Overview
In this seminar we will explore a number of perspectives that see language as connected to
culture and communication. In particular we will examine how such phenomena as “self,”
“society,” and “identity” can be both revealed through and constituted by talk. We will also
critically examine whether communication—as displayed in everyday talk—can be studied as a
universal or culture-specific phenomenon. No previous background is required for this course.
Students must be willing, however, to read, synthesize and discuss material from a range of
disciplines. We will read work in linguistics, linguistic anthropology, cultural anthropology,
cultural psychology, pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and communication.

Required Texts
Kulick, Don. (1992). *Language shift and cultural reproduction: Socialization, self, and
0521599261
University Press. ISBN: 080471822
Practice and Theory*. Oxford University Press. ISBN: 0195105621

Additional required readings are available on class wiki

Recommended Text
Wiley-Blackwell. ISBN: 1405126337 (Recommended)

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<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Percent of Grade</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly writing assignments (10) and class participation.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Project plan—Due tba.</td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transcription exercise #1—Transcript due tba.</td>
<td>10%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #1—Due tba.</td>
<td>25%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper #2—Due tba.</td>
<td>30%</td>
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Weekly writing assignments
Each week students will turn in a written, critical synthesis of and set of reflections and questions about the issues that the readings raised for you, due the day of class by 10 am (hardcopy in my mailbox, electronic post to class wiki). These response papers (two to three pages) will help prepare us for productive class discussion. Papers cannot be made up and are graded on a 10 point scale. Points will be deducted for papers which are less than or greatly exceed page limits. Most weeks there will be a topic to be addressed in the paper, posted on class wiki. In addition to discussing the featured topic, papers may also discuss topics of interest to the student including methodological, theoretical, or content-based issues. Each week you should also note a passage (or passages) which were unclear to you and which you would like to discuss in class.

Class participation
Each week be prepared to discuss issues you wrote about in your paper. Also discuss passages you found unclear.

To give you a sense how to apply the tools we are developing, you will have an opportunity to collect and analyze your own data. More information will be presented in class. You may use digital voice recorders owned by the department, or your own.

Project plan. Each of you will record a segment of talk, transcribe it, analyze it, discuss it in class, and write about it in two assigned papers. Such talk may take the form of naturally occurring conversation, such as talk during a meal, playful interaction between child and caregiver, etc., or it may be in response to an open-ended prompt, such as asking for a story of personal experience. You are encouraged to record talk that involves some form of code-switching (between speech dialects or languages), is cross-gender, involves issues of power, and/or explores emotion.

Develop a plan for how and in what context you will collect data. You may also work with previously collected data in addition to newly recorded talk. Quite often researchers work with groups with whom they are familiar and to whom they have access. You are encouraged to do likewise. Due tba (2-4 pages).

Transcript. Provide a complete, word for word transcription of the data you plan to analyze. You should transcribe an hour or more of talk, or roughly 20 pages, double-spaced. We will discuss transcription methods and conventions in class. Due tba. (Post your transcript to the class wiki.) You may also submit a revised and/or more complete transcript at a later date.

Paper 1. The first paper is to be a summary and synthesis of theoretical and conceptual issues covered in readings and discussions. Further information and paper topics will be provided in class. Due tba (10-12 pages).

Paper 2. The second paper will be an analysis of the talk you have transcribed. It is to be analyzed based upon one or more of the theoretical and methodological approaches discussed during the semester. You will also discuss your paper on tba. Exact time and format tba. The written version of the paper is due tba (15-20 pages).
Tentative Class Schedule

Readings are to be completed by the date listed. Subject to change with advance warning.
* = Available on wiki and D2L

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week, Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Reading(s)</th>
<th>Assignment</th>
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| 2. 8/31    | Issues and concepts | 1. *Duranti: Introduction in Linguistic Anthropology Reader*  
2. Sanders: Introduction in LSI Handbook | |
| 3. 9/7     | Speech Acts | 1. *Austin, How to do things with words*  
3. Arundale (LSI), “Pragmatics” | |
2. Drew (LSI), “Conversation Analysis”  
3. Heritage (LSI), “CA and Institutional Talk”  
5. *Wieder & Pratt, “Being a Recognizable Indian”* | Project plan |
| 5. 9/21    | Ethnography of Communication | 1. *Hymes, Foundations in Sociolinguistics*  
2. Philipsen & Coutu (LSI), “Ethnography of Speaking”  
2. *Irvine (LA), “Formality and Informality”*  
4. *Sandel, “Kinship Address”* | Initial Transcript |
3. *Miller et al “Storytelling”*  
4. *Miller et al “Transgressions”*  
5. *Miller, Cho & Bracey “Working-class”* | |
| 8. 10/12   | Sapir-Whorf | 1. *Whorf, “Relation of Habitual thought”*  
| 9. 10/19   | Language Ideologies | 1. *Language Ideologies*, chapters tba  
2. *Irvine & Gal, “Ideology and Differentiation”* | |
| 10. 10/26  | Language Ideologies | 1. *Language Ideologies*, chapters tba  
2. *Ochs & Taylor (Reader), “Father knows best”*  
3. *Hill (Reader), Language, race”*  
4. *Sandel, Linguistic Capital | |
<p>| 11. 11/2   | Language and | 1. Kulick, <em>Language Shift</em> | |</p>
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<th>Date</th>
<th>Emotion</th>
<th>Reading Notes</th>
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| 12. 11/9 | Vygotsky | 1. Wertsch, *Voices of the Mind*  
2. *Litowitz, “Deconstruction in Zone”*  
3. *Cazden, “Vygotsky, Hymes, and Bakhtin”*  
| 13. 11/30| Bakhtin  | 1. Morson & Emerson, *Mikhail Bakhtin* chapters tba |
| 14. 12/7 | Bakhtin  | 1. Morson & Emerson, *Mikhail Bakhtin* chapters tba  
2. *Baxter et al., “Dialogic Voices”*  
3. *Baxter, “Relational Dialectics Theory”* |
| 15. 12/12|          | No Class. Final Paper Due. Hard Copy and Electronic Paper 2 Due |

* = pdf document posted on class wiki  
LSI = Handbook of Language and Social Interaction  
LA = Linguistic Anthropology Reader. Publication information is noted in the pdf doc.