

## LING 3220/PSYC 3290 – Psycholinguistics

Fall 2016, York University Linguistics  
Mondays & Wednesdays 11:30am-1pm, Chemistry Building 115

---

**Instructor:** Dr. Chandan Narayan  
**Office:** Ross S546A  
**Office Hours:** Monday 10-11am or by appointment  
**Email:** chandann@yorku.ca  
**Phone:** ext. 33791  
**Course URL:** Moodle ([moodle.yorku.ca](http://moodle.yorku.ca)) and TBA

### Course description:

Psycholinguistics is the study of the mental processes involved in producing and comprehending language. The goal of this course is to introduce students to major research questions and findings in psycholinguistics, including speech perception, the mental lexicon, syntactic processing, pragmatics and conversation. The course will also introduce students to primary experimental research in the various subfields of psycholinguistics in the form of journal articles.

### Course prerequisites:

PSYC 1010 or PSYC 2410, with a minimum grade of C, or LING 1000. Course credit exclusions: AK/AS/SC/PSYC 3190 (Prior to Fall/Winter 2007/2008), HH/PSYC 3190, AK/PSYC 3250 (prior Summer 2002) GL/PSYC 3640, GL/LIN 3640.

This class is predicated on your knowing some fundamental concepts in Linguistics and/or Psychology. Therefore, you must have all the prerequisite courses in order to take this class. Special exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis.

### Evaluation

Your grade in the course will be determined by your performance on the following items:

- 20% Quizzes (2, 10% each)
- 30% Test 1: Text chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and associated articles
- 30% Test 2: Text chapters 6, 7, 8, 9 and associated articles
- 20% Test 3 (Last day of class): Text chapters 10, 11, 12 and associated articles

### Course text and readings

You are responsible for readings from the following textbook:

Sedivy, J. (2014) *Language in Mind: An Introduction to Psycholinguistics*. (Sinauer)

A copy will be kept on reserve at the York library. Additional readings will be made available via pdf or URL.

### Moodle

All lecture outlines, assignments, and other information will be posted on Moodle. Lectures will be posted the evening after the lecture. Check the website before class each week for any important information and to print out materials for that class. The lecture slides only provide some main points and are not really useful if you do not attend lecture.

### **Class structure**

For the most part the topics discussed each week will follow closely the order of material presented in the textbook. Monday's lectures will strictly follow book material. Wednesday's lectures will cover book material as well as a supplemental journal article. The articles are linked in the schedule at the end of this syllabus. It is critical that you do the readings PRIOR to the day's lecture. Additionally, I'd ask that you forward me any interesting news stories related to language which you might come across. It is always nice to keep lectures and class content current with the zeitgeist.

### **Email policy**

If you cannot attend the scheduled office hour, contact me to arrange another time. I will do my best to answer your phone and email messages promptly. I do not, however, answer email (or phone calls) on the weekend. Please email me from your yorku.ca account and put 'LING3220' in the subject line. Emails sent from non-York accounts will be ignored. Please sign your emails; I will not reply to anonymous messages. My response to your email may be brief and may not come within 48 hours. Please be patient.

### **Quizzes and Tests**

There will be three tests in this course, each covering roughly third of the total course material. The third test will be held the last day of class and is worth less than the previous two. The tests will be mostly multiple-choice (scantron) with some possible short answer questions testing your knowledge of both book and lecture content. Quizzes (there are two of them) on the other hand will be on Mondays and will cover material from journal article from the previous week. You are responsible for all reading material (book chapters and journal articles) as well as anything that may be presented in lectures.

### **Missed tests**

If you provide appropriate documentation for missing a test, you will be able to write a make-up on the Thursday or Friday following the Wednesday test. Tests missed without adequate documentation will be assigned a mark of zero.

### **Grading**

York University uses a grading system detailed at:  
<http://www.yorku.ca/laps/students/grading.html>.  
Please familiarize yourself with it.

### **Academic Honesty & Integrity**

York students are required to maintain high standards of academic integrity and are subject to the Senate Policy on Academic Honesty. Please review the documents available at the following website:

<http://www.yorku.ca/secretariat/policies/document.php?document=69>

Academic offenses are treated very seriously, and the disciplinary procedures are described there as

well. Please consult the code if you have any question about the nature of academic offences and their penalties.

### Course Withdrawal (W) option

In the period between the last day to drop a course without receiving a grade and the final day of classes in a term, undergraduate students are permitted to withdraw from a course with the condition that the course enrolment remains on a student's transcript, denoted by a "W" in the University's records and on the student's transcript as the grade decision. No credit value will be retained for the course and no value will be included in the calculation of a student's grade point average (GPA). Please see: <http://secretariat-policies.info.yorku.ca/policies/withdrawn-from-course-w-policy-and-guidelines/> for details.

### Schedule

(N.B. This schedule is tentative and subject to change. Please check the course website for updates/changes.) **Journal articles are hyperlinked in this pdf.** If you are having trouble downloading the article, please contact me and I will send you a copy via email.

Week	Day 1	Day 2
1	Syllabus, Ch. 2: Origin of Human Language	Ch. 2 (cont'd); Fitch(2000)
2	Ch. 3: Language and the Brain	Ch. 3 (cont'd); Gazzaniga(1967)
3	Ch.4: Learning sound patterns	Ch. 4 (cont'd); Werker (1984)
4	Ch. 5: Learning words; Review	<b>TEST 1</b>
5	Ch.6: Sentence structure;	Ch.6 (cont'd); Soderstrom et al. (2007)
6	QUIZ 1; Ch.7: Word recognition	Ch.7 (cont'd); Magnuson et al. (2007)
7	Ch. 8: Understanding meaning	Ch.8 (cont'd); Chambers et al. (2004)
8	Ch.9: Speaking; Review	<b>TEST 2</b>
9	Ch.10: Discourse and inference	Ch. 10 (cont'd); Song and Fisher (2007)
10	QUIZ 2; Ch.11: Social side of language	Ch.11 (cont'd); Bott and Noveck (2004)
11	Ch.12: Language diversity	Ch.12 (cont'd); Culbertson et al. (2012)
12	Review	<b>TEST 3</b>