

**COURSE DATA****Data Subject**

Code	33351
Name	Psychology of language
Cycle	Grade
ECTS Credits	6.0
Academic year	2023 - 2024

Study (s)

Degree	Center	Acad. year	Period
1319 - Degree in Psychology	Faculty of Psychology and Speech Therapy	3	First term

Subject-matter

Degree	Subject-matter	Character
1319 - Degree in Psychology	49 - Basic psychological processes II: thought and language	Obligatory

Coordination

Name	Department
GIMENEZ COSTA, JOSE ANTONIO	300 - Basic Psychology

SUMMARY

The course “Psychology of language” is an obligatory course taught in the third year of the Bachelor's Degree in Psychology over one semester and it is worth 6 credits. The content of the course will be approached both from a theoretical and practical perspective.

The course is designed to introduce students to the psychological processes involved in language comprehension, language production and language acquisition. In the present subject, these processes are studied from the cognitive point of view, together with more recent approaches such as Neuropsychology and Conexionism.

The knowledge and skills acquired by the students in the present subject have important applications in the field of education (reading and writing learning problems in children) and in the diagnoses and treatment of aphasias and other language problems. It also has applications in gerontology (ageing and language processing) and clinical area (dementia and schizophrenia).



PREVIOUS KNOWLEDGE

Relationship to other subjects of the same degree

There are no specified enrollment restrictions with other subjects of the curriculum.

Other requirements

COMPETENCES (RD 1393/2007) // LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 822/2021)

1319 - Degree in Psychology

- Know the functions, characteristics and limitations of the different theoretical models of Psychology of Thinking and Language.
- Know the basic laws of the different psychological processes related to the processes of perception, comprehension and production of spoken and written language.
- Understand the biological foundations of human behaviour and of the psychological functions related to the processes of thinking and language.
- Know the different fields of application of Psychology of Thinking and Language and have the necessary knowledge to influence and promote the quality of life of individuals in different contexts: educational, clinical, etc.
- Know the different research designs in Psychology of Thinking and Language, the procedures of formulation and testing of hypotheses and the interpretation of the results.
- Be able to describe and measure variables related to the processes of thinking and language.

LEARNING OUTCOMES (RD 1393/2007) // NO CONTENT (RD 822/2021)

- To understand and know language processing as a knowledge representation and communication system. Students should learn the processes of language acquisition and the biological bases of language.
- To know the theoretical models of the Psychology of language.
- To identify and analyze the essential variables relevant to the discipline of the Psychology of language.
- The students should be able to read scientific articles related to the discipline
- To know and apply the basic skills acquired in the present subject in the education and clinical fields.



DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS

1. INTRODUCTION.

What Psychology of language is. First approaches to the study of language: Chomskys hypotheses; the behavioral explanation. Methods to study the Psychology of language. Key issues in language processing: Serial vs. parallel processing. Automatic vs controlled processes. Modularity.

2. BIOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF LANGUAGE AND ADQUISITION.

Brain mechanism and language. Evolution and genetics. Early acquisition . Prelinguistic communication. Speech perception acquisition. Early phonology. Holophrases. Lexical development. Early grammar. Later acquisition. Metalinguistic development. Bilingualism and second language acquisition.

3. SPEECH PERCEPTION.

Key issues on speech perception: segmentation and variability of speech signal. Acoustical properties of the vocal signal. Perception of isolated speech segments: vowels and consonants. Categorical perception. Perception of continuous speech: Coarticulatory effects, semantic and syntactic factors. Models of speech perception.

4. WORD RECOGNITION.

Spoken word recognition; Lexical primitives. Experimental methods to study word recognition. Factors that influence lexical Access: frequency, neighborhood density. Organization of the internal lexicon: models and theories.

5. LANGUAGE COMPREHENSIONI: SENTENCE PROCESSING.

Structural properties of the sentences. Syntactic processing. Sentence ambiguity. Models of sentence comprehension. Influence of the context. Experimental methods to study sentence comprehension.

6. LANGUAGE COMPREHENSION II: DISCOURSE AND TEXT.

Discourse processing. Coherence. Inferences. Memory and sentence processing. The concept of schema. Situational models. Models of discourse and text comprehension. Educational implications.

7. PRODUCTION OF SPEECH AND LANGUAGE.

Source of data in the study of speech production: Tip of the tongue experience, pauses and disfluencies, slip of the tongue. Evidence from aphasia. Models of linguistic planning. Conversational interaction.



WORKLOAD

ACTIVITY	Hours	% To be attended
Theoretical and practical classes	60,00	100
Development of group work	15,00	0
Development of individual work	15,00	0
Preparation of evaluation activities	30,00	0
Preparation of practical classes and problem	30,00	0
TOTAL	150,00	

TEACHING METHODOLOGY

The course combines lecture instructions with active and participative learning strategies. Instructional strategies include: (1) lectures on the course content, (2) Practical activities (case analysis, debate, reading of texts, application of language tests and other procedures of language evaluation, and proposals of intervention strategies), (3) Individualized and group tutorials, (4) Preparation of independent work, written assignments and presentation of reports and activities carried out in the classroom. (5) Formative and summative assessment.

The use of mobile devices, tablets, and laptops will be at the disposal of the teaching methodology proposed by each teacher.

EVALUATION

(SE1) **Final exam:** Theoretical and practical content will be assessed through an in-class examination on the official dates determined by the Department. The exam will have two parts:

(a) Evaluation of **THEORETICAL** contents through an exam which includes questions on a selection of the contents and competencies previously indicated in this teaching guide. The theoretical part of the exam will have a possible 6 points (60%) and will consist of multiple-choice questions, having to obtain a minimum of 3 out of 6 to be eligible for the final pass. Students who fail the exam can **retake** the examination in the **second assessment period**. The grade of this test will be kept for the second call in case of passing this one but not passing the practical part.

(b) Evaluation of **PRACTICAL** contents: consists of short essay questions worth 1 point (10%) carried out in the same official call as the theory exam. The practical exam will be related to the practical content provided in class. It is necessary to obtain at least 0.3 points to pass this part of the exam. The grade of this test will be kept for the second call in case of passing this one but not passing the theoretical part.

(SE2 and SE3) **Continuous assessment:** Students are expected to attend and actively participate in class. Written presentation of reports, individual or group assignments, clinical cases, and problem-solving (SE2); as well as active participation in class activities, seminars, and/or workshops, motivation for the quality of the learning results, and delivery of those activities determined by the professor (SE3). A total of 3 points (30%) will be based on continuous assessment, having to pass these both parts to apply for the final grade. These 3 points are distributed as follows:



- 1 point for in-class assignments, that is, regular activities carried out, reviewed and graded in class through self-assessment, peer assessment and/or group discussion. Some of these activities may NOT be RECOVERABLE (but will never be more than 0.3 points.) since they can only be evaluated in the context of the specific dynamics within the classroom. It is necessary to submit and pass half of the total number of activities (minimum 0.5 points) to be eligible for a final pass. The grade of these activities will be kept for the second call, provided that a minimum 0.5 points are obtained. In order to be assessed, they must be handed in within one week of the first call exam or within 15 days of the second call exam.

- 2 points for reports/assignments/expositions. The professor will determine the schedule of delivery or presentation of them. (They must be submitted 15 days before the 2nd call exam). All students are required to submit an (individual or group) assignment that is worth a total of 2 points (20%). Delivering and passing (minimum 1 point) these reports is necessary to be eligible to take the theoretical test. The grade of these activities will be kept for the second call.

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Summary of minimum requirements:

- To pass this course, students have to achieve at least 50% of the following assessments: (1) exam and (2) continuous evaluation. If students fail one of them (less than 50%), they will fail the whole course.

With regard to the theoretical part of the exam, it is required a minimum of 3 points out of 6 to pass the Final Exam.

- With regard to the practical part, a minimum of 0.3 points out of 1 it is required to pass.

- With regard to in-class assignments, it is required a minimum of 0.5 points out of 1. Some of the in-class activities may be recoverable, and others not.

- With regard to individual or group assignments and expositions, a minimum of 1 point out of 2 is required to pass this part.

GRADING

The course assessment and the impugnation of the final grade are subject to the provisions of the Regulation of Assessment and Grading of the University of Valencia for Bachelor's and Master's degrees (ACGUV 108/2017 of 30 May 2017):

http://www.uv.es/graus/normatives/2017_108_reglament_avaluacio_qualificacio.pdf

According to this regulation, the final grade must be recorded in numerical expression from 0 to 10 to one decimal, and must be adjusted to the following grading scale:

- 0 to 4.9: Unsatisfactory/Fail.
- From 5 to 6.9: Satisfactory.
- From 7 to 8.9: Good.



- From 9 to 10: Outstanding/Very Good- Outstanding With Honors (MH).

The grade Outstanding With Honors (MH) will be based on the regulations of the University of Valencia, which consider the number of MH per group. It will only be awarded when the grade is 9 points or higher and will be awarded in order of grade. In case of a deadlock, an oral or written test will be held to break the difference. If not being able to award Honorable Mentions in a group, the Teaching Unit will agree on the assignment of the Honorable Mention to another group.

The best grades of each group will be taken into account to obtain the Honor Grades (as long as a minimum of 9 is reached).

WARNING

All assignments submitted by students will be scanned for plagiarism with the anti-plagiarism software URKUND. As consequence of evident plagiarism, the copying of other people's works, of any assignment part of the student assessment, students will automatically face failing the course and academic disciplinary procedures (suspension or probation).

Please take into consideration that, according to article 13. d) of the University Student Statute (RD 1791/2010, of 30 December), it is the student's duty to refrain from using or cooperating in fraudulent procedures in student examinations, assignments or in official academic documents. In the case of fraudulent practices, students will proceed as determined by the Protocol of action in the case of fraudulent practices at the University of Valencia (ACGUV 123/2020):

<https://www.uv.es/sgeneral/Protocols/C83sp.pdf>

During tutoring hours, the lecturer may request individual or group interviews to verify the degree of participation and achievement of the objectives set for any student assignment. Failure to accept this verification means failing the assignment or activity in question.

REFERENCES

Basic

- Carroll, D.W. (2006). *Psicología del Lenguaje*. Madrid: Thomson.
- Cuetos, F. González, J. y de Vega, M. (2020). *Psicología del lenguaje* (2ª ED). Madrid: Panamericana
- Sedivy, J. (2019). *An introduction to Psycholinguistics* (2nd Edition). Sinauer Associates. Sunderland: MA
- Traxler, M.J. (2012). *Introduction to Psycholinguistics: Understanding language science*. Wiley

Additional

- Berko, J. y Bernstein, N. (1999). *Psicolingüística*. Madrid: McGraw Hill.
- Harley, T.A. (2008). *Psicología del lenguaje*. Madrid: McGraw-Hill.