



UNIVERSITY OF
CALGARY

University of Calgary
Department of Psychology
Psychology 467: Experimental Psycholinguistics
(L01 – Winter 2006)

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



Lecture Time:	MWF 12:00-1:00		
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:	T 6:00 or W 4:00
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 acquisition to computer modeling. We will investigate the basic processes underlying the acquisition, production and comprehension of spoken and written language. Throughout the course we will consider the relationship between theoretical linguistic concepts and constructs, and psycholinguistic data. The lab component provides experience with experimental techniques used to study language behaviour.

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

Lab package: *Student Manual for CogLab*.

Note: Both items are available at the bookstore.

Course Work and Grading:

In class exams:	60% (3 x 20% each)
Final project:	15%
Class Presentation	10%
Laboratory Component:	15%

Lab reports and participation in experiments will jointly constitute 15% of the final grade. The final project will be a write-up of a proposed and piloted experiment. The class presentation will be a short report outlining your experiment. Many details of the final project will be addressed in the lab. Details concerning the lab component and the final project will be covered on a handout distributed in the first lab. 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 bonus credits.

Grading. 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:

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

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.

Class Schedule (tentative: updates will be provided on the course website):

Week	Date	Topic	Pages
W1	January 9	What is language?	3-5
	11	Language Evolution	5-11
	13	Themes and Controversies	11-26
W2	16	Describing Language: Phonetics	27-43
	18	Describing Language: Phonology	
	20	Describing Language: Morphology	
W3	23	Describing Language: Syntax	
	25	Foundations of Language: Animal Communication II	47-59
	27	Foundations of Language: Animal Communication II	
W4	30	TEST 1	
	February 1	Recognizing Visual Words	141-177
	3	Models of Visual Word Recognition	
W5	6	Reading I	179-218
	8	Reading II	
	10	Dyslexia	
W6	13	Understanding Speech I: Lack of Invariance	219-224
	15	Understanding Speech II: Speech Perception	
	17	Understanding Speech III: Speech Segmentation	
February 19-26 Reading Week			
W8	27	Spoken Word Recognition	225-228
	March 1	Models of Spoken Word Recognition	228-242
	3	Understanding the Structure of Sentences	245-254
W9	6	TEST 2	
	8	Syntactic Ambiguity I	254-273
	10	Syntactic Ambiguity II	
W10	13	Word Meaning I	275-291

	15	Word Meaning II	
	17	Language Production	349-376
W11	20	Language Development 1: Perception	105-107
	22	Language Development II: Phonology	107-109
	24	Language Development III: Semantics	109-118
W12	27	Language Development IV: Syntax	118-127
	29	Biological Basis of Language	60-65, 376-387
	31	Atypical Populations	65-77
W13	April 3	Structure of Language System I	391-403
	5	Structure of Language System II	
	7	Test 3	
W14	10	Presentations	
	12	Presentations	

Final Project Due!

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

University of Calgary Curriculum objectives:

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.

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.

Bonus 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. Information about current experiments is on the Experimentrix website at <http://experimentrix.com/uc>. The read.me link at that site provides a guide to using the system and assigning your credits. The last day to participate in research and **ALLOCATE YOUR CREDITS TO YOUR COURSES** is April 12, 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 suvpaca@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 January 20, 2006. The last day to withdraw from this course is April 13, 2006.