

English 221: The English Language

Instructor: Kirk Hazen, Kirk.Hazen@mail.wvu.edu

CRN: 10708, Clark 317, Tuesday/Thursday, 8:30-9:45 AM



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Purpose: To enjoy studying English! Additionally, the purpose of this course is also to direct you in rigorously studying language in general and the English language in particular.

Course Objectives:

- To learn how to analyze language
- To explore the modern concepts of the mental grammar
- To confront the assumptions of traditional prescriptivism
- To develop a non-patronizing respect for language variation
- To understand the role of social forces on language variation

Text: *An Introduction to Language* by Kirk Hazen, Wiley-Blackwell, 2015

Grades:

Graded Work	Percent of final grade
Quizzes	25%
Homework	25%
Midterm Funsicle	25%
Final Fantasy	25%

493 Special Topics: Appalachian Englishes



English 493: Some time special; Some place close to your heart

Email: Kirk.Hazen@mail.wvu.edu

This course directs students to study Appalachia Englishes, including its history, sociolinguistic status, and current variations. We will explore the stereotypes surrounding Appalachia Englishes, including the media representations of it. Through active research, we will describe how it works and discuss how to best combat the prejudices against it.

We will focus on gaining

- an understanding of the linguistic and social constraints on English in Appalachia.
- respect for human language, including vernacular variation.
- knowledge of the diachronic and synchronic language variation that pertains to English in Appalachia.
- a better comprehension of the assumptions of traditional prescriptivism.

Texts:

Hazen, Kirk (ed.). 2020. *Appalachian Englishes in the Twenty-First Century*. Morgantown, WV: WVU Press.

Grades will be based off quizzes, small essays, and a multi-part project.

593 Special Topics: Appalachian Englishes



English 593: Some time special; Some place close to your heart

Email: Kirk.Hazen@mail.wvu.edu

This graduate course directs students to study Appalachia Englishes, including its social history, its current sociolinguistic status, and various language variation patterns. We will explore the stereotypes surrounding Appalachia Englishes, including the media representations, in order to better understand how Appalachians both embrace and reject them. Through active research, we will describe how sociolinguistic variation works and discuss how to best combat the prejudices against it. Graduate students will conduct an original research project with live data (e.g. in the form of audio/video recordings; archival transcripts; language corpora).

We will focus on gaining

- an understanding of the linguistic and social constraints on English in Appalachia.
- respect for human language, including vernacular variation.
- knowledge of the diachronic and synchronic language variation that pertains to English in Appalachia.
- a better comprehension of the assumptions of traditional prescriptivism.

Texts:

- Hazen, Kirk (ed.). 2020. *Appalachian Englishes in the Twenty-First Century*. Morgantown, WV: WVU Press.
- Elizabeth Catte, 2018, *What you are getting wrong about Appalachia*. Belt Publishing.

Task	Due Date	% of Final Grade
Discussions, HWs, Quizzes	Throughout the semester	30%
Transcript	Feb 21	10%
Feature compilation paper	March 23	15%
Presentation & handout	April 28	10%
Final paper	May 7	25%