



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
LALI-490DL	Psycholinguistics	6
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
LALI-362DL, LALI-370DL	Languages and Literature	Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Required	Linguistics	English
Level of Course	Lecturer(s)	Year of Study
1st Cycle	Dr Andry Sophocleous	4 th
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Distance Learning	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- provide students with an understanding of the relationship between language and the brain by focusing on the ways humans comprehend, produce and acquire language;
- study linguistic knowledge and linguistic processes;
- examine cognitive components such as memory, perception and action;
- investigate social and cultural factors influencing thought and language use;
- study language disorders

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. show an understanding of the relationship between language and the brain;
2. demonstrate an awareness of psycholinguistic concerns in regard to comprehension, production and language acquisition;
3. show the types of linguistic knowledge humans need to be able to use language;
4. conceptualize the cognitive processes (perception, memory and thinking) involved in the use of language (be it speaking, listening, understanding, reading and writing);
5. demonstrate a familiarity with some methods of data collection for psycholinguistic investigation (e.g. experiments, audio and video recording, observation, participant observer method, questionnaires, interviews);
6. analyze, discuss and question various psycholinguistic issues;
7. review and discuss interdisciplinary readings of psycholinguistic concern (drawn from

linguistics, sociolinguistics, psychology, anthropology, philosophy, and education).

Course Content:

1. The Scope of Psycholinguistics
2. Branches of Psycholinguistics: Experimental, Cognitive and Developmental
3. Language Comprehension, Production and Acquisition
4. Comparison of Linguists and Psychologists Dealing with Psycholinguistic Research
5. Knowledge of Language: Tacit and Explicit
6. Language Knowledge and Language Processes
7. Cognitive Processes: Perception, Memory, Thinking
8. The History of Psycholinguistics (Cognitive Psychology Vs Behaviorism: Rationalism Vs Empiricism)
9. Current Psycholinguistics: Focus on Discourse and Lexicon
10. The usefulness of Psycholinguistics: Becoming even more of an Interdisciplinary Field
11. Extra-ordinary Cases of Language Use: Language disorders, Errors, Breakdowns in conversation due to misinterpretation
12. The Properties of Spoken Languages: Duality of Patterning /Structure, Morphology, Phrase Structure, Linguistic Productivity
13. The Properties of Sign Languages
14. Psychological Mechanisms and Language Processing:
 - a. The Human Information Processing System: Sensory Stores, Working Memory, Permanent Memory, Control Processes
 - b. Serial Vs Parallel Processing
 - c. Top-down Vs Bottom-up Processes
 - d. Controlled Processes Vs Automatic Processes
 - e. Modularity of Language
15. Language and Consciousness
16. Discourse and Conversational Analysis: Relevance to Psycholinguistics; Framing and the Interpretation of Meaning; Narrative Structure
17. Language, Culture and Cognition
18. The Interrelationship between Language and Thought: The Sapir-Whorf Hypothesis and Beyond

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Recorded lectures, groups with class participation and Assignments

Assessment Methods:

Critiquing a scientific article related to psycholinguistics, final examination; classroom participation, group and individual activities online.

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Carroll, David W.	Psychology of Language (5th Edition)	Wadsworth/Thomson	2008	13:978-0- 495-09971-0

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Words in the Mind: An Introduction to the Mental Lexicon (3rd Edition)	Aitchison, J.	Blackwell	2003	0-631- 23244-3