

LIN4701 Psycholinguistics
T | Period 7 (3 PM - 4:55 PM)
R | Period 7 - 8 (4:05 PM - 4:55 PM)
MAT 0010

INSTRUCTOR INFORMATION

Instructor: Megan Nakamura

Email: mnakamura@ufl.edu

Do not message me through canvas, email me.

Course Goal and Objectives

In this course, we will introduce major issues and terminology in Psycholinguistic research. We will learn basic linguistic principles and the psychological/cognitive mechanisms that underlie them. Topics addressed include child language acquisition, speech production, perception, and comprehension (language sounds), the lexicon (words), sentence processing, Reading, Bilingualism, the neurobiological basis of language (language and the brain), and throughout the course we will learn neuroimaging techniques i.e. EEG and ERPs, (f)MRI, and lesion studies as we read relevant research articles. This course will not cover topics such as language and modularity, innateness, lateralization, plasticity, and hemispheric differences in depth (Brain and Language covers these topics). A large component of this class is relating the “core concepts” and certain models to actual research. You will become familiarized with important controversies related to these issues and will learn to evaluate results and discuss their implications. You will be expected to complete the readings and actively engage in discussions. You will have the opportunity to focus in on a particular research topic as part of the final project.

Course Objectives

To learn about central issues and terminology in Psycholinguistics

To learn how to read empirical peer reviewed research in Psycholinguistics

To improve note taking skills

Course Modality

In-person unless otherwise stated

Prerequisite: LIN3010

Assignments

Cornell Notes: you will read 10 articles and will submit 1 sheet of hand-written Cornell notes per article. You are expected to read the articles critically, you are not expected to understand them in their entirety, but you are expected to come to class on Thursdays prepared to share what you learned, ask questions about what you did not understand, and discuss the paper i.e. its claims, its methods, its results, etc. These are worth 10 points: 5 for completeness and 5 for discussion participation/quality.

Discussion: On most Thursdays we will hold a discussion. These discussions will be led by 2-3 classmates. Everyone will lead a discussion once. The notes for lead-discussions will be distinct from the Cornell notes and will require some coordination with your group. This will be worth 10 points.

NOTE: The Cornell notes are graded by me, at the beginning of class, I will grade 5 points for completeness. We will then hold the discussion. You will leave your notes with me and I will grade the quality/discussion (another 5 points) for a total of 10 points. It is your responsibility to let me know **ahead of time (not 1 hour before class)** if you need to submit the notes on a

different day (because you are sick, you have an emergency, etc.). I will grade you fairly. If you simply miss a day then you must simply take the loss.

Final Presentation: you will work in a group (3-4 people) to choose any topic of your interest. Using the skills you learned through Cornell note taking and applying your knowledge of the concepts covered in class, you will create a research proposal. This presentation will be 10 minutes minimally (15 max) and will require four components:

- Background (mini literature review)
- Method/Design
- Results (predicted aka fake)
- Discussion (discuss the implication of your findings if *pretend* borne out)

Statement On Canvas

Current Deadlines And Grades Will Be Posted On Canvas. You Are Responsible For Checking The Site Regularly And For Letting The Instructor Know Promptly If Anything Is Unclear, Or If Your Grade Has Been Entered Incorrectly. Homework That Has Not Been Handed In Will Be Graded As "0".

Course Materials

Note taking: we will use modified Cornell note taking for the articles. The goal is to ensure that you a) do the readings and b) are reading critically (or at least trying to). These notes will be your assignments. We will not have quizzes and there are no exams. With that said, what you put in is what you get out. You will learn the most by actually reading, coming to class, and engaging in the discussions. These notes must be handwritten. If you have poor penmanship, now is your chance to work on it. If you are not good at taking notes, use this as a learning opportunity. If you are unable to hand write notes you must request accommodation to submit typed notes: <https://disability.ufl.edu/>

- **blue/black ink or pencil (do not use a fun color, I will use a fun color for grading)**
- **College ruled paper**

laptop / e-mail account: You are not required to bring a laptop but it is recommended, especially if you like to type notes during lectures or like to follow along with the slides. All slides and articles will be on canvas. **I will email you via your ufl address, if this email changes you must notify me.**

Readings

Required: Matthew Traxler: Introduction to Psycholinguistics: Understanding Language Science

Articles: Articles to be read in class will be available on canvas (note these are subject to change)

Grading Policy

Percent	Grade	Grade Points
90.0 - 100.0	A	4.00
87.0 - 89.9	A-	3.67
84.0 - 86.9	B+	3.33
81.0 - 83.9	B	3.00
78.0 - 80.9	B-	2.67
75.0 - 79.9	C+	2.33

72.0 – 74.9	C	2.00
69.0 - 71.9	C-	1.67
66.0 - 68.9	D+	1.33
63.0 - 65.9	D	1.00
60.0 - 62.9	D-	0.67
0 - 59.9	E	0.00

Grade Course Components

- Cornell Notes: 100 (10 points each)
- Lead Discussion: 10 points
- Final: 50 points
- Class total: 160 points
- How to calculate your grade: divide your total by the current max total
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PUNCTUALITY and ATTENDANCE

Attendance will not be taken regularly. I want you to want to be here. Do not feel the need to email me that you are running late or missing class. If you are late, please come in quietly and try not to disrupt whatever we are doing. If you miss class, check canvas, get in touch with a classmate, or email me to set up an office hours appointment. Tardiness or absence on lead-discussion or presentational dates will not be permitted unless an excuse is provided.

I do not take attendance as a way to set the tone of this class. It is upper level and we are all adults with free will. We will be held accountable accordingly. The almost weekly Cornell notes plus discussion will penalize you enough in any case. If however you are absent for more than two weeks, absent every Tuesday, or otherwise abusing the accountability “policy” I will deduct points from your Cornell notes.

Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in the Graduate Catalog (<http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=10&navoid=2020#attendance>) and require appropriate documentation. Additional information can be found here: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

HOMEWORK

Assignments will be considered late if they are not submitted by the deadline. For all assignments that are submitted electronically the instructor will use the time of delivery contained on Canvas as the point of reference. As always it is a good idea not to wait until the last minute. Homework will be graded according to the given instructions in each case. If homework is not timely submitted, it will not be accepted unless an excuse it is provided. In addition to the grade, the homework may have personal comments from the instructor to help you improve.

GROUP PROJECT

At the midpoint of the semester we will form groups of 3-4 persons. Each group will develop a research project proposal/idea related to Psycholinguistics. Over the course of the semester you will work together to form the literature review, methods, results, and discussion. At the end of the semester each group will present the research topic and propose an investigation idea i.e. a research proposal. More details will be provided during the semester.

Project format: PowerPoint or equivalent

EXTRA WORK / MAKE UP WORK

No extra work or make-up work will be given unless the student provides a medical excuse or there are other extenuating circumstances as contemplated by university guidelines (see attendance and make-ups under University Policies and Resources).

Participating in Research

Students who wish to do so may increase their total grade points by 2 (out of 100) by completing 2 hours of participation in experiments in the departments of Linguistics, Spanish & Portuguese, and Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences. **Deadline is April 24th.** For a list of studies that qualify, see the SONA website <https://ufl-slhs.sona-systems.com/>. For details on how to use SONA, see [this document](#). If you choose not to participate or do not qualify for any of the studies, you can receive the same amount of course credit by means of an alternative assignment. This involves **writing a synopsis of a short research article, video, or a podcast**. Details will be made available by the instructor.

CALENDAR

The calendar will be posted and updated on Canvas. During the semester changes might occur for pedagogical or logistical motivations. To the extent possible, students will be notified in advance of any such changes.

UNIVERSITY POLICIES AND RESOURCES

Attendance and make-ups

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found in the online catalog at: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

Accommodations

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center by visiting <https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

Course Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://ufl.bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results>.

Policy on working together: You are welcome to work together on homework assignments and in-class assignments and projects, but you should write up your answers independently from each other, unless indicated otherwise. No collaboration of any kind is allowed on any test. Remember you are bound by the UF honor pledge: "We, the members of the University of

Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: *“On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.”* It is expected that all students will adhere to the full Honor code and academic honesty guidelines available at <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Academic Integrity

Suggested wording: “UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honorcode/>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

In-Class Recording

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another

student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student.

Resources Available to Students

Health and Wellness

· *U Matter, We Care:* umatter@ufl.edu; 392-1575

- *Counseling and Wellness Center:* <http://www.counseling.ufl.edu/cwc/Default.aspx>; 392-1575
- *Sexual Assault Recovery Services (SARS):* Student Health Care Center; 392-1161
- *University Police Department:* <http://www.police.ufl.edu/>; 392-1111 (911 for emergencies)

Academic Resources

- *E-learning technical support:* Learningsupport@ufl.edu; <https://lss.at.ufl.edu/help.shtml>; 352-392-4357 (opt. 2)
- *Career Resource Center:* Reitz Union; <http://www.crc.ufl.edu/>; 392-1601
- *Library Support:* <http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask>
- *Teaching Center:* Broward Hall; 392-2010 or 392-6420
- *Writing Studio:* 302 Tigert Hall; <http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio/>; 846-1138

Procedure for Conflict Resolution

Any classroom issues, disagreements or grade disputes should be discussed first between the instructor and the student. If the problem cannot be resolved, please contact the Undergraduate Coordinator or the Department Chair. Be prepared to provide documentation of the problem, as well as all graded materials for the semester. Issues that cannot be resolved departmentally will be referred to the University Ombuds Office (<http://www.ombuds.ufl.edu>; 392-1308) or the Dean of Students Office (<http://www.dso.ufl.edu>; 392-1261). For further information refer to https://www.dso.ufl.edu/documents/UF_Complaints_policy.pdf (for residential classes) or <http://www.distance.ufl.edu/student-complaintprocess> (for online classes).