). The essay questions will be distributed on February 15. This assignment may involve collection and analysis of primary data. I will not accept papers submitted by e-mail: so all papers must be submitted in typed hard-copy.
4. A close-book, in-class final exam (40 %), covering the entire course, on March 21 (Friday). I strongly discourage make-up exams. Normally, serious illness is the only acceptable rationale. Please do not enroll if you know now you are not available to take the final exam on March 21.

5. Late submissions will be marked down unless a written doctor’s note is presented.

6. Students should be familiar with the University’s regulations concerning plagiarism and integrity of scholarship. If you have any questions about how it applies to this course, please ask the instructor.

7. Although attendance is not mandatory per se, it is impossible for you to get full participation if you are not in class. Additionally, since many of the exam questions will be generated from material that comes directly from the lectures and is not contained in your assigned readings it is highly recommended that you attend class regularly.

Contacting the Instructor
1. I hold drop in office hours on Mondays from 11:30 to 12:30 and on Fridays from 11:00 to 12:00 in my office in Room 491 of Social Science Building (south of RIMAC). I am also available by appointment.

2. I try, within the limit of my free time, to respond to students’ emails; but please keep your email inquiries brief and specific. Email is not the medium for long discussions or detailed clarifications on the topics of the course. That should be done during office hours.

Course Outline
PART I: LANGUAGE AND SOCIAL STRUCTURE

Wk 1 January 7, 9, 11: Introduction

Film: Discovering the Human Language 1995.

Wk 2 January 14, 16, 18: Speech Act Theory


Wk 3 January 23, 25: Variationist Sociolinguistics

Penny Eckert, 1989, “Adolescent social structure and the spread of linguistic change.”
*Language and Society* 17: 183-207.

Film: *Do you Speak American?* 2004 (segments)

**Wk 4 January 28, 30, February 1:** *Conversation Analysis*


**Wk 5 February 4, 6, 8:** *Frame Analysis*


**Mid-Term Exam! February 8**

**Wk 6 February 11, 13, 15:** *Language as Symbolic Power*


**Essay Assignment Distributed February 15**

**PART II: LANGUAGE IN SOCIETY**

**Wk 7 February 20, 22:** *Language and Identity I*


**Essay Assignment Due February 22**
**Wk 8 February 25, 27, 29:** *Language and Authority*


**Wk 9 March 3, 5, 7:** *Language and Politics*


Film: *How Democrats and Progressives Can Win: Solutions from George Lakoff* 2004

**Wk 10, March 10, 12, 14:** *Language and Hegemony/Counterhegemony: English as a World Language*


Film: Zhang Yuan, 2000, *Crazy English* (if time allows)

**Final Exam:** March 21, 8-11am