

L636--PIDGIN AND CREOLE LINGUISTICS

Fall 2002
Albert Valdman

Instructor office hours:

M, W 2:00-3:30 or by appointment (Tel: 855-4988/0097)
Ballantine 604
email: Valdman@indiana.edu

Time: 4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m.

Place: M356

Course Description:

This course comprises a general survey of the field as well as discussion of current issues. It will be conducted as a mixed lecture-discussion course and pro-seminar. The instructor will present half of the topics of the course during the first half of the course; students and visiting lecturers will cover the remaining topics.

Topics will include:

1. Definition of pidgin and creole languages
2. Survey of pidgins and creole in the world
3. The structure of pidgins and creoles: some case studies, including:
Haitian Creole: French-based
Sranan or Saramaccan Creole (Surinam): English-based
Cape Verdian Creole (West Africa): Portuguese-based
Tok Pisin (Papua New Guinea): English-based extended pidgin
4. Genesis and development of creoles: substrate, superstrate, Bioprogram
5. Social matrix of creoles
6. Creolization and language contact: typology, language, distance and markedness
7. Decreolization
8. Language planning in creole-speaking countries

Grading: Occasional assignments; class report; term paper

Readings: No required texts

Extensive readings in a variety of texts and collective volumes. These readings will be available in the reserve section of the main library and from the instructor's office (BH 604).