

PSYCHOLOGY3UU3: The Psychology of Language, Winter 2010

Instructor: Dr. Karin Humphreys

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You MUST email me from your McMaster email account, otherwise it will likely be spam filtered and I will never even see it.

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Office Hours: By appointment.

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Office Hours: By appointment; Most questions can best be answered in the tutorials, or via ELM

Lectures: Mondays, 12:30-1:30, Tuesdays, 1:30-2:30; MDCL 1309.

Tutorials and Midterms: Thursdays, 12:30-1:30, MDCL 1309

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

In this course we will be using ELM. Students should be aware that, when they access the electronic components of this course, private information such as first and last names, user names for the McMaster e-mail accounts, and program affiliation may become apparent to all other students in the same course. The available information is dependent on the technology used. Continuation in this course will be deemed consent to this disclosure. If you have any questions or concerns about such disclosure please discuss this with the course instructor.

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:

The Psychology of Language: From Data to Theory by Trevor Harley, 3rd edition.

Assessment:

Midterm 1: 25%; Feb 11 (in class, short essay format)

Midterm 2: 25%; April 1 (in class, short essay format)

Final Exam: 30% (in final exam period, short 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. Midterms will be in the regular tutorial time and place. You will have to answer 5 questions worth 5 marks each, from a set of approximately 8 questions. Your answers should be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ page each.

Midterm 1 will cover the material up until and including February 9, including readings 1-5, and Chapters 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 & 9.

Midterm 2 will cover the material up until and including March 30, including readings 6-10, and chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.

Final Exam will be in the exam period, scheduled by the registrar, and will cover the entire course. You will have to answer 6 questions worth 5 marks each, from a set of approximately 10 questions. Your answers should be approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ page each

Weekly Readings:

An article from the primary literature will be assigned for each week. (Listings will be posted on ELM) 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 MIDNIGHT BEFORE THE TUTORIAL. (i.e. 12:01AM on Thursdays) These are to be submitted electronically via the ELM Assignment Drop-box.

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.

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.

Tentative Outline of Topics

Date	Topic	Textbook Chapter	Due
Mo Jan 4	Lecture: Intro	1, 2	
Tu Jan 5	Lecture: Foundations	3	
Th Jan 7	Tutorial: Linguistic basics	2	Summary 1
Mo Jan 11	Lecture: Foundations	3	
Tu Jan 12	Lecture: Foundations	3	
Th Jan 14	Tutorial:	3	Summary 2
Mo Jan 18	Lecture: Bilingualism	5	
Tu Jan 19	Lecture: Bilingualism	5	
Th Jan 21	Tutorial:	5	Summary 3
Mo Jan 25	Lecture: Vis. Word Recog.	6	
Tu Jan 26	Lecture: Reading	7	
Th Jan 28	Tutorial:	6, 7	Summary 4
Mo Feb 1	Lecture: Reading	7	
Tu Feb 2	Lecture: Spoken Word Recog.	9	
Th Feb 4	Tutorial:	9	Summary 5
Mo Feb 8	Lecture: Spoken Word Recog.	9	
Tu Feb 9	Lecture: Spoken Word Recog.	9	
Th Feb 11	MIDTERM 1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 9	
Mo Feb 22	Lecture: Sentence Parsing	10	
Tu Feb 23	Lecture: Sentence Parsing	10	
Th Feb 25	Tutorial:	10	Summary 6
Mo March 1	Lecture: Word Meaning	11	
Tu March 2	Lecture: Word Meaning	11	
Th March 4	Tutorial:	11	Summary 7
Mo March 8	Lecture: Comprehension	12	
Tu March 9	Lecture: Comprehension	12	
Th March 11	Tutorial:	12	Summary 8
Mo March 15	Lecture: Language Production	13	
Tu March 16	Lecture: Language Production	13	
Th March 18	Tutorial:	13	Summary 9
Mo March 22	Lecture: Language Production	13	
Tu March 23	Lecture: Language Production	13	
Th March 25	Tutorial:	13	Summary 10
Mo March 29	Lecture: Pragmatics	14	
Tu March 30	Lecture: Pragmatics	14	
Th April 1	MIDTERM 2	10, 11, 12, 13, 15	
Mo April 5	Lecture: Structure	15	
Tu April 6	Lecture: Applications, Conclusions	16	

