World Englishes, LING 4410, Spring 2023

Instructor: Dr. Sadaf Munshi
Class meets: MWF 10-10:50am in ART 219
Office Hours: By appointment (on Zoom or in person)
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Course Description
In this course we will study the social, historical and political aspects of the development and spread of the English language around the world. The students will get to know the unique structures of English spoken around the world; the pragmatic and conversational principles that guide interaction in these varieties; the use of new English varieties in local and global print and broadcast media, creative fiction, etc. The course will also include a survey of how English is taught around the world. Important components of the course will be: student research projects, classroom presentations, and participation.

Course Requirements and Grades

Attendance is compulsory. Students should check for mail and announcements. You will be asked to do research projects on topics of your choice. This will include collection of materials, reading and analysis of materials, and oral presentations on classroom.

Essays (90%): Students will be active participants in this course. Each student will pick a region of the world that they’d like to study. Through the semester, each student will turn in three short papers (about 8-10 single spaced pages based on at least 4 references). Student research will be presented in class. The topics of these essays will be:

Essay 1: The establishment of English in the region of your choice and formal characteristics of this new variety. Describe the historical events that brought English to this region. Describe the standard variety of English spoken in this region, i.e. Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology, Syntax. You MUST bring a sound or audio file to illustrate the sound system. (20%)

Essay 2: English literature in nativized varieties. Read a short story or novel written in English from the region that you are studying. Write an analysis of the English used in piece you study using the methodology we develop in class for this purpose. (20%)

Essay 3: English language teaching. What are the official language policies for English teaching in the region you are studying? What is the involvement of the publishing companies and the TESOL profession in the spread of English there? What methods of English teaching are used in this region? How can theories of linguistic imperialism be used to understand the status of English in this region? These questions are meant as a guide. You may select one or all or come up with your own. (20%)

Final paper: Compile essays 1-3 into a single research paper (~13-15 pages long) with a focus of your choice. 30%

Attendance and Class Participation: 10%

Required Texts:
Other suggested references:
English Language History Online Resource: [http://www.krysstal.com/english.html](http://www.krysstal.com/english.html)
Additional resources will be provided in class

*Note: The Department of Linguistics cooperates with the Office of Disability Accommodation to make reasonable accommodations for qualified students with disabilities. If you have a disability for which you will require accommodation under the terms of the Americans with Disabilities act or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, please provide your request in writing within the first three class meetings.

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Course Schedule (Tentative)

Weeks 1 & 2 Jan 18-20 Introduction and overview
- What is a Global Language?
- History of English Language
Also see Crystal (1995) Chapters 1-6
Friday Jan 20: Watch video “Birth of a Language”*

Week 2: Review/Practice - IPA Chart, phonetics and phonology

Week 3 Jan 30 Spread of English
Also check Crystal (1995) Chapters 7
Friday: Documentary video (TBA)*

Week 4 Feb 6 Spread of English: British Sphere of Influence
*Readings: Bailey Chapter 5-6*

Week 5 Feb 13 Spread of English (contd.)
*Readings: Reading handed out in class*

Week 6 Feb 20 Evolution of English: emergence of new varieties
*Readings: Bailey Chapter 7-8*

Week 7 Feb 27-March 3 Nativized varieties of English: Essay 1 Presentations
*Essay 1 due Friday.
Friday: Documentary video (TBA)*

Week 8 Mar 6 Why English: Cultural Context
*Readings: Crystal (2003) Chapter 3-4*
Week 9 Mar 13 SPRING BREAK

Week 10 Mar 20 Improving English (contd.)
Readings: Bailey Chapter 9-10.
Friday: Documentary video (TBA)

Week 11 Mar 27 English in Scotland and Ireland
Readings: Reading handed out in class

Week 12 Apr 3 English literature in nativized varieties: Essay 2 Presentations
*Essay 2 due

Week 13 Apr 10 South Asian/Indian English: Structure and Pragmatics
Readings: Optional reading handed out in class
Essay 2 Presentations

Week 14 Apr 17 English Language Teaching ELT in South Asia/India
Readings: Optional reading handed out in class

Week 15 Apr 24 ELT around the world: Essay 3 Presentations
*Essay 3 due

Week 16 May 1-3 Essay 3 Presentations (Contd.)

*May 8 Final Paper due