

Monday & Wednesday 11:00 – 12:15  
HSSB 1207

**Instructor:** Robert Kennedy  
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**Office Hours** Mondays 1-2  
Wednesdays 1-2

Course website: [http://www.linguistics.ucsb.edu/faculty/rkennedy/ling194\\_w08](http://www.linguistics.ucsb.edu/faculty/rkennedy/ling194_w08)

### **Course Description**

This course is going to be a thorough exploration of the relationship between the structure of language and the specialized context of sports. We'll be looking at the structure of language in a variety of sports-related contexts, including in-game interactions, interviews and press conferences with participants, and journalistic narratives. We'll focus on how the goal of the context shapes the structure of the language usage (and vice versa). We'll also look at phenomena like sport-specific vocabulary, sport metaphor, and nicknaming practices.

### **Readings**

No textbook

Reading packet available The Alternative Copy Shop:  
6556 Pardall Road, Isla Vista CA  
805-968-1055

☞ **Ask for course reader for Linguistics 194 (Kennedy)**

All readings also available through class website

### **Course Requirements**

Assignments	40%
Midterm	15%
Final	25%
Participation	20%

### **Policies**

- Assignments must be typed but will not be accepted via e-mail unless they have been converted to PDF with fonts properly embedded.
- Dates for exams are not negotiable.
- Any breach of university policy regarding cheating or plagiarism will be reported to the Dean of Students for appropriate disciplinary action.

**Proposed schedule of Topics and Readings (subject to change)**

**Week 1 (Jan 7-9):** Preliminaries, scope of class, ground rules,  
Lexicon. Cards, horse races, bat games  
Kassing et al. 2004  
Glowka et al 2000a, 2000b  
Shulman 1996

**Week 2 (Jan 14-16):** Lexicon cont'd. Field games, adaptive reference  
Gillmeister 1996  
Sabino 2005

**Week 3 (Jan 23):** Metaphor  
Saporta 1990

**Week 4 (Jan 28-30):** Metaphor cont'd; Narrative: journalism  
Archer and Cohen 1997  
Liu and Farha 1996  
Ferguson 1983

**Week 5 (Feb 4-6):** Print journalism, headline tropes  
**Midterm Feb 6**  
Romaine 1994

**Week 6 (Feb 11-Feb 13):** Narrative: broadcast journalism  
Reaser 2003  
Bowcher 2003  
Hansen 1999  
Billings et al 2002

**Week 7 (Feb 20):** Interview  
*reading TBD*

**Week 8: (Feb 25-27):** Interaction, trash talk, co-operative talk  
Heath and Langman 1994  
Eveslage and Delaney 1998  
Loconto and Roth 2005

**Week 9 (Mar 3-5):** Nicknames  
Kennedy and Zamuner 2005  
Skipper 1990  
Wilson and Skipper 1990

**Week 10: (Mar 10-12):** Team names, Wrap up  
Kinloch 1972, 1973, 1975

**Final Exam** Fri Mar 21, 12:00 – 3:00 pm