



School of Linguistics and Applied Language Studies Course Outline

LING 423, Psycholinguistics, Trimester 1, 2009

1. Course Coordinator:

Assoc. Prof. Paul Warren
Von Zedlitz (VZ) 211
Tel: 463 5631
Email: paul.warren@vuw.ac.nz
Office hour: Mon 11-12



2. Tutor:

Anna Piasecki
Von Zedlitz (VZ) 320
Tel: 463 5233 ext 8999
Email: anna.piasecki@vuw.ac.nz
Office hours: Mon 3-4



3. LALS office:

Email: lals@vuw.ac.nz
Room 210, 2nd floor, von Zedlitz (VZ) Building
Kelburn Parade
8:00am – 3:30pm Mon – Thu, 8:30am – 4:00pm Fri

4. Course Administrator:

Vivien Trott, Undergraduate administration, Tel: 463 5255, Fax: 463 5604
Vivien.Trott@vuw.ac.nz

School webpage: <http://www.victoria.ac.nz/lals/>

5. Vicbooks:

There are two locations – Pipitea Campus and Kelburn campus. It is located in the Student Union Building on Kelburn Campus. Customers can order textbooks and student notes online at www.vicbooks.co.nz or can email an order or enquiry to enquiries@vicbooks.co.nz. Vicbooks can courier books to customers or they can be picked up from either shop the day after placing an order online.
Tel: Kelburn 463 5515

Opening hours: 8am - 6pm Mon - Fri (during term they close at 5pm, in the holidays); 10am - 1pm Saturday.

6. Submitting assignments and tasks

Cover sheet

A coversheet is provided on the last page of this outline. Photocopy and attach it to the front of all assessed work, completed in full

General guidelines

- Set margins to at least 2.5 cm
- Set line spacing to 1.5
- Set font size of 12 point
- Include page numbers
- Type on one side of A4 paper
- Staple pages together
- Avoid presenting assignments in bulky folders or sleeves unless necessary
- Avoid inserting individual pages in clearfile sleeves

7. Statement on legibility

Students are expected to write clearly. Where work is deemed 'illegible', the options are:

- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) within a specified time frame after which penalties will apply
- the student will be given a photocopy of the work and asked to transcribe it to an acceptable standard (preferably typed) and lateness penalties apply if the student does not transcribe it to an acceptable standard, the work will be accepted as 'received' (so any associated mandatory course requirements are met) but not marked

8. Trimester dates:

March	Mon 2	First Trimester Begins
	Thu 26	Practical exercise 1 due
April	Thu 9	Practical exercise 2 due
	Fri 10	Good Friday. Midtrimester Break Begins
	Mon 13 Tue14	Easter Monday and Tuesday, University holidays
May	Mon 27	First Trimester Resumes
	Thu 7	Practical exercise 3 due
June	Thu 4	Research Essay due
	Fri 5	First Trimester Ends. Lectures cease
	Mon 8	Midyear study period begins
	Fri 12	Midyear examinations begin
July	Wed 1	Midyear examinations end
	Thur 2	Midyear Break Begins

9. Class times and locations:

Lectures: Mon, Thurs, Fri 12:00-12:50 HULT119

NB: Some lecture sessions will be in CyberCommons computer lab KK218. See the separate lecture schedule for details.

Tutorials:	Mon 1:10-2:00	MY404
	Mon 2:10-3:00	MY403
	Weds 11:00-11:50	VZ106

One tutorial per week. Tutorial lists will be posted on the Linguistics Undergraduate Notice Board (see §21) during the first week of the trimester. Tutorials begin in the second week (beginning 11th March). Check the lists before that date. Do not miss your first tutorial. You may not change tutorials without consulting the course co-ordinator. Tutorials form an essential part of all Linguistics courses. It is expected that students will attend all tutorials.

10. Course content:

weeks 1-4	introduction & language production
weeks 5-8	perception and word recognition
weeks 9-10	sentence processing
weeks 10-11	discourse and conversation
week 11	the psycholinguistics of sign language
week 12	architecture of the language system

11. Learning objectives

The course aims to help students better understand the psychological processes involved in language production and comprehension, and the relationship of linguistic theory to psycholinguistic experiment and theory.

At the end of this course, students should be able to:

- i. understand basic psychological processes of language production and comprehension
- ii. understand claims made about the mental representation of language
- iii. apply their understanding under i. & ii. to the analysis of data
- iv. evaluate the role of linguistic theory in the psychological examination of language use
- v. evaluate theoretical positions in psycholinguistic research
- vi. understand and evaluate a range of experimental approaches
- vii. apply experimental and analytical tools in completing assignments and exercises

12. Course delivery

The content of LING 423 Psycholinguistics is delivered alongside that of LING323 through a combination of lectures, computer laboratory sessions, and tutorials, as well as through students' own reading. There will also be one 2-hour seminar specifically for students enrolled in LING 423 for discussion of research methods in psycholinguistics. The computer lab sessions introduce students to techniques used in psycholinguistic research. Usually, students will participate in demo versions of experiments in these sessions, and the results of these experiments are discussed in subsequent tutorials. It is expected that all students will participate in all classes.

13. Expected workload

In line with Faculty recommendations, it is expected that in order to make satisfactory progress students should devote 300 hours to this course over the duration of the trimester, including the mid-trimester break, study week and exam period. This averages to about 17.5 hours per week. This time includes attendance at classes (4 hours), as well as preparation for classes, background reading, practical work, and preparation for

assignments and the examination. Some students will find they need to do more than this, and students aiming for high grades will almost certainly need to do more.

14. Group work

Not applicable

15. Readings

Required:

LING 323 Coursebook (obtainable from the Student Notes Distribution Centre for \$13.20). This should be brought to all classes.

Recommended:

Harley, Trevor A. 2008 (3rd ed.). *The Psychology of Language*. Hove: Psychology Press.

Garnham, Alan 1985. *Psycholinguistics: central topics*. London: Methuen.

Garman, Michael 1990. *Psycholinguistics*. Cambridge: CUP.

The Coursebook includes a comprehensive bibliography for this course. A large number of books and periodicals useful for this course have been placed on reserve in the library.

16. Materials and equipment

Not applicable

17. Assessment requirements

Practical exercise 1	10%		26 March 2009
Practical exercise 2	10%		9 April 2009
Practical exercise 3	10%		7 May 2009
Research Essay	40%	4000 words	4 June 2009
Take-home exam (9 am-5pm)	30%	3000 words	in exam period (12 June-1 July)

The practical exercises will involve analysis of language data of relevance to psycholinguistics.

The area of the research essay will be selected by the student under guidance from the course coordinator.

The practical exercises relate to objectives vi & vii in §11.

The research essay relates to objectives i to vii.

The final examination relates to objectives i. to vi.

Details for each of these assessment components are available separately, including marking criteria and how these relate to learning objectives.

You are advised to think about each piece of assessment well in advance, as some topics involve a small amount of data collection, for which you will need to be prepared. This may mean starting to think about each one before the previous piece of work has been submitted and returned.

The University has a policy of reasonable accommodation of the needs of students with disabilities in examinations and other assessment procedures.

18. Penalties

In line with school policy, assignments handed in after the due date will receive a considerably reduced grade unless accompanied by a medical certificate or other

evidence of exceptional circumstances. Information on penalty arrangements will be included with the detailed instructions for each assignment.

19. Practicum arrangements

Not applicable

20. Mandatory course requirements

The following are mandatory course requirements for this course:

- a) Hand in all practical exercises and the research essay, having made a serious attempt to complete each of them.
- b) Achieve a standard of 40% or better in the final examination.

21. Academic Integrity and Plagiarism

Academic integrity means that university staff and students, in their teaching and learning are expected to treat others honestly, fairly and with respect at all times. It is not acceptable to mistreat academic, intellectual or creative work that has been done by other people by representing it as your own original work.

Academic integrity is important because it is the core value on which the University's learning, teaching and research activities are based. Victoria University's reputation for academic integrity adds value to your qualification.

The University defines plagiarism as presenting someone else's work as if it were your own, whether you mean to or not. 'Someone else's work' means anything that is not your own idea. Even if it is presented in your own style, you must acknowledge your sources fully and appropriately. This includes:

- Material from books, journals or any other printed source
- The work of other students or staff
- Information from the internet
- Software programs and other electronic material
- Designs and ideas
- The organisation or structuring of any such material

Find out more about plagiarism, how to avoid it and penalties, on the University's website:
<http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism.aspx>

22. Communication of additional information

Notices relating to the course will be posted on the Linguistics Honours Notice Board adjacent to room VZ307 on floor 3 of the Von Zedlitz building.

23. General University Requirements

See the document on the Blackboard site for LING323.

COVER SHEET

COURSE NAME & CODE

LING 423 Psycholinguistics

SURNAME : _____

GIVE NAME : _____

ID NUMBER : _____

LECTURER : _____ Paul Warren _____

ASSIGNMENT TITLE / NO : _____

NUMBER OF WORDS : _____

DUE DATE : _____

Please complete the following checklist:

tick box

I have checked my work carefully before submitting

I have included a list of references, properly formatted

I have numbered the pages of this work

I have retained a copy of this work

There is no plagiarism in this work

I value your feedback and will collect my work promptly

OR

I do not require any feedback on this work

STUDENT'S SIGNATURE : _____

DATE : _____