

**PSY 5374: Psychology of Language**  
**Spring Semester 2020, CRN: 37768**  
**(January 21<sup>st</sup> – May 13<sup>th</sup>)**

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**Syllabus**

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**Class Meeting Time & Place:** Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30-10:25 AM (UAC 205)

**Instructor: Dr. Tooley**

**Email:** [ktooley@txstate.edu](mailto:ktooley@txstate.edu)

**Office:** UAC 248

**Phone:** (512) 245-4384

**Office Hours:** Wednesdays 1:30-3:30 PM and by appointment

**Required Text:** Traxler, M. J. (2011). *Introduction to psycholinguistics: Understanding language science*. John Wiley & Sons. (ISBN 13-9781405198622).

**Structure of the Class:**

This class meets twice a week: Usually, one day will be devoted to lecture on the topics presented in the textbook and the other will be focused on discussing relevant research findings on those topics.

**Course Communication:**

**Class Web site:** Links to this syllabus, readings, grades, assignments, and class announcements can be accessed through **TRACS**.

**Disability Accommodations:**

If you have a documented disability that requires special accommodations, please provide me with the verifying paperwork within the first 2 weeks of class. Information on this can be obtained from:  
<http://www.txstate.edu/trec/attd/attd.html>

**Reading Assignments:**

Each week, there will be assigned readings from the text as well as articles to read for the discussion portion. These articles will be available to you on TRACS/Resources. A discussion leader will be assigned to facilitate discussion on the papers each week.

**Graded Work:**

Exams- 25% of course grade

There will be **two exams**, worth 50 points each (**100 points total**). The exams will be open-book and open-note and will be comprised of several short (paragraph) answer questions, which will require you to synthesize your knowledge from the lectures, readings, and discussions.

Class Participation- 25% of course grade

Each week we will discuss papers relevant to the lecture topics. You are required to read these papers and make a substantial contribution to the discussion of these papers/topics. Each discussion week you can receive up to **11** participation points. There are 10 weeks in which you can earn points (excluding the 2 weeks you are discussion leader), so you can earn up to 10 extra credit points (**110/100**) if you

actively engage in all discussions, and you can miss one discussion day without negatively impacting your grade. **These points cannot be made up**, so attend class every week.

Discussion Facilitation- 30% of course grade

Each week 1-2 discussion group facilitators will be in charge of leading the discussion on that week’s research papers. This facilitator will need to come up with discussion questions and ideas to help kick-start the discussion and revive it if it starts to lag. You can earn up to **120 points** for facilitating discussion on your 2 assigned days (60 points each time you are facilitator).

Research Topic Presentation- 20% of course grade

Each member of the class will be required to come up with a specific research topic/question that they are interested in learning more about. Once this topic has been approved by the instructor (see schedule for relevant date), the student must do an extensive literature review on his or her topic.

Each student will then be required to give a 20 minute “lecture” style presentation where they educate the class on his or her topic. This presentation will be graded (out of **80 points**) based on thoroughness (at least 10 sources), quality of examples (from studies, demos, etc.), clarity (of structure and slides), and verbal presentation skills. More info on the presentation can be found on the course TRACS site.

**Course Grade:**

Your letter grade will be based upon the percentage of **400 points** you earn for the two mid-term exams (100 points total), discussion participation (100 points total), discussion facilitation (120 points total), and the research presentation (80 points), with the following percentage cutoffs:

400 - 360 points	A (100% - 90%)
359 - 320 points	B (89% - 80%)
319 - 280 points	C (79% - 70%)
279 - 240 points	D (69% - 60%)
239 - 0 points	F (0% - 59%)

**Academic Honesty:**

**Using the ideas, writing, etc. of another person is considered plagiarism and is in violation of the Student Honor Code:** <http://www.txstate.edu/honorcodecouncil/>.

My planned schedule for the class is listed below. This schedule **is subject to change**, but I will announce any changes that I make in class. **Please familiarize yourself with this schedule, as it serves as your official notification of when topics are covered and when things are due.**

**Course Schedule**

Date	Lecture/Discussion Topic	Book Reading	Discussion Papers	Facilitator(s)
1/21	Syllabus Day	NA	Assign Discussion Group Facilitators	NA
1/23	Language Science	Ch. 1		

1/28	Brain & Language	Ch. 13-14		
1/30	Brain & Language/ <b>Aphasia</b>		Naeser et al., 2005; Baldo, Klostermann & Dronkers, 2008	Facilitator:
2/4	Speech Production & Comprehension	Ch. 2		
2/6	Speech Production & Comprehension/ <b>Motor Theory/Mirror Neurons:</b>		Okada & Hickok, 2006; Liuzzi et al., 2008; Hickok, 2008	Facilitator:
2/11	Word Processing	Ch. 3		
2/13	Word Processing/ <b>Embodied Cognition</b>		Glenberg & Kaschak, 2002; Kaschak et al., 2005;	Facilitator:
2/18	Sentence Processing	Ch. 4		
2/20	Sentence Processing/ <b>Context/Prosodic Effects</b>		Tanenhaus et al., 1995; Snedeker & Trueswell, 2003	Facilitator:
2/25	Discourse Processing	Ch. 5		
2/27	Discourse Processing/ <b>Situation Models &amp; Context</b>		Horton & Rapp, 2003; Nieuwland & van Berkum, 2006	Facilitator:
<b>3/3</b>	<b>Exam 1</b>	<b>Ch. 1-5 &amp; 13-14</b>	<b>All articles read so far</b>	
3/5	Referring Expressions & Dialogue	Ch. 6 & 8		
3/10	Referring Expressions & Dialogue/ <b>Listening</b>		Osterhout, Bersick, & McLaughlin, 1997; Ditman, Holcomb, & Kuperberg, 2008;	Facilitator:
3/12	Referring Expressions & Dialogue/ <b>Speaking</b>		Keysar & Henly, 2002; Wardlow et al., 2006	Facilitator:
<b>3/17 &amp; 3/19</b>	<b>SPRING BREAK- Class does not meet</b>			
3/24	Non-literal Language <b>Pres. topic proposal due</b>	Ch. 7		
3/26	Non-literal Language/ <b>Metaphor</b>		Glucksberg & Haught, 2006;	Facilitator:

			Wilson & Gibbs, 2007	
3/31	Language Development	Ch. 9		
4/2	Language Development/ <b>Language Learning</b>		Saffran, Aslin, & Newport, 1996; Kaplan et al., 2002; Hartshorne et al., 2018	Facilitator:
4/7	Reading	Ch. 10		
4/9	Reading/ <b>Letter Transpositions</b>		Rayner et al., 2006; White et al., 2008; Shalev, Mevorach, & Humphreys, 2008	Facilitator:
4/14	Bilingual Processing & Sign Language	Ch. 11-12		
4/16	Bilingual Processing/ <b>Bilingual Advantage</b>		Bialystok, 1999; Bialystok et al., 2004	Facilitator:
4/21	Sign Language/ <b>Language Modality Effects</b>		Emmorey et al., 2008; Newman et al., 2002	Facilitator:
<b>4/23</b>	Presentations	<b>Presenters:</b>		
<b>4/28</b>	Presentations	<b>Presenters:</b>		
<b>4/30</b>	Presentations	<b>Presenters:</b>		
<b>5/12 (8:00-10:30 AM*)</b>	FINAL EXAM (Exam 2)	<b>Ch. 6-12</b>	<b>All articles since last exam</b>	