

English 210: Global Englishes
Spring 2021
Counts toward **GER** credit in the Humanities

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Meeting Time: Online Asynchronous
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Course Description

Have you ever wondered how many varieties of English there are? (Why some folks say *good morning* and others say *w's up?*) Have you ever wondered why we have different varieties of English, or why in some cases it's easy to tell where someone is from, but in other cases it's difficult? Is there really a standard spoken language, or are language standards only for writing? How do people perceive the different varieties and accents of English around the world? Indeed, the English language now has more than one billion speakers world-wide, making the description and documentation of these global varieties both timely and important. As English has made – and continues to make – its way around the globe, radical changes to local languages and cultures have occurred. At the same time, however, what is thought of as English has also been modified, adapted, and cultivated, sometimes in unfamiliar and unrecognizable ways. In English 210, many of the principal varieties of *Global Englishes* (also known as *World Englishes*) will be studied in detail—those with long traditions of native speakers (England, Scotland, Ireland), those that emerged through British colonialism (the US, Canada, Australia, but also South Africa, West Africa, and the West Indies), and those recently nativized (India, Singapore, Malaysia). We will explore the historical, political, and sociocultural issues associated with the globalization of Englishes, focusing on some of the structural differences of these varieties, but also on the ideological underpinnings of debates about nativization, standardization, identity, and ownership.

Required Materials

- Text: Schneider, Edgar W. (2020). *English Around the World*, 2nd Edition. Cambridge University Press. ISBN: 978-1-108-44226-8 (paperback)
- Materials on Canvas
 - Articles
 - PowerPoint slides
 - Handouts
 - Supplemental video or audio files

Please contact Pat Mayes (mayes@uwm.edu) if you have questions or would like additional information before the syllabus is ready.