Language and Social Organization through the Life Cycle

Anthropology 147

Tuesday/Thursday 9:30-10:45 314 Haines

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Office Hours: Tues 11-12
Wed. 11-12
Haines Hall 318F
Phone 7-4335 (during office hours) or 5-2055 (Anthro office) any time

Reader on Website Click on Links and then Class Links

Books:
Birth in Four Cultures: Brigitte Jordan

Overview of this course: The intent of this course is to examine forms of participation and talk-in-interaction across various (selected) phrases the life cycle. We will examine how language and interaction within specific contexts are used to constitute identity and how the interaction order resulting from face-to-face interaction provides the building blocks for larger formations that arise from such activities. In class we will be examining videotaped interactions across a range of situations to examine the practices involved in constituting social life.

Reading Assignments

Week 1
Tues. April 5
Introduction
Participation, language, and social organization through the life cycle

Thurs April 7
Birth in Four Cultures
Reading: Jordan: Birth in Four Cultures, chapters 1-2
Video: “Born in the USA: A Documentary about Childbirth in America”

Week 2
Tues April 12
Alternative Birth Options in America
Reading: Jordan: Birth in Four Cultures, chapter 3
Guest Speaker: Candace Leach,
(DEM) Direct Entry Midwife
(CCE) Certified Childbirth Educator
(CD) Certified Doula
(CPD) Certified Postpartum Doula
(CNMI) Certified Newborn Massage Instructor

Thur        April 14
 **Ritual, Fathers and Birth**  
*Reading*: Jordan: *Birth in Four Cultures*, chapter 4  
*Web*: Reed: “Men’s Experience of Birth”  
*Web; Optional*: Reed: “American Fathers and Hospital Childbirth”

**Week 3**  
**Tues**   April 19  
 **Frameworks for Analyzing Talk in Interaction**  
*Web*: Hutchby “What is Conversation Analysis?”  
“Foundations of Conversation Analysis”  
Goffman: "On Face-Work: An Analysis of Ritual Elements"

Thurs:  April 21  
 **Language in Family Interaction**  
*Reading*: Lareau: Ch 1 and 6 *Language Use from Unequal Childhood*  
*Web Optional*: Vasquez: Bilingual Children Crossing Cultural Borders

**Week 4**  
**Tues**  Apr 25  
 **Preschool in Three Cultures**  
 *Japan, China, and US*  
*Web*: Chapters 2 (Japan) *Preschool in Three Cultures*  
*Web Optional* Chapter 3 (China) *Preschool*  
*Video*: Preschool in Three Cultures

Thurs  Apr 27  
 **Children’s Language and Folklore**  
*Web*: Lanclos: Ch 3: “Masculinity & Femininity on the Playground” *At Play in Belfast*  
*Web*: Thorne: “Boys and Girls Together . . but Mostly Apart” *Gender Play*  
*Optional Web*: Goodwin: Children’s Linguistic and Social Worlds  
*Video*: Preserving the Child (storytelling among street kids and kids at war in Northern Ireland, Navajo, Central LA  
*Project Descriptions due*
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<tr>
<th>Week 5</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Web</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues May 3</td>
<td>Gender &amp; Language in Preadolescent Peer Cultures</td>
<td>“Tactical Uses of Stories”</td>
<td>“Preadolescent Peer Cultures”</td>
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<td>Thurs May 5</td>
<td>Growing up in Utopian and Stratified Societies:</td>
<td>Video: The Hutterites: To Care and Not to Care</td>
<td>Web: Children of the Hutterites</td>
<td>Web: Lareau: Unequal Childhoods: ch 12</td>
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<td>Midterm Exam due May 6, 4:30 PM</td>
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<th>Week 6</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tue May 10</td>
<td>Constructing Difference/Marginality among Kids</td>
<td>Goodwin: Exclusion in Girls’ Peer Groups</td>
<td>Lewis: “Learning and Living Racial Boundaries”</td>
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<td>Thurs May 12</td>
<td>Youth and Cultural Practice</td>
<td>Bucholtz; “Youth and Cultural Practice”</td>
<td>Web: Eder: School Talk, Ch 7-8</td>
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<th>Week 7</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tues May 17</td>
<td>Adolescence in Belize</td>
<td>Dr. Eileen Anderson-Fye</td>
<td>“Never Leave Yourself: Ethnopsychology as Mediator of Psychological Globalization among Belizean Schoolgirls”</td>
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<td>Thur May 19</td>
<td>Passages to Adulthood</td>
<td>Eckert: Jocks and Burnouts, chs 5-6</td>
<td>Film: scenes from Masai Women and Witness to Apartheid</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues May 24</td>
<td>Language, Gender and Adulthood</td>
<td>Goodwin &amp; Goodwin: “Concurrent Operations on Talk”</td>
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<td>Thurs May 26</td>
<td>Old Age and Language Competence</td>
<td>C. Goodwin: Co-constructing Meaning in Conversation with an Aphasiac Man</td>
<td>Sacks: “ Poetics: Requests, Offers, and Threats: The Old Man as an Evolved Natural Object”</td>
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Week 9
Tues  May 31  Apartheid in Brazil and Guatemala
Web: Scheper-Hughes and Hoffman: Brazilian Apartheid: Street kids and the Struggle for Urban Space.
Menchu: “In Guatemala We Indians Have No Childhood”
Video: Life and Debt (street kids in Brazil)

Thurs  June 1  Religion (possibly; to be decided)
Shoaps: Pray Earnestly: The Textual Construction of Personal Involvement in Pentecostal Prayer and Song
Video: The Holy Ghost People Project Presentations

Week 10
Tues  June 7  Project Presentations
Thurs  June 9  Project Presentations

Class Project

Students will be asked to participate in original fieldwork on a topic of your choice involving how language is used to build social organization and

Final Grade

Here is a rough breakdown on how your grade will be determined:

Class Project Paper  30%
Class and section participation  10%
Midterm  30%
Final  30%

Grading scale: 100-98 (A +), 97-92 (A), 91-90 (A-), 89-88 (B+), 87-82 (B), 81-80 (B-), 79-78 (C+), 77-72 (C), 71-70 (C-), 69-68 (D+), 67-62 (D), 61-60 (D-), below 60 (F) The Final Exam is in class June 8. It will cover readings from the second part of the course and is not cumulative.
Optional Readings

Garrett, P., and P. Baquedano-Lopez

Pontecorvo, Clotilde, Alessandra Fasulo, and Laura Sterponi

Crowley, Kevin, and Melanie Jacobs

Miller, Peggy

Lewis, Amanda E.

Ochs, Elinor, et al.

Goodwin, Marjorie Harness

Kyratzis, Amy

Kyratzis, Amy, and Jiansheng Guo
Zentella, Ana Celia