

Language, Mind and Brain

Spring 2026

Instructor: Jieun Song (jsong@kaist.ac.kr)

Course No: HSS210

Course Language: English

Classroom: TBD

Time: Tue/Thu 13:00-14:15

Teaching Assistant: Jihoo Lee (itodat@kaist.ac.kr)

COURSE DESCRIPTION

How can we comprehend and speak language? What are the cognitive and neural mechanisms underlying this process/ability? To answer these questions, this course will investigate various perceptual and cognitive processes involved, including speech perception, word recognition and sentence processing. To this end, this course will also introduce neuroscientific and psycholinguistic research techniques and provide an Electroencephalography (EEG) demonstration session in a lab. This course will also cover topics of child language acquisition, bilingualism and second-language learning. Students will propose their own experimental research based on what is taught in the course.

COURSE MATERIALS

Sedivy, J. (2020) *Language in Mind: An introduction to Psycholinguistics* (2nd edition), Oxford University Press (available at KAIST Library)

COURSE SCHEDULE

| | Topic |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Week 1 [Mar 3 & 5] | Introduction & Features of human language |
| Week 2 [Mar 10 & 12] | Evidence from damage to the brain & Research methods |
| Week 3 [Mar 17 & 19] | Speech perception (1) & EEG demo |
| Week 4 [Mar 24 & 26] | Speech perception (2) (3) |
| Week 5 [Mar 31 & Apr 2] | Experimental research & Word recognition |
| Week 6 [Apr 7 & 9] | Word recognition |
| Week 7 [Apr 14 & 16*] | Revision & Midterm |
| Week 8 [Apr 21 & 23] | Study Break |
| Week 9 [Apr 28 & 30] | Sentence processing |
| Week 10 [May 7] | Language processing and cognition |

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| Week 11 [May 12 & 14] | Child language acquisition |
| Week 12 [May 19 & 21] | Child language acquisition / Bilingualism |
| Week 13 [May 26 & 28] | Bilingualism |
| Week 14 [Jun 2 & 4] | Second language learning |
| Week 15 [Jun 9 & 11*] | Developmental disorders & Final exam |
| Week 16 | Study Break |

*exam dates

GRADING

Midterm **30%**, Final exam **30%**, Assignment **20%**, Attendance & Participation **20%**