

# Course syllabus

Course title	Introduction to Psycholinguistics
Instructor(s)	Dr. Kalinka Timmer
Contact details	<a href="mailto:k.timmer@uw.edu.pl">k.timmer@uw.edu.pl</a> (Stawki 5/7, Warszawa – room 208).
Affiliation	Institute of Psychology – University of Warsaw
Course format	Lectures
Number of hours	15 hours
Number of ECTS credits	<b>2 ECTS</b>  50 h = 15 h = lecture attendance 20 h = weekly literature reading 15 h = exam preparation
Brief course description	The main aim of this course is to introduce students to the basic concepts, theories, paradigms, and debates in the field of the Psychology of Language. The course draws on Experimental Psychology, Linguistics, and Cognitive Neuroscience to help students appreciate the cognitive mechanisms underlying language. This introductory course is an addition to the Modern Psycholinguistics course for those who lack basic knowledge of the Psychology of Language.
Full course description	The course draws on experimental psychology, linguistics and neuroscience to help students appreciate the cognitive mechanisms underlying language. How is word meaning represented in the mind? Why is acquiring language in adulthood harder than in childhood? Why do we make speech errors? What is the pattern of language breakdown in dementia or after stroke? What are the effects of having two languages in one mind? What does language learning have to do with “statistical learning” and does it always have to be conscious? These are example issues we are going to discuss. During the course students see how the methods used to address these questions have developed over time and what state of the art in the field is. They also learn about the opportunities offered by recent advances in neuroimaging.
Learning outcomes	By the end of the course students should be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• formulate and justify their opinions on several enduring debates in psycholinguistics (K_W01, K_W02)</li> <li>• conduct an in-depth literature overview (K_W01, K_W02, K_U08)</li> <li>• interpret empirical findings (K_U03, K_U04)</li> </ul>

Learning activities and teaching methods	The lecture will be interspersed with group discussions. All of the students will be invited to contribute to the group discussion, which will be based on the assigned readings.
List of topics/classes and bibliography	<p><u>Topics of the classes:</u></p> <p>How to think scientifically? Does language shape thought? How does language develop in the child and world? How do we perceive language? What steps do we need to produce language? How does the brain represent meaning? What are the consequences of bilingualism?</p> <p>The readings will be mainly from textbooks on the Psychology of Language: Harley, T. A. (2009). Talking the talk: Language, psychology, and science. Psychology Press. Harley, T. A. (2014). The psychology of language: From data to theory. Psychology Press. The course is divided into three parts: EEG acquisition, analysis, and interpretation.</p>
Assessment methods and criteria	<p><u>Graded components:</u></p> <p>10% - class participation and presence 20% - activities/assignment 70% - exam</p> <p><u>Grading system:</u></p> <p>5 91-100% 4.5 81-90% 4 71-80% 3.5 61-70% 3 51-60% 2 41%-50% 1 40% and less</p>
Attendance rules	No more than 2 hours of absences for the semester are acceptable, missing more is equivalent to failure of the course.
Prerequisites	-
Academic honesty	Students must respect the principles of academic integrity. Cheating and plagiarism (including copying work from other students, internet or other sources) are serious violations that are punishable and instructors are required to report all cases to the administration.
Remarks	-