

Course	CDNS 2002 Language, Culture and Power
Instructor	Lindy Van Vliet
Term	Winter 2024
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Office Location	DT 1215 A
Office Hours	Wed 1:00 – 2:00 pm (or by appointment)

COURSE DESCRIPTION / INSTRUCTOR'S STATEMENT

In this class we will explore the relationship between power, language, and the constitution of social norms in Canada. We are going to be talking about the relationship between language and power in two main ways:

- First, we will explore the theoretical connection between discourse (the way language is used socially) and power using a series of case studies to better understand that connection (including an exploration of the discourses of nationhood, terrorism, and war).
- Second, we will examine the dynamics between languages (the system of communication used by a group of people e.g., English) and the politics of identity and nationhood in Canada.

Finally, through in-class workshops we will be building key academic skills with a focus on reading and conducting research.

EVALUATION

Bi-Weekly Reading Scrapbook: 1 to 2 reflection questions about one of the weekly readings for 6 of the 12 weeks of the course (30%).

Tracing Power and Language Assignment: submit a research-based assignment on one of the major class themes. **proposal** (15%) & **final product** (30%).

Fieldtrip Reflection: submit a reflection after one of the fieldtrips connecting what you saw on the trip to our course themes (10%).

Take-home exam: final take-home exam will be shared at the end of the term (15%).