



Spoken Communication: Conversation in Context

Course Overview:

Spoken Communication: Conversation in Context focuses on the linguistic, pragmatic, and conversational strategies needed to contribute ideas and opinions to conversations in a culturally appropriate way along with effectively interacting with others in campus classrooms and in daily life. Students will conduct field work interviewing and exploring how English is used by English-dominant speakers and use this data to reflect on their own English usage. The cultural and linguistic meanings behind what students say and how they say it in American English are also explored to improve intercultural communication among speakers of English. Students who enroll in this class typically have some experience using English extensively in their daily life.

Student Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

- Identify the features of linguistic breakdown resulting from speaking and be able to identify those features in one's speech.
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for power in conversation
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for indirect speech
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for disagreeing
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for apologizing
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for being polite
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for turn taking
- Notice and attend to the language forms and relevant factors for cross-cultural communication

Required Materials:

- ❖ Folder/notebook to organize class material
- ❖ Laptop

Recommended Readings:

- ❖ *That's Not What I Meant!* – Deborah Tannen
- ❖ *How We Talk* – N.J. Enfield
- ❖ *Speaking American: A Visual Guide* – Josh Katz
- ❖ *Beyond Culture* – Edward T. Hall