English 306a: Introduction to Linguistics  
Fall 1989  
Mondays, 7-10 p.m., MacKirdy Hall, St. Paul’s College  
Dr. Pauline Greenhill, St. Paul’s College, 885-1460  
Office hours: Wednesdays 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m., or by appointment

This course looks at language as a form of communication. Giving a general introduction to linguistics, our perspective highlights aspects of the discipline which are of particular concern to students of literature and rhetoric. Hence we examine the forms and origins of language, its analysis, and its use.

Required Texts:  
Clark et. al., Language: Introductory Readings (1985);  
[Recommended:  
Akmajian et al., Linguistics: An Introduction to Language and Communication (1984)]  

Course Requirements:  
Seminar (value 10%)  
Each week a group of students will divide up the assigned readings and lead the seminar discussion. They should outline the major points of the readings, but emphasise the discussion of questions and issues.

Book Review of Farb text (value 20%) 5 pages, due October 16

Mid-term Take-Home Exam (value 20%)  
This will be based on the Projects in the Clark text. Given out November 6, due November 13

Research Paper OR Take-Home Exam (value 50%)  
Students may choose a conventional research topic (e.g. glossolia, aphasias, or chimpanzee language), do original research (e.g. description and analysis of a speech situation in a novel or event), or develop an unconventional project.

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September 11: Introduction  
Video: Language and Communication  
Readings: Clark, Part One (Farb, Introduction)

September 18: Forms and Origins 1--Communication and Species  
Guest lecturer: Dr. Anne Zeller, Anthropology (Animal Communication)  
Readings: Clark Part 3 and Part 9 #3 (Farb 11)

September 25: Forms and Origins 2--Beyond Speech  
Film: Nonverbal Communication  
(Observation of non-verbal communication: elevators, etc.)  
Readings: Clark Part 9 #1, 2, & 4

October 2: Forms and Origins 3--Historical and Comparative Linguistics  
Guest lecturer: Dr. Linda Jones, Centre for the New Oxford English Dictionary (The OED at UW)  
Readings: Clark Part 8
October 16: Forms and Origins 4--Language Acquisition
Guest lecturer: Dr. Linda Jones (An examination of the universal features of baby talk)
Readings: Clark Part 2 (Farb 12)

October 23: Forms and Origins 5--Language Variation
(English and the English in Canada)
Readings: Clark Part 7 (Farb 15, 16)

October 30: Linguistic Analysis 1--Phonology and Phonetics
(Tongue Twisters)
Readings: Clark Part 4 #1, 2 (Farb 13)

November 6: Linguistic Analysis 2--Morphology
(Lecture)
Readings: Clark Part 4 #3-6

November 13: Linguistic Analysis 3--Syntax
(Ethnopoetics)
Readings: Clark Part 5

November 20: Linguistic Analysis 4--Semantics
(Genres)
Readings: Clark Part 6 #1, 2 (Farb 14)

November 27: Using Language 1--The Game: Pragmatics
(Politeness strategies)
Readings: Clark Part 6 #3, 4 (Farb I, II)

December 4: Using Language 2--The Strategies
Film: Killing Us Softly
(Sexist language)
Readings: (Farb III)