

SY IABHI

COM 365 • LANGUAGE AWARENESS

Time: Monday, Wednesday & Friday 11:00 – 11:50

Room: To be advised

Professor: Kimberly A. Carter
Email: kcarter@aloha.com
Home phone: 394-8704
Office Hours: By pre-arranged appointment
(Feel free to call with your questions any day, before 8:00 p.)

Required Text and Materials: Eschholz, Paul, Alfred Rosa and Virginia Clark, editors (1997) *Language Awareness*. New York: St Martin's Press.

Plain composition notebook (for note-taking Log)
Join International Society for General Semantics (see information below)

Electronic Sources: Reference page for ISGS (can join organization online) *International Society for General Semantics*. [Online] Available: <http://www.generalsemantics.org/>

For help with writing assignments The Scott, Foresman Research Web (1999). [Online]. Available: <http://lonmanawl.com>



General Requirements (Be sure to read each note carefully)

- Be on time. Class attendance will be taken.
- Attendance is important. More than 4 absences will result in a drop in your letter grade.
- Class participation is a must. We will participate in various group activities throughout the semester. Attendance during oral reports is mandatory.
- Take notes during the lectures.
- All assignments must be completed and turned in on time for credit.
- Make-up exams must be prearranged at least one week prior to scheduled exam date (exceptions will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis).

Students must join the Society for General Semantics

Your continued registration in this class denotes your understanding of the syllabus and what is expected of you in this class, and your willingness to participate in the assignments as stated herein.

Each of the following assignments are required & will be explained in detail during class

1. Daily Journal - LOG = Record (in a simple composition notebook) your in-class notes. Your LOG will be collected midterm (& returned to you) and again at the end of the semester.
2. A 10-page research paper will be due on *Wed. Nov. 22 or Mon. Nov. 27 (you decide)*
3. Oral report of your term paper findings -10-15 minutes maximum
4. Four 1-2 page reflective essays will be required during the semester.
5. All written assignments during the semester must be:

TYPED on white paper

DOUBLE-SPACED

ONE INCH MARGINS ALL AROUND

10-12 POINT FONT

STAPLED AT TOP LEFT

6. Join (Student rate = \$25)

International Society for General Semantics
Box 728, Concord, CA 94522

Grading (1000 points available)

900-1000 = A	800-899 = B	700-799 = C	600-699 = D	Below 600 = F
Log		100 pts	(50 points available each time it's turned in)	
Class participation		100 pts		
4 Short Reflective Essays (1-2 pgs)		100 pts	(25 points each -- See grading criteria below)	
10-page Writing Assignment		400 pts	(See grading criteria below)	
Midterm		100 pts		
Final		100 pts		
Oral Report (utilize visual aides)		100 pts		

Writing Assignments – Graded on the following 4 standards:

1. Content (relates to lectures, text, and readings)
2. Mechanics & Grammar (spelling, sentence structure, use of language)
3. Organization (points stated in an organized fashion)
4. Clarity (clearly written; points well-stated)

Remember

- ☐ All writing assignments must be typed as stated above.
- ☐ No handwritten work will be accepted.
- ☐ Work must be turned in on time for credit.
- ☐ Plagiarism is unacceptable. Always cite your sources.
- ☐ Attendance during oral reports is mandatory

C RSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES

This course, *Language Awareness*, explores a range of topics on the power and function of language and its relationship to beliefs and behaviors. The subject matter aims to provide each student with invaluable theoretical and practical information about language environments, issues, metaphors, and utility. Through both historical and contemporary accounts, we will learn how the ever-dynamic qualities of language continue to shape our lives.

As students, you will learn to recognize how your own use of language affects your communication and perception of ideas. As a class we will strive to understand how our patterns of language make a definitive difference in the quality of our communication. We will look at semantics, the study of meanings in language, and reflect on language as an abstraction.

During class we will explore many social, cultural, and personal meanings we apply to specific words and phrases, while working to broaden our knowledge and appreciation of language development through time. Together we will develop ways to strengthen our personal power of language, unearth ways to organize and articulate ideas and concepts clearly in our written works, and learn how rhetorical strategies affect our perceptions of and interactions with people.

Vocabulary building will be an important component of this class. You will be introduced to such words and ideas as rhetoric, semantics, onomatopoeia, functionality, imperialism, ideology, epistemology, ethnocentricity, denotative, connotative, the persuasive principle - and expected to understand them. Each student also will be expected to learn new ways to conceptualize meanings, which will require looking at the world through new lenses.

As part of our exploration of language, we will enlist the concept of E-Prime, or English without the verb "to be." We will consider such ideas as what if the word "is" didn't exist. What if you could not use any "to be" verbs, such as *is, was, am, were, be, been, being*, etc? By employing this challenge in our own writing exercises, we shall reap a taste of the many benefits such as lively, concise writing and speaking, clearer, more critical thinking, and better communication, evaluation, and decision-making.

During the semester, we will incorporate lectures, open discussions and group workshops into our class time. You will be expected to record daily lectures comprehensively in a *log*, to be turned in for grading twice during the semester. You will refer to these lecture notes for studying purposes. A 10-page writing project also will be assigned, for which you will utilize information derived from class lectures, the text and other resource materials (e.g. books, interviews, magazine articles). Remember, this is an upper division course. The work we do in this class builds upon lessons you've had in the past.

In preparation for this class, remember the following pieces of wisdom:

- No two people ever perceive the same message in exactly the same way. Understanding this can encourage clearer communication, which can lead to enrichment in relationships, self-awareness, and psychological well-being.
- The way we use language has a tremendous influence on human relationships and can generate a positive or a negative effect, depending upon our use of it.
- I'm an advocate of the power of visualizing & self-fulfilling prophecy, and I see us having lots of fun throughout the semester! Welcome to class.

Schedule (I reserve the right to modify the schedule throughout the semester as I see fit)

Day	Date	Class Work	Assignments Due (Completed by this day)	Notes
Monday	28-Aug	Introduction to class	Add/Drops	
Wednesday	30-Aug	Syllabus review	Add/Drops	
Friday	01-Sep	Discussion on Chapter 1	Chapter 1 (1-38)	
Monday	04-Sep	Holiday! Labor Day		
Wednesday	06-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to participate in open discussion</i>	
Friday	08-Sep	Discussion on Chapter 2	Chapter 2 (39-66)	
Monday	11-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Wednesday	13-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	15-Sep	Discussion on Chapter 3	Chapter 3 (67-102)	
Monday	18-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	Reflective Essay #1 Due Today (Ch 1 & 2)	
Wednesday	20-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	22-Sep	Discussion on Chapter 4	Chapter 4 (103-134)	
Monday	25-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Wednesday	27-Sep	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	29-Sep	Discussion on Chapter 5	Chapter 5 (135-176)	
Monday	02-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	Reflective Essay #2 Due Today (Ch 3 & 4)	
Wednesday	04-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	06-Oct	Discussion on Chapter 6	Chapter 6 (177-226)	
Monday	09-Oct	Holiday! Discoverers' Day		
Wednesday	11-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	13-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Monday	16-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	Reflective Essay #3 Due Today (Ch 5 & 6)	
Wednesday	18-Oct	Discussion on Chapter 7	Chapter 7 (227-284)	
Friday	20-Oct	Review for Midterm	<i>Bring midterm questions (Chapters 1-5 & lecture notes)</i>	
Monday	23-Oct	Midterm Exam	Exam (Chapters 1-5)	
Wednesday	25-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	27-Oct	Discussion on Chapter 8	Chapter 8 (285-332)	

Schedule (I reserve the right to modify the schedule throughout the semester as I see fit)

Monday	30-Oct	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Wednesday	01-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	03-Nov	Discussion on Chapter 9	Chapter 9 (333-381)	
Monday	06-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	Reflective Essay #4 Due Today (Ch 7,8 &9)	
Wednesday	08-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	10-Nov	Holiday! Veterans' Day	☐	
Monday	13-Nov	Discussion on Chapter 10	Chapter 10 (389-445)	
Wednesday	15-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Friday	17-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Monday	20-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	<i>Be prepared to discuss ETC: articles</i>	
Wednesday	22-Nov	Lecture & Workshop	Term papers: due 22 or 27? Majority vote rules	
Friday	24-Nov	Thanksgiving Holiday -- Enjoy!		
Monday	27-Nov	Student oral re ports	Oral Reports begin this week	
Wednesday	29-Nov	Student oral re ports	☐	
Friday	01-Dec	Student oral re--ports	☐	
Monday	04-Dec	Student oral re--ports	☐	
Wednesday	06-Dec	Student oral reports	☐	
Friday	08-Dec	Review for final	Bring questions for final review	
Monday	11-Dec	Finals <u>Week -- Final Exam Date to be advised</u>		

et cetera

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<http://www.generalsemantics.org/etc-desc.htm>

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updated May 3, 2002