

Psychology 125: Psychology of Language
T/Th 1:00 - 4:30 p.m., Natural Science Annex 101

Instructor:

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Teaching Assistants:		
TA:	Ryan Pili	Chris Kay
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Psychology of Language:

This course is about how people use language to communicate. It covers speaking and understanding, including speech perception, grammatical processing, the meaning of words and strings of words, and how conversations work, among other topics. Attending class and doing the readings are essential for doing well in this course.

GRADING:

Participation – 20%:

Attending class, paying attention in class, and keeping up with the readings are important for learning the material, and makes the class better as a whole. Participation will be assessed through online class activities (so **please bring a phone or laptop computer** for completing these online activities). Occasional writing assignments will be turned in during the class activities with the names of the participants on them (so please **bring some paper** to write on as well). If you miss a class activity, you can make up for it by attending anyone's office hours within a week of the missed activity. Note that you can make up a maximum of 8 class activities.

Exams – 80%:

There will be two multiple-choice exams, each worth 40% of the grade. You will need to bring your own scantrons to the exams (green print). Exams will be cumulative, but weighted towards material from the half of the class preceding the exam. Exams will be primarily on material covered in class. If you miss an exam, your grade will be based on a take-home essay make-up (see below). If you know right now that you cannot make the exam dates (**Aug 13, Aug 29**), please do not take this class. There will be quizzes available at Canvas or Google Forms with questions similar to the questions that will appear on the exams. Taking these quizzes can help you assess your knowledge, which will help you determine what you need to study more.

Essay Make-Up Exams:

Essay make-up exams are for unexpected illness and emergencies. Therefore, no earlier than the day of the exam and no later than the end of class on the day of the exam, you may request an essay make-up. The essay make-ups will be due one week after the Midterm (Aug 20 at 1PM). The essay make-up will be due 6 days after the final exam (Sept 4 at 1PM) to allow time for grading before grades are due. If you miss the final exam, you may receive an incomplete in the course. Each essay make-up will include two 2-page, typed, 600-word essays (1200 words total) in which you will answer several related questions. Essays will be evaluated on how well the questions were answered and the quality of the writing. A paper containing plagiarized material will receive a score of zero. There is a **plagiarism information sheet** on Canvas (Under "Files" → "Important Documents") and you will be expected to read and understand the information provided.

READING ASSIGNMENTS & SCHEDULE:

Required Text:

Warren, P. (2012). *Introducing Psycholinguistics*. New York: Cambridge University Press.

Required Readings on Canvas (Under "Files" → "Reading Assignments"; [linked here](#)):

- 1.) Goldstone, R. L., Kersten, A., & Carvalho, P. F. (2012). *Concepts and Categorization*. In Weiner, I.B, Healey, A.J., & Proctor, R.W. (Eds.) *Handbook of Psychology, Volume 4, Experimental Psychology, 2nd Edition* (pp. 607-630). New York, NY: Wiley. **Only pp. 607 – 619.**
- 2.) Woltin, K. A., Corneille, O., & Yzerbyt, V. Y. (2012). Improving communicative understanding: The benefits of global processing, *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, 48*(5), 1179-1182
- 3.) Clark, H. H., & Brennan, S. A. (1991). Grounding in communication. In L. B. Resnick, J. M. Levine, & S.D. Teasley (Eds.). *Perspectives on Socially Shared Cognition*. Washington: APA Books.
- 4.) Blair, D. C. (1992). Information retrieval and the philosophy of language. *The Computer Journal, 35*(3), 200–207.
Read *blair.1992.pdf*, skipping whited-out sections.
*The original article is posted as *blair.1992.original.fyi*.only, for interested students.*
- 5.) Liu, K. & Fox Tree, J. E. (2012). Hedges enhance memory but inhibit retelling. *Psychonomic Bulletin & Review, 19*(5), 892-898.
- 6.) Tolins, J., & Fox Tree, J. E. (2014). Addressee backchannels steer narrative development. *Journal of Pragmatics, 70*, 152-164.
- 7.) Blasi, D. E., Wichmann, S., Hammarström, H., Stadler, P. F., & Christiansen, M. H. (2016). Sound–meaning association biases evidenced across thousands of languages. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 113*(39), 10818-10823.

Schedule					
Date			Topics	Reading (to complete by that day)	
July	30	Tu	The Psychology of Language; Historical Background	Chapters 1 & 7	
Aug	1	Th	Understanding Spoken Language; Models of Word Recognition	Chapters 8 & 9	
	6	Tu	The Mental Lexicon; Meaning and Processing Meaning	Goldstone et al, 2012, (p.607 – 619); Wolfin et al, 2012	
	8	Th	Parsing	Chapters 10 & 11	
	13	Tu	MIDTERM		
	15	Th	Speech Errors & Production	Chapters 2, 4 & 5	
	20	Tu	Conversations: Collaborative Model	Clark & Brennan, 1991; Blair, 1992 (selected text only)	
	22	Th	Pragmatics; Backchannels and Hedges	Liu & Fox Tree, 2012; Tolins & Fox Tree, 2014	
	27	Tu	Language and Thought	Blasi et al, 2016	
	29	Th	FINAL EXAM		

Copyright Note: As the creator of this course, I hold the copyright to just about all the materials used in this course, in both print and electronic media, including lectures, exams, and handouts. This includes this syllabus and other material I wrote and posted at Canvas. Materials may not be distributed without my permission. This includes posting material at websites (such as *StudyBlue* and *Quizlet*) and sharing this material with people who are not in the course. I do not allow unauthorized recordings of my lectures, nor distribution of my audio or visual lecture material. If you violate this copyright, the penalty will be a loss of 30% of the credit in this course. You can think of this as earning a zero on one of the exams. – Alina Sue Larson

Distribution of Lecture Notes and Materials: Please note that students may be disciplined for selling, preparing, or distributing course lecture notes, including notes created independently by students. The unauthorized sale of lecture notes, handouts, readers or other course materials is a violation of campus policies as well as state law. Violation by distribution to the public may also constitute copyright infringement subject to legal action. (See Academic Dishonesty section below for more information)

EXTRA CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES:

Teaching Evaluations at the End of the Quarter

You can earn 1% towards your final total for filling out the on-line teaching evaluation at the end of the quarter. If you fill out the teaching evaluation, you will get 1% added to your final total. That is, if you earn 89% in the course, you would get 90% for filling out the on-line teaching evaluation.

Research Participation (SONA)

The Psychology Department provides an opportunity for students in this course to gain extra credit by participating in psychology research projects (surveys or experiments) for up to three (3) hours, to earn up to 3% towards your final total grade.

Follow these easy steps to sign-up for research projects:

1. Go to the Sona website at <https://ucsc.sona-systems.com>
2. If you are enrolled in the class at the start of the quarter, then an account should already be created for you. To log in for the first time, click "Forgot Password?" to retrieve the pre-set password. For those who added the class late, or for some reason the system won't let you log in, you may need to click "Request Account." Only request a new account if the "Forgot Password" link isn't working.
3. Always enter your UCSC email address. You will receive your password via email.
4. Log in and follow the instructions to complete the Prescreening Questionnaire. Your responses on this questionnaire will determine your eligibility for different studies.

IMPORTANT: Studies are posted throughout the quarter. Plan ahead and complete them as soon as possible. Check online often for new studies. If you know you cannot make it, and if the time until the study is more than 24 hours, you can cancel on Sona. If you fail to show up for a study, or fail to cancel in time, you will be marked as having an "unexcused no-show." If you accumulate three unexcused no-shows you will be prevented from signing up for more experiments. All participation must be completed by 5pm on the Friday of the last week of instruction (Friday, August 30). Do not wait until the last week to sign up.

What if you can't find studies? Although some studies may be available right at the start of the quarter, there may not be enough for everyone. Please be patient, researchers will post new studies throughout the quarter. There is usually a big spike in hours during the last couple weeks. If you are concerned about the availability of hours, please don't email your instructors or TAs, instead email the pool administrator so that they can try to address the issue directly (ucscresearchpool@gmail.com). This is also the best email to use if other issues arise during the quarter. If you participated in a study but didn't receive credit after two days, please start by emailing the researchers directly. If the researchers don't respond then send an email to the pool administrator. Rest assured, however, that all pending timeslots will be given credit at the end of the quarter before a report is sent to your professor.

Summer Session 2, 2019 Deadlines:

Drop: Monday, August 5

Request for "W": Friday, August 16

Neither Summer Session nor instructors drop students for non-attendance or non-payment. Students must drop themselves. Dropping results in full tuition reversal/refund. Withdraw posts a W for the grade and full tuition is charged (no refund).

For all dates and deadlines, including 'change of grade option' (P/NP) and grades due, here is the summer academic calendar: <https://summer.ucsc.edu/studentlife/index.html>

For questions about dropping, requesting a W grade for a course, or withdrawing from the summer quarter, email summer@ucsc.edu

DRC Accommodations: The Disability Resources Center reduces barriers to inclusion and full participation for students with disabilities by providing support to individually determine reasonable academic accommodations. If you have questions or concerns about exam accommodations or any other disability-related matter, please contact the DRC office, located in Hahn 125 or at 831-459-2089 or drc@ucsc.edu

Academic Dishonesty:

Academic integrity is the cornerstone of a university education. Academic dishonesty diminishes the university as an institution and all members of the university community. It tarnishes the value of a UCSC degree.

All members of the UCSC community have an explicit responsibility to foster an environment of trust, honesty, fairness, respect, and responsibility. All members of the university community are expected to present as their original work only that which is truly their own. All members of the community are expected to report observed instances of cheating, plagiarism, and other forms of academic dishonesty in order to ensure that the integrity of scholarship is valued and preserved at UCSC.

In the event a student is found in violation of the UCSC Academic Integrity policy, he or she may face both academic sanctions imposed by the instructor of record and disciplinary sanctions imposed either by the provost of his or her college or the Academic Tribunal convened to hear the case. Violations of the Academic Integrity policy can result in dismissal from the university and a permanent notation on a student's transcript.

For the full policy and disciplinary procedures on academic dishonesty, students and instructors should refer to the Academic Integrity page at the Division of Undergraduate Education.

Title IX:

The university cherishes the free and open exchange of ideas and enlargement of knowledge. To maintain this freedom and openness requires objectivity, mutual trust, and confidence; it requires the absence of coercion, intimidation, or exploitation. The principal responsibility for maintaining these conditions must rest upon those members of the university community who exercise most authority and leadership: faculty, managers, and supervisors.

The university has therefore instituted a number of measures designed to protect its community from sex discrimination, sexual harassment, sexual violence, and other related prohibited conduct. Information about the Title IX Office, the online reporting link , applicable campus resources , reporting responsibilities, the UC Policy on Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment and the UC Santa Cruz Procedures for Reporting and Responding to Reports of Sexual Violence and Sexual Harassment can be found at titleix.ucsc.edu .

The Title IX/Sexual Harassment Office is located at 105 Kerr Hall. In addition to the online reporting option, you can contact the Title IX Office by calling 831-459-2462.