

ENG 3650: Special Topics in Applied Linguistics Term 2, 2008-9 3 credits

Language policy, culture, and identity in Asian contexts

Time: Mondays, 8:30 – 11:15 am

Venue: ICS L1

Instructor: Professor Jane Jackson

Office: 119 FKH

Phone: 2609-7174/ Fax: 2603-5270

Office hrs: Mon. 12:30 – 3 pm

E-mail: jjackson@cuhk.edu.hk

and by appt.

This course examines language planning and policy (LPP) issues in Asian countries, with a special focus on the relationship between language, culture, and identity. It provides historical accounts of LPP in a wide variety of contexts and reviews current research and developments. In particular, the course explores how policies are closely tied to sociocultural, geopolitical, and economic forces. The interplay between globalization/ internationalization and nationalization/ localization and the formation of hybrid identities are analyzed. The rise of English as the *lingua franca* of international communication is problematized in relation to local cultures, language politics, and identities. Students have the opportunity to explore LPP in an Asian context of their choice and present their findings in a conference-like setting. This course is suitable for local and international students.

Learning outcomes:

Upon successful completion of this course you should be better able to:

- appreciate the multiple factors that impact on language policy and planning (LPP) in macro (e.g., national) and micro (e.g., educational) contexts in Asia;
- grasp the complex relationship between LPP, culture, and identity in a diverse range of geopolitical, socioeconomic contexts in Asia;
- assess the impact of globalization, glocalization, and internationalization on language policies, local cultures, and identities;
- knowledgeably discuss LPP issues in Asian countries;
- work collaboratively in small groups to produce a coherent, substantive written report and creative, professional oral presentation based on an investigation of a LPP issue / situation in an Asian setting of your choice.

Assessment scheme:

Class attendance, preparation, and participation	10%
Reading-summary presentation	25%
Group report on LPP case study	45%
Conference presentation/handout	20%

Required text:

Tsui, A. B. M. and Tollefson, J. W. (Eds.). (2007). *Language Policy, Culture, and Identity in Asian Contexts*. Mahwah, N.J.: Lawrence Erlbaum Assoc., Inc. (on reserve in the main library).

Additional readings will be provided on CU Forum.

Useful reference books (on reserve in the main library):

McKay, S. Lee and Bokhorst-Heng, W. D. (2008). *International English in its Sociolinguistic Contexts: Towards a Socially Sensitive EIL Pedagogy*. N. Y.: Routledge.

Scupin, R. (2006). *Peoples and Cultures of Asia*. Upper Saddle River, N.J.: Pearson-Prentice Hall.

Simpson, A. (Ed.). (2007). *Language and National Identity in Asia*. Oxford: OUP.