Course Title: LING 6995: Foundations of Sociohistorical Linguistics
Section: OU1
Prerequisites: Graduate student status
Credits: 1
Meetings: Monday 4:30-7:20 P.M. (3 hours a week for 5 weeks)
Professor: Don E. Walicek, PhD (don.walicek@upr.edu)
Office hours: Wed. and Thurs. 2-3:30 (appointments highly recommended)
Office: Third floor PED, Graduate Program in Linguistics; ext. (secretary) 89715

I. Description: This course is based on recent scholarship from the interdisciplinary subfield of sociohistorical linguistics. It considers how inquiry in this area enriches our knowledge of language use for contexts in which extremely few if any records of spoken language exist. Students will complete theoretical readings, discuss methodologies, and examine case studies from the greater Caribbean region. They will have the opportunity to work with original archival data that contribute to our understanding of linguistic variation, social life, and language change in earlier periods.

II. General Objectives: By the end of the semester, students will be able to:
A. Identify the main goals and methodologies associated with the emergent field called sociohistorical linguistics or historical sociolinguistics.
B. Plan a research project that contributes to the goals of this field and makes use of established methodologies and conceptual resources.
C. Comment on the significance of problems within the field of sociohistorical linguistics and strategies for overcoming them.
D. Analyze original primary source data in a well-written academic essay.
E. Articulate well-defined arguments and use textual evidence to support them.

III. Readings: A packet of readings that consists mainly of recent scholarship will be made available. Additional materials will be distributed online and as handouts.

IV. Grading and Evaluation
Grading

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<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>100-90</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>89-80</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>79-70</td>
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<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>69-60</td>
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<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>59-0</td>
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Evaluation
Active, informed participation, attendance 20%
Thought piece and exercises (2) 15%
Abstract and introduction 20%
Presentation of readings (1) 10%
Presentation of final project 10%
Research project (draft and final paper) (10-12 pages) 25%
In accordance with the recommendation of the Office of the Dean of Students (Division for Persons with Disabilities), students who received the services and/or advice of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation concerning their coursework must contact the professor at the beginning of the semester in order to make arrangements for reasonable accommodations and for any necessary auxiliary equipment. Other students with special needs who require any kind of assistance or reasonable accommodations should also contact the professor.

IV. Calendar

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Readings</th>
<th>Examples (language and social history)</th>
<th>Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 5</td>
<td>1. Presentations 2. Wrapping Up</td>
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<td>Draft of final paper</td>
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Adjustments to the calendar will be made to respond to the interests and needs of students as well as changes to the academic calendar published by the Office of the Registrar.
VII. Writing Guidelines

A. Assignments
1. Type all assignments.
2. Use size 12 Times New Roman font.
3. Double-space your work. Use standard margins.
4. Staple multiple pages. (Unstapled work will not be accepted).
5. Write following an academic style guidelines (paragraph form, topic sentences, indentation), avoiding contractions, using complete sentences, and organizing your ideas. Write in a style suitable for publication in an academic forum.
6. Use data and examples as evidence, to support claims, discussion, and argument.
7. In the case of quotes, be sure to introduce the quoted material. After it is presented, comment on its use (why it is relevant) and then link it to the overall argument.
8. Use new terminology learned in this course, showing that you understand the meaning of key concepts and terms and that they are relevant to your argument or discussion.
9. Follow APA citation and style guidelines given that these are frequently used in linguistics publications. For tips see Purdue’s OWL writing center (address in links below).
10. Remember that writing can be done in English or Spanish.
11. Remember that the thought paper should consist of 2 double-spaced paper.

B. Academic Integrity
The UPR promotes the highest standards of academic and scientific integrity. Plagiarism, using someone else's ideas and/or words as if one's own, is a serious offense and will result in a zero. Plagiarism offenses include using material downloaded from the Internet (e.g., Wikipedia’s resources, study guides); copying from printed work; borrowing an idea or sentence without citing the name of the person who originated it; and using writing, concepts, or ideas formulated by another person as one’s own. Plagiarizing cheats us out of the intellectual growth and self-esteem necessary to be better learners and efficient and effective writers. Avoiding plagiarism makes us become aware, honest, and responsible learners, researchers, and writers.

A first offense will count as a "0" [zero] for the assignment; a second offense will result in an "F" for the course. Continued reports of plagiarism may result in action taken by the Dean of Academic Affairs and suspension or dismissal from the University of Puerto Rico. Students should consult the Graduate Student Manual to be aware of all possible ramifications of plagiarism.

Reglamento General de Estudiantes: Penalidades (Artículo 15):
• Amonestación
• Probatoria por tiempo definido durante el cual otra violación de cualquier norma tendrá consecuencia de suspensión o separación.
• Suspensión de la Universidad por un tiempo definido.
VIII. Bibliography


**Online resources**


Linguist List: [www.linguistlist.org](http://www.linguistlist.org) (see resources section).

Peter Trudgill: Languages in Contact and Isolation: Mature Phenomena and Societies of Intimates YouTube video uploaded March 29, 2011.

Purdue University Online Writing Lab: [https://owl.english.purdue.edu](https://owl.english.purdue.edu)