

LING/PSYC 370A: Psycholinguistics (Fall 2024) 1.5 units CRN: 11993/12938

Time and place: TWF 12:30-1:20 p.m., ELL 167
Instructor: Dr. Martha McGinnis (she/her)
Contact: After class, or mjmcginn@uvic.ca
Office hours: CLE D351, Wednesdays 1:30-2:30 p.m., or by appointment
TAs: Alyssa Jiang, Stephan Kopytov

In this course, you will explore the comprehension and production of language, drawing on insights from linguistics, psychology and cognitive neuroscience. You will have the opportunity to conduct and present research on a related topic of your own choice.

Note: Not open to students with credit in LING 370A or PSYC 370A
Prerequisites: PSYC 370A - PSYC 100A and 100B; or permission of the PSYC department
Programs: Fulfills requirements in Health Information Science BSc, Applied Linguistics BA, Linguistics BSc, and Concentration in Language and Speech within Linguistics BA
Textbook: Sedivy, Julie. 2020. *Language in Mind*. 2nd Edition. New York: Oxford University Press.
Materials: Device for accessing Brightspace, reading articles, word processing and creating slides

Dates	Topic	Text	Article (see references list)
Sep. 4-6	Introduction	Ch. 1	
Sep. 10-18	Biological foundations of language	Ch. 2	Friederici et al. 2017
Sep. 20-Oct 2*	Neurolinguistics	Ch. 3	Hickok & Poeppel 2015
Oct. 4-16	Speech perception	Ch. 7	Dehaene-Lambertz et al. 2000
Oct. 16-29	Word recognition	Ch. 8	Gwilliams & Marantz 2023
Oct. 30-Nov. 8**	Sentence processing	Ch. 9	Ding et al. 2016
Nov. 11-13	<i>Reading break</i>		
Nov. 15-22	Speech production	Ch. 10	Indefrey 2011
Nov. 26-29	Discourse and inference	Ch. 11	Yarkoni et al. 2008
Dec. 3	Review [to be rescheduled]		

*Sep. 20: Last day to add Fall courses

**Oct. 31: Last day to withdraw from Fall courses

Assignments:

Weekly quizzes (11 x 2%, lowest dropped)	20%	Tuesdays (except Nov 19) on Brightspace
Journal article analyses (2 x 20%)	40%	September 27 and October 25
Presentation slides	5%	November 8 (on Brightspace)
3-minute oral presentation	15%	November 18–29 (outside classtime)
Final exam	20%	Final exam period (December 7–20)

Attendance

If you are registered in a course, you are expected to attend all classes. Medical documentation for short-term absences is not required; however, if you cannot attend class, please let me know as soon as possible. Written course materials will be posted on Brightspace (<https://bright.uvic.ca/>). I will also be recording lectures and posting them on Brightspace for students who cannot attend class due to unavoidable circumstances. You can sign into Brightspace with your NetLink ID and password. Please check regularly for announcements or turn on announcement e-mail notifications.

I will be away for a research meeting from October 5-12. One class that week will be replaced by attending (and presenting at) one of several 50-minute sessions of oral presentations in November, to be scheduled outside of classtime (sign up on Brightspace!). The other classes that week will be either guest lectures or asynchronous online lectures. I will also be away at a conference the first week of December, so we will reschedule the final exam review session once the exam schedule is out.

We acknowledge and respect the Lək̓ʷəŋən (Songhees and Esquimalt) Peoples on whose territory the university stands, and the Lək̓ʷəŋən and W̱SÁNEĆ Peoples whose historical relationships with the land continue to this day.

Articles (available online through the UVic Library website)

- Friederici, Angela D., Noam Chomsky, Robert C. Berwick, Andrea Moro, and Johan J. Bolhuis. 2017. Language, mind and brain. *Nature Human Behaviour* 1(10), 713–22.
- Hickok, Gregory, and David Poeppel. 2015. Neural basis of speech perception. *Handbook of Clinical Neurology* 129, 149–160.
- Dehaene-Lambertz, Ghislaine, Emmanuel Dupoux, and Ariel Gout. 2000. Electrophysiological correlates of phonological processing: a cross-linguistic study. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience* 12(4), 635–647.
- Gwilliams, Laura, and Alec Marantz. 2023. Neural processing of morphological structure in speech production, listening, and reading. *Linguistic morphology in the mind and brain*, ed. Davide Crepaldi, 137–151. London: Routledge.
- Ding, N., L. Melloni, H. Zhang, X. Tian, and D. Poeppel. 2016. Cortical tracking of hierarchical linguistic structures in connected speech. *Nature Neuroscience* 19, 158–164.
- Indefrey, Peter. 2011. The spatial and temporal signatures of word production components: a critical update. *Frontiers in Psychology: Language Sciences* 2, article 255, 1–16.
- Yarkoni, Tal, Nicole K. Speer, and Jeffrey M. Zacks. 2008. Neural substrates of narrative comprehension and memory. *NeuroImage* 41(4): 1408–25.

Assignments

It is your responsibility to do the assigned readings, and come to class ready to ask or answer questions. The quizzes and exam are to be done independently; please review and internalize the material discussed in class. You are welcome to discuss your research assignments with classmates, but you are advised to read different articles, and *you must write up your work independently, without the assistance of a human coauthor/editor or an AI content generator*. Assignments are to be uploaded to Brightspace unless I agree to another arrangement ahead of time. Under no circumstances can an assignment be submitted electronically to a TA. An assignment will count as received when uploaded to Brightspace, and as late if received after midnight on the due date. A late assignment will automatically lose 10% (i.e., a small percentage of your final grade), plus an additional 10% per week that it is late. If you have a valid reason for being unable to meet a deadline, you may request an extension before the deadline via an email with “370A” in the subject header; or, at my discretion, the weight of the missed assignment may be shifted to other assignments. The final exam will be in-person and cumulative.

Grading

Any request for re-grading must be submitted to me in writing within a week after the assignment is returned. Numerical grades correspond to letter grades as indicated in the [Calendar](#). An N grade (of 49% or less) will be assigned unless you complete at least the following assignments: (i) the article summaries (40%), (ii) the oral presentation (15%), and (iii) the final exam (20%).

Communication

For content questions, please ask in person—for example, during or after class, or in office hours. If you have administrative questions, please feel free to reach out either in person or by email. Please send any e-mail from a UVic address and include “370A” in the subject line; otherwise your e-mail may end up in a spam folder. I will normally reply to e-mail by the end of the next business day. For questions about Brightspace or your computing devices, please contact the [Computer Help Desk](#). For questions about Linguistics programs, please contact the Linguistics Curriculum representative (also me). Another good resource is UnderLings, the Undergraduate Linguistics Students Course Union (FB group: UnderLings - UVic Linguistics Course Union!)

Professional behaviour

Please familiarize yourself with the [Trifaculty Code of Professional Behaviour for Students](#), which articulates our commitment to values of personal responsibility, respect, honesty and integrity in all of our students. Some good resources on how to maintain academic integrity can be found [here](#).

Violations of academic integrity involve submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done honestly and expressly for that particular course, when, in fact, it is not. Some examples of violations include the following:

- plagiarism, using others' ideas and/or words without following proper citation practices
- using the services of an editor (unless explicitly permitted)
- multiple submission of the same work for more than one academic requirement
- falsifying materials such as lab results, papers, or references
- cheating on assignments, tests, and examinations
- aiding others to do any of the above

Note that lectures, lecture slides, handouts, recordings, and exams are the intellectual property of the instructor, and must not be distributed without the instructor's permission. Penalties for violating academic integrity include: failing the assignment, failing the course, disciplinary probation, or permanent suspension.

The University of Victoria is committed to promoting critical academic discourse while providing a respectful and supportive learning environment. All members of the university community have the right to this experience, and the responsibility to help create such an environment. The University will not tolerate racism, sexualized violence, or any form of discrimination, bullying or harassment. When you log into UVic's learning systems or interacting with UVic's online resources or course-related communication platforms, you are engaging in a university activity; all interactions within this environment are also subject to the university's expectations and policies. For more information, see the Office of Student Life's webpages on [Student Conduct](#). Any concerns about conduct will be reviewed and responded to in accordance with the appropriate university policies.

Mental Health

This is a note to remind you to take care of yourself. Diminished mental health can interfere with optimal academic performance. Do your best to engage in self-care and maintain a healthy lifestyle this semester. This will help you achieve your goals and cope with stress. You are not alone: all of us benefit from support during times of struggle. The source of symptoms might be related to your coursework; if so, please speak with me. Problems with other aspects of your life can also contribute to decreased academic performance. The UVic [Student Wellness Centre](#) provides cost-free and confidential mental health services to help you manage personal challenges that impact your emotional or academic well-being.

Some additional useful resources:

- [UVic Library](#)
- [UVic Learn Anywhere](#)
- [Centre for Academic Communication](#)
- [Learning Strategies Program](#)
- [Indigenous Student Services](#)
- [Ombudsperson](#)

University statements and policies:

- [Information for all students](#) - University Calendar
- [Academic Concession Regulations](#)
- [Academic concessions and accommodations](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [Academic accommodation and access for students with disabilities \(Policy AC 1205\)](#)
- [Creating a respectful, inclusive and productive learning environment](#)
- [Equity statement](#)
- [Accommodation of religious observance](#)
- [Discrimination and harassment policy](#)
- [Sexualized violence prevention and response](#)
- [Non-academic student misconduct](#)