

TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY
LING 481: Anthropological Linguistics: Ethnography
Course Outline (Fall and Spring)

Course Description

This course introduces crucial concepts in anthropology and ethnography to linguists. It focuses on cross-cultural communication with an emphasis on participant observation as an effective methodology for such research. Students will collect and analyze data related to topics such as oral traditions, kinship, and social structure. They will be introduced to various tools for ethno-semantic analysis, including analysis of cultural themes and worldview, semantic domain analysis, and taxonomic analysis. Prerequisite: LING 210 Language and Society or equivalent introduction to sociolinguistics

Major Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, successful students will be able individually to research a wide variety of social situations and as a result will specifically be able to:

1. observe and record social data;
2. organize and manage that data;
3. perform ethnosemantic analysis;
4. engage in phenomenological reflection;
5. write an ethnography of a limited aspect of a cultural situation.

Key Literary Pieces

Crane, Julia G. and Michael V Angrosino. 1984. *Field Projects in Anthropology: A Student Handbook*. Prospect Heights, IL: Waveland Press.

Mason, John. 2002. *Researching Your Own Practice: The Discipline of Noticing*. London: Routledge.

Scollon, Ron and Suzanne Wong Scollon. 1995. *Intercultural Communication*. Oxford: Blackwell. (Publication 21 in the Series *Language in Society*, Peter Trudgill, editor.)

Spradley, James P. 1980. *The Ethnographic Interview*. Orlando: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.

Spradley, James P. 1980. *Participant Observation*. Orlando: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich.

Tedlock, Dennis. 1983. *The Spoken Word and the Work of Interpretation*. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press.

Van Manen, Max. 1990. *Researching Lived Experience: Human Science for an Action Sensitive Pedagogy*. London, ON: University of Western Ontario and SUNY.