Instructor: Dr. Karin R. Humphreys
Email: Psych3UU3prof@cogsci.mcmaster.ca (preferred contact method);
You MUST email me from your McMaster email account, otherwise it will likely be spam filtered and I will
never even see it.
Phone: 905 525-9140 x23011
Office: Psych Room 410
Office Hours: By appointment

TA: Johanna Lake
Email: Psych3UU3TA@cogsci.mcmaster.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

Lectures: Tuesdays, 7-10pm, BSB B135

WebCT: The course website is available to registered students by logging into WebCT.
http://webct.mcmaster.ca
You will need to learn how to use WebCT to access the course content, announcements, and discussions.
All Powerpoint slides from the lectures will be made available on WebCT only after the lectures, as pdfs. It
is your responsibility to keep up to date with class announcements made on WebCT

Course objectives and content:
In this course you will be introduced to the major themes in the Psychology of Language, looking at the
comprehension, production and representation of language from an experimental perspective.

Required Text:
All chapters except Chapter 4 will be covered. (if any additional sections are to be skipped, this will be
announced in class)

Assessment:
Midterm 1: 30%; Feb 7 (in class, short essay format)
Final Exam: 40%; March 28 (in exam period, short essay format; 30% part 2; 10% cumulative)
Paper: 10%; receive March 13; due March 27, at the start of class (essay format)
Weekly reading summaries and questions: 20% (=10 weeks *(1% summary + 1% questions))

Exams:
For exams, you are responsible for ALL the material covered in lectures, the assigned chapters from the
textbook and the assigned readings.

Midterm 1 will be in the regular class time and place, and cover the material up until and including February
6, including readings 1-4, and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 & 7. You will have to answer 5 questions worth 6
marks each, from a set of approximately 8 questions. Your answers should be approximately 1 page each.

The final exam will be in the exam period, scheduled by the registrar, and consist of
a) 5 questions worth 6 marks each, from a set of approximately 8 questions, covering material from the
second half of the class, from February 27 up until and including April 3, including readings 5-10,
b) 2 questions worth 6 marks each, that will cover the entire course.
Your answers should be approximately 1 page each.

Weekly Readings:
An article from the primary literature will be assigned for each week. (Listings will be posted on WebCT)
For each reading you are required to

1) write a summary of the article that is to be no longer than one page (single spaced) (1%)
2) write down (at least) THREE questions you have about the article (1%)

EACH SUMMARY AND QUESTIONS IS DUE AT THE BEGINNING OF CLASS. While these
marks are given mainly for completion of the assignments, and most people should be able to receive full
marks for all weeks, marks will be deducted for careless or thoughtless work.
**Paper:**
Details of the paper (10%) will be announced at a later date, but it will be a short paper (approx 4 pages) that will require you to pull together several elements of the course in an analytic way. No library research is required, only class material needs to be used. The topic will be announced in class and on WebCT March 13, and the paper will be due in class March 27.

**Tentative Outline of Topics**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Textbook Chapter</th>
<th>Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 9</td>
<td>Intro</td>
<td>1, 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 16</td>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Summary 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 23</td>
<td>Bilingualism</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Summary 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>Vis word recog, Reading</td>
<td>6, 7</td>
<td>Summary 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 6</td>
<td>Spoken word recognition</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Summary 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 13</td>
<td>Midterm 1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>Sentence processing</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Summary 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 6</td>
<td>Word meaning</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Summary 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 13</td>
<td>Comprehension</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Summary 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 20</td>
<td>Production (phonological)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Summary 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 27</td>
<td>Production (syntactic)</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Summary 9; Paper</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 3</td>
<td>Systems, Directions</td>
<td>13, 14</td>
<td>Summary 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Changes in course requirements:** Details of the course requirements may be subject to change. If requirements are altered, a revised course outline will be posted on the webpage and announced in class. The instructor reserves the right to assign grade cutoffs.

**Special Needs:** If you have special needs please contact the instructor so accommodations can be made.

**Academic Integrity Policy** Please be aware of the University Academic Integrity Policy. Cases of academic dishonesty include, but are not limited to: copying or the use of unauthorized aids in tests, examinations and laboratory reports; plagiarism, i.e., the submission of work that is not one's own; aiding and abetting another student's dishonesty giving false information for the purposes of gaining admission or credit; giving false information for the purposes of obtaining deferred examinations or extension of deadlines; and/or forging or falsifying McMaster University documents. Students who infringe on the resolutions of the University Academic Integrity policy will be treated according to the published policy.

**Missed Exams:** All excuses MUST be submitted through the office of the Associate Dean of your faculty/program. It is then also your responsibility to speak with the instructor as soon as possible.