

# EN/AN/SO 4633/6633: Language and Society

Dr. Ginger Pizer

TR 9:30 – 10:45



This course examines the relationship between language and society. We will study how language varies by region, social group, and gender. We will investigate connections between language and identity, analyze attitudes and ideologies about language, and see how this variation and these attitudes play out in arenas such as education, politics, the media, and daily interaction. Specifically:

- Why do people from different parts of the country talk differently? Why does everyone think everyone else is doing it wrong?
- What happens in the classroom when kids show up speaking different kinds of English?
- How do people in entertainment or in politics use different kinds of English for characterization?
- And much more

## **Texts:**

*What is Sociolinguistics?* (2nd edition), 2018, by G. Van Herk.

*American English* (3rd edition), 2016, by W. Wolfram and N. Schilling

Additional articles placed on reserve

Students in EN/AN 6633 will be assigned additional readings which they will present to the class, and they will write a longer final paper.