



UNIVERSITY OF NICOSIA

ΠΑΝΕΠΙΣΤΗΜΙΟ ΛΕΥΚΩΣΙΑΣ

University of Nicosia, Cyprus

Course Code PSY-440	Course Title Language Development and Psycholinguistics	ECTS Credits 6
Department Social Sciences	Semester Fall	Prerequisites PSY-110, PSY-111, PSY-260, 3 rd or 4 th year standing
Type of Course Major Elective	Field Psychology	Language of Instruction English
Level of Course 1 st Cycle	Year of Study 4 th	Lecturer(s) Dr Chrisa Nitsiou
Mode of Delivery face-to-face	Work Placement N/A	Co-requisites None

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

1. develop an understanding of the acquisition of language
2. become familiar and think critically about different theoretical perspectives and research methods in language development
3. explain topics such as cultural differences, language in other animals, bilingualism, and atypical language development.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to:

1. illustrate the essential topics in cognitive psychology
2. explain language development as part of developmental psychology
3. critically assess the relationship between language and the processes of the brain and mind
4. explore the major theories in the area of psycholinguistics
5. examine the methods used in psycholinguistic research
6. critically evaluate the development of language acquisition and all the subsystems of language
7. discuss the differences in language development (cultural differences, bilingualism, atypical language development)
8. compare and contrast different ways that cultural differences influence language

Course Contents:

1. The Development of Language: An Overview and a Preview
2. Theoretical Approaches to Language Acquisition
3. Communication Development in Infancy
4. Phonological Development: Learning Sounds and Sound Patterns
5. Semantic Development: Learning the Meanings of Words
6. Putting Words Together: Morphology and Syntax in the Preschool Years
7. Language in Social Contexts: Communicative Competence in the Preschool Years
8. Individual Differences: Implications for the Study of Language Acquisition
9. Atypical Language Development
10. Language and Literacy in the Preschool Years

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, In-class assignments

Assessment Methods:

Paper, Mid-Term, Final Exam

Required Textbooks/Reading:

Authors	Title	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Berko Gleason, J.	The development of language, 6/E	Allyn and Bacon	2004	

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

Snider, V. E. (1997). The relationship between phonemic awareness and later reading achievement. *The Journal of Educational Research*, 90(4), 203-211.

O'Connor, R. E., Notary-Syverson, A., & Vadasy, P. F. (1996). Ladders to Literacy: The effects of teacher-led phonological activities for kindergarten children with and without disabilities. *Exceptional Children*, 63(1), 117-131.

Hancock, T. B. & Kaiser, A. P. (1996). Siblings' use of milieu teaching at home. *Topics in Early Childhood Special Education*, 16(2), 168-190.