

BCS152: Language & Psycholinguistics (4 Cr.)

Fall 2018

Time: Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00 - 3:15pm

Room: Strong Auditorium (Lower level)

Course Instructors: Dr. Chung-Lin Martin Yang (chung-lin.yang@rochester.edu)
Wednesday Bushong (wbushong@ur.rochester.edu)Teaching Assistants: Katherine Trice (ktrice@u.rochester.edu)
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Office: Meliora Hall 322 (Dr. Yang)

Phone: 585-275-1812 (Dr. Yang)

Office Hours:

Dr. Yang: **Thursdays 1:30-2:30pm, Fridays 1:30-2:30pm (effective 11/29)**

Wednesday Bushong: Wednesdays 10-12 at Meliora Hall 421

Katherine Trice: Tuesdays 1-3pm at Meliora 428

Nicole Vieyto: Fridays 12-2pm at Meliora 428

Sanoe Lanas: Wednesdays 4:50-5:50pm at Meliora 428

Course description: The goal of this course is to introduce you the psychological and neuropsychological processes involved in language comprehension, production and acquisition. This course will also provide a solid foundation for those who want to further investigate a wide range of topics in psycholinguistics. Topics to be covered in this course include language and thought, cognitive mechanisms underlying language processing and acquisition, speech perception, production, word recognition, sentence processing, brain and language, language impairment and so on.

Required readings:

Harley, Trevor (2014). *The Psychology of Language: from data to theory*.
Wadsworth.

Supplemental readings will be posted on Blackboard. Please check it before each class meeting.

Course requirements:

1. **Participation and attendance (15%):** Active participation in discussions and class activities are expected. Attendance will be taken randomly throughout the semester. If for some reason you cannot come to the class, please provide a “signed” and printed memo accompanied by necessary document(s) (e.g., a memo from the doctor, wedding program, etc.).
2. **Quizzes (20%):** Four quizzes, which include multiple-choice and/or true/false questions, will be administered on Blackboard. The purpose of these quizzes is to assess how much you understand the course topics and readings.
3. **Homework Assignments (20%):** The assignments may involve some degree of group work. Due dates can be found in the course schedule below.

- 4. Midterm (20%) and final (25%):** A closed-book midterm and a final exam will be administered in class. The dates can be found in the class schedule below. Both exams will include multiple-choice, true/false, and/or short-answer questions. The final exam is cumulative, but the topics after the midterm carry more weight (~ 70-80%) than the materials before midterm. Study guides will be posted on Blackboard.

Class policies:

1. Academic misconduct
All assignments and activities associated with this course must be performed in accordance with the University of Rochester's Academic Honesty Policy. More information is available at: www.rochester.edu/college/honesty
2. Special accommodation: If you need special accommodation, please let the course instructors know. We will do our best to suit your needs.
3. Mobile devices
Please silent your mobile devices. No cellphone/smartphone or any other entertainment devices are allowed while class is in session.

Class schedule (tentative):

(It is expected that you read the readings before each class meeting.)

Wednesday lectures

Week	Date	Topic	Readings
1	8/29	Course requirements; Introduction	Ch. 1. p. 3-8
2.1	9/3 Labor Day (No class)		
2.2	9/5	What is psycholinguistics?	Ch. 1. p. 9-16, 22 (themes & controversies) -27
3.1	9/10	Linguistic descriptions	Ch. 2. p. 30-37
3.2	9/12	The origin of language and communication	Ch. 3. p. 52 - 65
4.1	9/17	Language and thought	Ch. 3. p. 88 - 99
4.2	9/19	Homework 1 due Language production	Ch. 13. p. 396 - 409
5.1	9/24	Quiz 1 Language production	Ch. 13. p. 410-415, 426 (Phonological encoding) - 432
5.2	9/26	Speech perception and Spoken word recognition	Ch. 9. p. 258 - 270
6.1	10/1	Homework 2 due	Ch. 9. p. 270 - 281

		Spoken word recognition	
6.2	10/3	Adaptation during speech perception and production	Kraljic & Samuel (2006)
7.1	10/8	Neural basis of adaptation during speech perception	
7.2	10/10	Quiz 2 Visual word recognition	Ch. 6. p. 167 - 178
8.1	10/15 Fall break		
8.2	10/17	Homework 3 due Visual word recognition and dyslexia	Ch. 6. p. 183 – 192, Ch. 7. p. 220 - 225
9.1	10/22	Midterm	
9.2	10/24	Syntax and sentence processing	Ch. 2. p. 37-42
10.1	10/29	Sentence processing	Ch. 10. p. 287-298
10.2	10/31	Sentence processing Homework 3 Due	Ch. 10.
11.1	11/5	Comprehension	Ch. 12. p. 360 - 370
11.2	11/7	Comprehension and understanding discourse	Ch. 12. p. 371 - 375 & Ch. 14. p. 450 - 458
12.1	11/12	Quiz 3 Audience design and common ground in comprehension	Wu & Keysar (2007)
12.2	11/14	Homework 4 due Audience design and common ground in production	Heller, Grodner, & Tanenhaus (2008)
13.1	11/19	First language acquisition	Ch. 4. p. 104 – 114, 119 - 124
13.2	11/21 Thanksgiving break		
14.1	11/26	First language acquisition	Ch. 4. p. 125 – 128, 136 – 143, Ch. 3. p. 78 - 83
14.2	11/28	Quiz 4 Cognitive processes and second language acquisition	Ch. 5. p. 153 – 159, Ch. 15. p. 460 – 463, 468 - 472
15.1	12/3	Individual differences in second language acquisition	Darcy, Park & Yang (2015)
15.2	12/5	Brain and language	Ch. 3. p. 67 (Biological basis) – 77 Supplemental readings
16.1	12/10	Brain and language	Supplemental readings
16.2	12/12	Aphasia	Ch. 13. p. 433-445

	12/17 4pm	Final Exam	
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