I. Course Title: Anthropological Linguistics

II. Course Number: ANTH 310

III. Credit Hours: 3

IV. Prerequisites: None

V. Catalog Description:

After a general introduction to the nature of language (descriptive linguistics) the course will focus on human communication and the uses of language (psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics) and on the language-cognition relationship (cognitive anthropology and symbolic anthropology).

VI. Curricular Relationships:

This is one of the four courses that constitute a complete introduction to the field of anthropology. Other courses in this sequence are Introduction to Anthropology (ANTH 201), Physical Anthropology (ANTH 205), and Archaeology.

VII. Course Objectives:

- Students will:
  - Discriminate between historical linguistics, descriptive linguistics, sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics.
  - Understand the connections between linguistics, cognitive anthropology, and symbolic anthropology.
  - Identify the importance of linguistics for a complete understanding of human behavior.
  - Acquire a background in the contemporary literature of sociolinguistics.
  - Be able to produce scholarly essays on the above topics.
VIII. Content Outline:

The following topics will be considered, although not necessarily in the order presented below:
- Historical linguistics
- Descriptive linguistics
- Sociolinguistics
- Psycholinguistics
- Cognitive Anthropology
- Symbolic Anthropology

IX. Course Procedures:

The instruction will consist of lectures and discussions. Lectures will be used to present issues and topics concerning the theory and practice of anthropological linguistics. Students will be required to read, in addition to the text, a series of issue-related articles which will then be discussed in class.

Students will be evaluated on up to three essay and or objective in-class exams and an objective final examination.

Students will be given the option of rewriting any essay to improve their score

Grading Scale:

(Based on a percentage score)
- A - 90% or above
- B - 80% - 90%
- C - 70% - 80%
- D – 60% - 70%
- F – Below 60%

X. Required/Recommended Readings:

Students will be required to read a comprehensive textbook and a collection of issue related articles.

XI Any Issues Unique to this Course:

Anthropological linguistics is a developing field. Students will be given a sense of how it has responded to contemporary issues in the behavioral sciences and has, in turn shaped these issues.

XII Additional Issues of the Department's Choosing: