

William Labov Biographical information

Professor, Departments of Linguistics, University of Pennsylvania,
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Born: Dec 4, 1927, Rutherford, NJ
Harvard College, B.A., 1948
Columbia University, M.A., 1963; Ph.D. 1964
Industrial chemist, Union Ink Co., Ridgefield, NJ, 1949-1960
Assistant Professor, Columbia University, 1964-1970
Associate Professor, Professor, University of Pennsylvania, 1971-
Director, Linguistics Laboratory, University of Pennsylvania, 1976-

Co-editor, *Language Variation and Change*
Co-editor, *Journal of Dialect Geography*

Books and representative articles:

The Social Stratification of English in New York City., 1966
The Study of Non-Standard English., 1969
Sociolinguistic Patterns, 1972
Language in the Inner City, 1972
What is a Linguistic Fact? , 1975.
with David Fanshel, *Therapeutic Discourse* , 1976.
Principles of Linguistic Change. Volume 1: Internal Factors , 1994.
Principles of Linguistic Change. Volume 2: Social Factors. 2001.
with S. Ash and C. Boberg, *Atlas of North American English: Phonology and Sound Change 2006*
The social motivation of a sound change, 1963
with U. Weinreich & M. Herzog, Empirical foundations for a theory of language change, 1968.
Contraction, deletion and inherent variation of the English copula, 1969.
The logic of non-standard English, 1979.
Resolving the Neogrammarian controversy, 1981.
with W. Harris, Defacto Segregation of Black and White Vernaculars, 1986
Transmission and Diffusion, 2007.

David H. Russell Award for Distinguished Research in English, 1966.
Guggenheim Fellow: 1970-71 and 1987-88.
Member, National Academy of Arts and Sciences, 1979-
Member, National Academy of Sciences, 1993-
Fellow, American Association for the Advance of Science, 1997-
President, Linguistic Society of America, 1979.
Honorary degrees:, U. of Uppsala, 1985; U. of Liège, 1990, U. of York 1998, U. of Edinburgh 2005, U. of Paris X, Nanterre 2007.
Sapir Professor, Linguistic Institute, New York, 1986.

Editor, *Language Variation and Change*, 1988-

Leonard Bloomfield LSA award for *Principles of Linguistic Change, Vol. 1*, 1996.

Leonard Bloomfield LSA award for *Atlas of North American English*, 2008.