



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

Department of Psychology
Course Outline - Fall 2006

Psychology 467: Experimental Psycholinguistics

Figure from www.hip.atr.co.jp/~hmichiko



Lecture Time:	Wednesdays 4-7		
Lecture Place:	A 167		
Web:	http://blackboard.ucalgary.ca/		
Instructor:	Dr. Suzanne Curtin	Teaching Assistant:	Dan Hufnagle
Office:	ADM 260	Email:	hufnad@yahoo.com
Email:	scurtin@ucalgary.ca	Labs:	M 4-6, T 2-4
Office Hours:	TBA	Lab Location	SS 18

Course Overview:

Psycholinguistics is a broad field of research spanning from speech perception to sentence processing to language development to computer modeling. Throughout the course we will consider the relationship between theoretical linguistic concepts and constructs and psycholinguistic data. We will begin by discussing what language is, how it is organized, represented, and acquired, where it comes from, and what cognitive factors influence it. We will then investigate current and ongoing issues in psycholinguistics while examining the basic processes underlying the acquisition, production, and comprehension of spoken and written language. The lab component provides experience with experimental techniques used to study language behaviour.

Required Textbook: Harley, T. (2001). *The Psychology of Language*. 2nd Edition. Psychology Press.

Articles: Will be available on Blackboard.

Evaluation:

In class exams (2): 20% (10% each)

***Final Take-home Exam** 25%

Discussion: 5%

- Use of Blackboard

Class Presentation: 10%

- Journal article

Laboratory Component: 40%

- Projects
- Experiments
- Attendance

***Final Exam Information:**

1. Handed out in class on Wednesday, December 6th, 2006
2. **Due Friday, December 15th, 2006**
3. To be handed in into the green box outside of A275.
4. Emailed final exams will **not** be accepted.
5. Late final exams will **not** be accepted.

Department Grade Requirement: A student may not register in any 400-level psychology course unless he/she is a major and has the appropriate prerequisite. Prerequisite for PSYC 467: PSYC 312.

Grading Scale. Each exam will be assigned a numerical grade, based on the total number of possible points. The final letter grade will be assigned based on the sum of the total points awarded. The following grading system will be used:

A+	97-100	B+	84-87	C+	72-75	D+	56-59
A	92-96	B	80-83	C	67-71	D	50-55
A-	88-92	B-	76-79	C-	60-66	F	0-49

(See the University Calendar for interpretation of the letter grades.)

Please note the grading scale for the course is not the standard scale used in other psychology courses. The following grading scale will be used to determine final course grades. However, it should be noted that grades might be "curved up" if the class performance is abnormally low. Grades will not be curved down under any circumstances.

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades.

In this course there will be no rounding up of final grades, especially in light of the opportunities students have to increase their final grade via research credits.

LECTURES:

Important notes regarding readings and lectures:

1. Readings assigned from the text complement the material covered in lectures, and will not provide a substitute for attending lectures. If you miss a lecture, you are strongly encouraged to consult a student who was present to determine what was covered.
2. The reading/lecture schedule is tentative. If changes are made, an updated version will be provided on the course website.

Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic	Pages
Sept. 13	INTRODUCTION	3-19
13	Communication versus language (what)	47-59
13 & 20	Gesture (what)	375-376
20	Evolution (where)	8-10
20	Modularity versus Interactiveness (organization)	20, 411-415
27	Symbolic versus distributed (representation)	22
27	Working memory and storage (cognitive influences)	398-402
27 & Oct 4	Nature versus Nurture (how)	21, 93-105
LINGUISTICS		
Oct. 4	PHONETICS	
	• Articulatory & Acoustic	27-32
11	PHONOLOGY	32-33
	• Segmental & Prosodic	
11	MORPHOLOGY	160-162
	• Inflectional & Derivational	
11 & 18	SYNTAX	33-40
18	SEMANTICS	275-294
PSYCHOLINGUISTICS		
SPOKEN LANGUAGE		
25	EXAM 1 (FIRST HOUR)	
	Production (Segments, words, sentences)	349-376
Nov. 1 & 8	Comprehension (segments, words, sentences)	219-274
	• Perception	
	• Recognition	
WRITTEN LANGUAGE		
8 & 15	Comprehension	141-218
	• Visual word recognition	
	• Reading & Dyslexia	
LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT		
15	Production	107-127
	• Gestures	
	• Segments	
	• Words	
	• Sentences	
22	Perception	105-107
	• Segments	
	• Words	
	• Sentences	
ATYPICAL LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT		
29	EXAM 2 (FIRST HOUR)	70-77
Dec. 6	• Williams Syndrome	
	• Specific Language Impairment	
Course Wrap-up, Final Exam handed out		

Note: The instructor must approve any tape recordings of lectures.

University of Calgary Curriculum objectives:

This course is currently being redesigned. We will be asking for input from you at various times throughout the semester. Please do not hesitate to raise any issues or concerns as they arise.

1) This course addresses the following core competencies:

- Critical and creative thinking
- Analysis of problems
- Effective oral and written communication
- Gathering and organizing information
- Abstract reasoning and its applications
- Insight and intuition in generating knowledge
- Interpretive and assessment skills

With the following course characteristics:

- Class discussion is encouraged in both lectures and laboratories; students are prompted to think critically about course material
- Students are required to design research projects which will involve integrating previous research, critically evaluating and analyzing existing issues and questions, reasoning about research implications and generating their own research designs.
- Students will present their research projects both orally and in written form.

2) **This course addresses the following curriculum redesign features:**

- A defined interdisciplinary component
- An experiential learning component relevant to the program objectives
- Integration of research

With the following course characteristics:

- Weekly laboratory component engaging students in research projects
- Class discussions centering on methodological and conceptual issues in research studies

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (term paper, essay, test, etc.) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within fifteen days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next fifteen days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same.

If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within fifteen days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded

as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is a student's responsibility to request academic accommodation. If you are a student with a disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. If you are seeking academic accommodation, please notify your instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the commencement of the course. Note that the lecturer must approve any tape recordings of lectures.

Absence From A Test

Make-up exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). You must contact the instructor before the scheduled examination or you will have forfeited any right to make up the exam. At the instructor's discretion, a make-up exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup exam is written within two (2) weeks of the missed exam.

A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test for health reasons. The student will be required to pay any cost associated with the Physician Counselor Statement.

Course Credits for Research Participation

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. Students can create an account and access the Research Participation System website at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in research is December 7, 2006.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in the Administration building, room 170 or may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suypaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is September 22, 2006. The last day to withdraw from this course is December 8, 2006.