Description of the course:

In this course, we’ll examine the linguistic, social, and political impact of the spread of English around the world. Through readings, discussion, and engagement in conversations with guest speakers, we will critically consider the role and development of English in various world contexts—e.g., Morocco, Turkey, Switzerland, Tanzania, India, Singapore, France, Brazil, and others—and the issues surrounding the presence of English. Some of the questions we will address include: at what age do people start studying English? How is it taught? Is it a language confined to the elite, or is it more widespread? What model of English is promoted? Is English influencing local languages, and if so, how? Is there public debate about the impact of English—on the local culture and values, on people’s access to literacy, on economic factors, on the country’s future? Etc. While we will study English in various countries, we will consider as well topics which transcend geography, such as English on the Internet, and English as an agent in the spread of American popular culture.

Requirements:

Undergrads, Special students: Grads:

Two take-home essay examinations. The questions will be based on the readings, guest speakers, lectures, speakers, lectures, discussions, and any presentations. The first exam will be given out around mid-semester and will cover material to that date. The second exam, exam, given out toward the semester’s end, will cover material after Exam 1 and through the end of the semester.

60%  40% Research paper (involving a 10-12 page individual paper + presentation of it); to be researched collaboratively or individually, following a relevant topic of your choice. (I will work this out with you.) **Paper due 4/15**.
Requirements, cont’d

Undergrads, Grads:
Special students:
n/a  50%  Research paper (leading to a 20-25 page paper + presentation). Done individually, on a relevant topic of your choice. (I'll work this out with you.) **Paper due 4/15.**

10%  10%  Discussion-leading: together with several others, lead a discussion of our readings (for ½ hour-45 min. of our class session). This may include bringing in some supplementary material. (I'll work with you on this.)

Note: Regular attendance and participation in discussions are expected, and if not occurring, can affect the grade.

Course materials:


2) Xeroxed packet of readings: available at Bob's Copy Shop (1314 W. Johnson St., across from Union South; open M-F, 8-8, Sat, Sun noon – 5; 251-2936.) I will put a packet on reserve at the College Library.

Calendar:

Week 1  **Introduction/Overview**
1/20; 1/22  Reading: Crystal, Chapt 1

Weeks 2-3  **General Considerations in the Spread of English**
1/27; 1/29  Readings Week 2: Crystal, Chapt 2-4; Sampson & Zhao
2/3; 2/5  Readings Week 3: Crystal, Chapt 5; Kachru & Nelson; Phillipson & Skutnabb-Kangas
Weeks 4-6  
2/10; 2/12  Readings Week 4: Schaub; al-Abed al Haq & Smadi  
2/17; 2/19  Readings Week 5: Dogançay-Aktuna; Zuengler  
2/24; 2/26  Reading Week 6: Vavrus  

Weeks 7-9  
3/2; 3/4  Readings Week 7: Kachru; Canagarajah; D'souza  
3/9; 3/11  Readings Week 8: Chew; Flack interview; Lam  
(SPRING BREAK)  
3/23; 3/25  Readings Week 9: Zhenhua; Hoffer & Honna; Kubota  

**Tues.3/23: Exam #1 given out (due Tues.3/30)**  

Week 10  
3/30; 4/1  Readings: Friedrich; Niño-Murcia; Rajagopalan  

**Tues. 3/30: Exam #1 due.**  

Weeks 11-12  
4/6; 4/8  
4/13; 4/15  
**Research papers due 4/15**  

Week 13  
4/20; 4/22  Readings: Tent; Mühlhäusler  

Weeks 14-15  
4/27; 4/29  Readings Week 14: Hoffmann; Grin; Truchot  
5/4; 5/6  Readings Week 15: Ciscel; Petzold & Berns  

**Tues.5/4: Exam #2 given out (due 5/11)**  

**Tues. May 11, 5:05 p.m. Exam #2 handed in at final get-together.**
**Focus: General Considerations in the Spread of English**


**Focus: English in Some Middle Eastern and African Contexts**


**Focus: English in Various Asian Contexts**


**Focus: English in Some South American Contexts**


**Focus: English in South Pacific Contexts**


**Focus: English in Some European Contexts**


