LING 333: Cross-Cultural Communication  
Summer 2015: June 1 - July 2

Instructor: Marta L. Bafly  
Email: mlb258@georgetown.edu  
Phone: 202-661-6649 (between 2-5 PM Monday-Thursday; between 10 AM - 4 PM Friday)  
Office Hours: Mondays 1-2 PM in “East Wing” of Poulton Hall (or by appointment)

Meetings  
Monday-Thursday, 10:45 AM - 12:45 PM (June 1 - July 2)

Course description  
This course approaches cross-cultural communication from the perspective of interactional sociolinguistics and explores the connections between language and culture by investigating some of the aspects of language use that vary by culture. These include turn taking, politeness and conversational rituals. The course will also survey differences that arise when cultures intersect; particular attention will be paid to interactions between different genders, ethnicities, and generations. Part of the course will be spent on training students to investigate these devices in language data. Later on, students will explore cross-cultural communication in institutional contexts, such as education, politics, and law. Class time will be divided between lectures, class-wide and small group discussions, and hands-on data collection and analysis activities. Students will complete weekly field notes, a data analysis presentation with a short report, and a final exam.

Required readings  
Other readings will be found on Blackboard.

Assignments  
Field Notes  
As noted on the schedule, you will hand in 5 Field Notes in which you describe and discuss/analyze an interaction you observed or participated in. In your discussion/analysis you show how insights you gained from readings, lectures, or class discussions shed light on the interaction, and/or how the interaction sheds light on the course material. The object of Field Notes is to apply the analytical insights you are gaining from this course to your daily experience, past and present, and to use your daily experience to engage intellectually with the course material. When you notice (or recall) a conversation or interaction and think, “Oh, that’s like what we read (or talked) about,” write it down. Your Field Notes should be at minimum 250-300 words (about half a page, single-spaced). With one exception, they are due on Mondays, in hard copy form, before the start of class. Please do not submit them over e-mail. Late responses will lose a portion of a letter grade for each day that they are late. More information on the grading of Field Notes, and what you should include in these notes, will be provided.

Reading Quizzes  
You will take 2 Reading Quizzes over the course of the semester. These quizzes will be short (10-15 minutes) and will assess your understanding of, and level of engagement with, the readings assigned for the day that the quizzes are given. You can think of these as “pop quizzes.”

Data Analysis Presentation & Short Report  
During the last week of the course, you will present to the class a preliminary analysis of “real life” data that you’ve collected. You will be responsible for presenting your data and facilitating a data workshop with your peers. You can think of this as an extended Field Note—just one that you share with the class. The object of this assignment is for us to explore in greater depth the concepts we are learning in this course, and to apply those concepts and analytical tools to data we have collected. On the day that you present/workshop your data, you will also turn in a written report that should be between 1,000-1,500 words (about three to four pages, single-spaced). More information on the grading of the Data Analysis Presentation & Short Report, and what you should include in this assignment, will be provided.
Final Exam
At the end of the term, you will design your own Final Exam for the course, and answer the questions that you pose. The exam will include definitions, short answers, and an essay. You will be asked to make every reading from the course relevant and/or referred to in at least one question, to ensure that you don’t have too many questions based on the same topics or readings. More information on the Final Exam, and what you should include in your questions/responses, will be provided.

Participation & Attendance
Students are expected to attend all class sessions, and attendance will be taken at each class meeting. Absences are excused only in the case of sickness with a doctor’s note or with a dean’s or coach’s note. Students are expected to be mentally present as well, and actively engaged in class discussions and activities.

Grading
Final grades will be calculated using the following weights:

- Field Notes (5) 25%
- Data Analysis Presentation 15%
- Data Analysis Report 20%
- Final Exam 30%
- Reading quizzes (2) & Participation 10%

A+ = 4.33  
A  = 4.00  
A-  = 3.67  
A-/B+ = 3.50  
B+  = 3.33  
B   = 3.00  

A- = 3.67  
B-/C+ = 2.50  
C+  = 2.33  
C   = 2.00  
C-  = 1.67

B-  = 2.67

Laptop policy
Unless instructed otherwise, laptops and tablets are not allowed during class sessions.

Academic integrity
Any instance of academic dishonesty (plagiarism or cheating) will result in a grade of F.

Students with disabilities
If you have a disability that you believe may require an accommodation in this course, please contact the Academic Resource Center (http://academicsupport.georgetown.edu/disability/medical-accommodations). Accommodations will be granted, but only if they are arranged through ARC.
# Course schedule
(subject to change)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day &amp; Date</th>
<th>Topic/theme</th>
<th>Readings due this day</th>
<th>Assignments due this day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WEEK 1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 6/1</td>
<td>Introduction to the course; Introduction to the Interactional Sociolinguistic (IS) approach</td>
<td>TNWIM: Preface, Chs. 1-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 6/2</td>
<td>Intro to IS (cont’d)</td>
<td>TNWIM: Chs. 6, 7, 9, 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 6/3</td>
<td>Turn-taking &amp; conversational style</td>
<td>Zupnik (2000)</td>
<td>Field Note #1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. 6/4</td>
<td>Conversational style (cont’d)</td>
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<td><strong>WEEK 2</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Mon. 6/8</td>
<td>Framing &amp; understanding meaning in interaction</td>
<td>Tannen &amp; Wallat (1987); Watanabe (1993); Kendall (2008)</td>
<td>Field Note #2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 6/9</td>
<td>Gender as conversational style; Gender in cross-cultural communication</td>
<td>YJDU: Preface, Chs. 1-4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 6/10</td>
<td>Gender &amp; personal relationships</td>
<td>YJDU: Chs. 5, 6, 8-10; Goodwin (2003)</td>
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<td>Thur. 6/11</td>
<td>Conversational rituals: narrative, agonism, apologies, humor</td>
<td>Johnstone (1993); Schiffrin (1984); Tannen (2000); Meyerhoff (1999)</td>
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<td><strong>WEEK 3</strong></td>
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<td>Mon. 6/15</td>
<td>Social media interactions: gender &amp; age</td>
<td>Herring &amp; Stoerger (2013); Dresner &amp; Herring (2012); West &amp; Trester (2013)</td>
<td>Field Note #3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 6/16</td>
<td>Social media in relationships</td>
<td>Gershon (2010)</td>
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<td>Wed. 6/17</td>
<td>Institutional encounters: Service &amp; Professional</td>
<td>Cook-Gumperz &amp; Gumperz (2002); Bailey (1997)</td>
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<td>Thur. 6/18</td>
<td>Institutional encounters: Education [<strong>Guest speaker</strong>: Daniel Ginsberg]</td>
<td>Philips (1972); Heath (1982); Alim (2005)</td>
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<td><strong>WEEK 4</strong></td>
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<td>Mon. 6/22</td>
<td>Institutional encounters: Business [<strong>Guest speaker</strong>: Mackenzie Price]</td>
<td>Readings TBD</td>
<td>Field Note #4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 6/23</td>
<td>Institutional encounters: Law</td>
<td>Eades (2005); Matoesian (2001)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Activity</td>
<td>Reading References</td>
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<td>Wed. 6/24</td>
<td>Deaf culture; Deaf/Hearing interaction</td>
<td>Rutherford (1989); Padden (1989); Hall (1989)</td>
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<td>Thur. 6/25</td>
<td>Gallaudet Field Trip</td>
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**WEEK 5**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Reading References</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon. 6/29</td>
<td>Data workshop</td>
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<td>Field Note #5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. 6/30</td>
<td>Data workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wed. 7/1</td>
<td>Data workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thur. 7/2</td>
<td>Living across languages</td>
<td>Agar (1994)</td>
<td>Final Exam (due in class)</td>
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Readings


