

Ling 130 Psycholinguistics

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Readings (Available in the COOP and sections will be posted on-line. Non-required readings, those without a star, will be posted on-line)

Primary textbook: D.W. Carroll, Psychology of Language . (4th edition) Pacific Grove: Brooks/Cole Publishing Co.
Reference book: J. Field, Psycholinguistics: The Key Concepts Routledge.

Course Objectives

The course is aimed to be a basic introductory survey of current research in psycholinguistics (the study of the psychological/neuropsychological aspects of human language). We will explore the psychological and neurological models of language on the basis of evidence from language evolution, language acquisition, and language processing, as well as the performance of brain-damaged individuals (aphasia studies).

Furthermore we will discuss the impact of computational neural network models and brain imaging studies on our knowledge how the human brain generates cognitive process like concept formation, language, memory and thought.

There are no prerequisites.

Course Requirements

The course requirements consist of a final paper and active class participation. Class participation is required. You are expected to have done the assigned readings before coming to class. A star in the syllabus indicates a recommended reading. Appropriate chapters from the textbook are required reading. Effective class participation, asking pertinent questions and making appropriate comments, depends on having read the materials assigned for class. Your grade for the course will be computed as follows:

Final Paper:	60%
Participation:	40%

The final paper is to be a critical overview of a given field of research and proposal of experiments. Max 10pages. Paper deadline will be established in class.

Course Outline

Date Topic/Readings

1. *Introduction and Overview*

*Psychology of Language (POL): Chapter 1.

2. *Biological basis of language – Language Evolution*

*POL: Chapter 13.

3. *Linguistic principles & Psychological mechanisms*

*POL: Chapter 2.

Noam Chomsky (1959). “A Review of B. F. Skinner's *Verbal Behavior*” in *Language*, 35, No. 1, 26-58.

Acquiring language

4. *Language acquisition I*

*POL: Chapter 10.

5. *Language acquisition II*

*POL Chapters 11 and 12.

Comprehending language – sounds, words, letters

6. *Speech perception*

*POL: Chapters 4 and 5

McGurk, H. & MacDonald, J. (1976). “Hearing Lips and Seeing Voices”. *Nature*, 264, pp. 746-748.

7. *Visual word perception & recognition*

*POL: Chapters 4 and 5.

Comprehending language – concepts, disorders of comprehension

8. *Meaning, concepts and categories*

*POL: Chapter 5.

Rosch, E. (2002). “Principles of Categorization”. In Levitin, D. J. (Ed), *Foundations of Cognitive Psychology: Core Readings*, pp. 251-270. Cambridge,
Warrington, E.K. & Shallice, T. (1984). “Category-Specific Semantic Impairment”. *Brain*, 107, pp. 829-853. MA, US: MIT Press.

Comprehending language – sentences, disorders of sentence comprehension

9. *Sentence comprehension*

*POL: Chapter 6.

Gibson, E., & Pearlmutter, N. (2000). “Distinguishing Serial and Parallel Parsing”. *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*. Vol. 29(2), pp. 231-240. Kluwer Academic, US.

10. *Sentence comprehension disorders*

*POL: Chapter 7.

Caramazza, A., & Zurif, E. (1976). "Dissociation of Algorithmic and Heuristic Processes in Language Comprehension: Evidence from Aphasia". *Brain and Language*, 3, pp. 572-582.

Grodzinsky, Y. (2000). "The Neurology of Syntax: Language Use Without Broca's Area". *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 23.1, pp. 1-71.

Producing language – sentences

11. Sentence production

*POL: Chapter 8.

Bock, K., & Levelt, W. (1994). "Language Production: Grammatical Encoding". In: M. A. Gernsbacher (Ed.), *Handbook of Psycholinguistics*. San Diego, CA: Academic Press, Inc.

Producing language – disorders

12. Disorders of word production and comprehension

*Levelt, W.J. M., Roelofs, A., Meyer, A. S. (1999). "A Theory of Lexical Access in Speech Production". *Behavioral & Brain Sciences*. Vol 22(1), pp. 1-75. Cambridge Univ Press, US.

Dell, G. S., Schwartz, M. F., Martin, N., Saffran, E. M., and Gagnon, D. A. (1997). "Lexical Access in Aphasic and Nonaphasic Speakers". *Psychological Review*, 104/4, pp. 801-838.

13. Reading and spelling disorders

Ellis, A.W., (1988). "Normal Writing Processes and Peripheral Acquired Dysgraphias". *Language and Cognitive Processes*, 3, 99-127.

Patterson, J.C. Marshall, & M. Coltheart (Eds.), *Surface Dyslexia: Neuropsychological and Cognitive Studies of Phonological Reading*, pp. 15-34.

Brain Imaging

14. Sounds and words

*Poeppel D. & G. Hickok, (2004). "Towards a New Functional Anatomy of Language". *Cognition*, 92, pp. 1-12.

Poeppel, D. (1996). "A Critical Review of PTE Studies of Phonological Processing", *Brain and Language*, 55, pp. 317-351.

15. Concepts and sentences

Osterhout, L., and P. J. Holcomb (1995). "Event-related Potentials and Language Comprehension". In: M. D. Rugg and M.G.H. Coles (Eds). *Electrophysiology of Mind: Event-Related Brain Potentials and Cognition*. Oxford Univ Press pp.175-215.