

# LING/PHIL/PSY 432 *Psychology of Language*

## Winter Session 2016

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OFFICE HOURS: From December 19-20 and January 4-10 I will be available by request for in-person appointments. For the entire session I will be available for virtual meetings. Virtual meetings can be arranged via Skype.

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### Course Description:

Audience: This course is cross-listed in Linguistics, Philosophy, and Psychology. The course is housed in the Linguistics department, but it is intended to be accessible to students from all three departments. For those of you who are currently unfamiliar with terms like *phonology*, *morphology*, and *syntax*, I can post additional materials to give you an overview of these linguistic concepts. If at any point you feel you are struggling to keep up with these concepts, I encourage you to make an appointment with me right away.

Objectives: At the end of the term, students will be able to address the following questions:

1. How do humans process speech sounds, words, and sentences?
2. How do humans produce speech sounds, words, and sentences?
3. How do humans acquire their first language(s)?
4. How does bilingualism affect language processing and development?

**Lectures, Readings, and Videos:** *\*Unless otherwise noted, all lectures, readings, and videos are required.* The lectures will be video podcasts on Panopto, which you can access by clicking on the 'Content' tab on the course site in D2L ([d2l.arizona.edu](http://d2l.arizona.edu)). All content will be organized by date and will be posted under the 'Content' tab on the D2L site.

**Note:** This is a 3-credit course, which means that it has the same requirements and content as a full semester course. Each semester lasts 15 weeks, but we have to squeeze everything into 14 days of classes. You should expect to spend 3 hours per day listening to the lectures, watching any videos, doing daily activities, and taking the exam. The readings, quizzes, and assignments are out-of-class material, so you should budget additional time for those. Total, you should expect to spend about 30 hours a week on this course. If you cannot devote that much time to the class, then please consider carefully whether you should remain in the course.

**Textbook:** There is no required textbook. All required readings will be posted on D2L.

**Grading:** Grades will be based on a point system. Points can be earned by completing assignments, daily activities, and the final exam. **The course will be graded out of 450 points, but there are 500 points available.** This means that you can skip some assignments and still

receive full credit. Think carefully about whether you want to skip any assignments, and if so which ones you want to skip. **No late work will be accepted.**

A = 405-450 points; B = 360-404 points; C = 315-359 points; D = 270-314 points; E  $\leq$  269 points

### Requirements:

#### Exams (75 points):

Final Exam = 75 points

#### Quizzes (130 points):

Daily Quizzes (13 Quizzes at 10 points each) = 130 points

#### Discussion Board Assignments (195 points):

3 Posts (one per week, 50 points each) = 150 points

3 Replies (one per week, 15 points each) = 45 points

#### Article Summaries (100 points):

4 Article Summaries (25 points each) = 100 points

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**Total = 500 points**

### Description of Major Assignments

#### (0) Syllabus Quiz (0 points)

An untimed syllabus quiz will become available under the ‘Quiz’ tab on the first day of class. You may retake the syllabus quiz as many times as necessary, but you must receive a 100% on the quiz to have access to any other course materials (besides the syllabus).

#### (1) Daily Quizzes (130 points)

Each day, you will do a short quiz on the course content from that day. The quiz questions will come from that day’s readings and lectures. You may take each quiz twice, but the questions may change the second time. Whichever score is highest will be kept. These will be due by **10:00PM** each day. *The purpose of the quizzes is to make sure that you are keeping on top of the readings and lectures.*

#### (2) Discussion Board Activities (195 points)

You will do three assignments requiring you to post on the discussion boards by **10:00PM** on the due date. Each post is worth 50 points. These will involve independent research.

You will be expected to comment on each other's assignments by **10:00PM** the day after each assignment is due (15 points x 3 = 45 points).

If the assignment requires you to collect data from other people, you must tell them that you are collecting data for a class. If you say that you did not, you will not receive credit.

More information about these assignments will be posted on D2L. *The purpose of these assignments is for you to conduct independent investigations on the psychology of language, extending the concepts discussed in class.*

**(3) Article Summaries (100 points)**

You will do four 1-2 page article summaries worth 25 points each. For each summary, you will read a research article from a journal on psycholinguistics. I have preselected each article. They will be posted on D2L. A rubric for your summaries will be posted on D2L as well. *The purpose of these assignments is for you to gain experience reading and synthesizing research articles, which are the primary method for conveying research results in the field of psycholinguistics.*

**(4) Final Exam (75 points)**

The final exam will be cumulative. It will be taken in two parts. Part one will be 30 objective questions (e.g. multiple choice, fill-in-the-blank) administered using the "quiz" feature on D2L. You will be able to access the quiz on D2L between **6am and 10pm on Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup>**. Once you begin part one of the final, you will have 90 minutes to complete it. Part two will be take-home essay questions which will be available from **Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> at 6am till Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 10pm**. These will be submitted to the assignments folder titled "Final Exam". Part two of the final exam is open-book, open-note, and open-web (express discretion in using web sources). The final exam will cover content from the lectures, readings, videos, etc. *The purpose of the final exam is for you to demonstrate your ability to understand, interpret, and integrate course concepts.*

**(5) Optional "Winter Break" Bonus Assignment (+25 points)**

There will be one bonus assignment, in which you will answer two essay questions. The questions are very open-ended, and are meant to get you to think about what you have learned and why you took this course. The assignment will become available on D2L on **Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6am**, and will be due **Monday, January 9<sup>th</sup> at 10pm**. *The purpose of this assignment is for you to demonstrate your ability to understand, interpret, and integrate course concepts and to think about how to discuss these concepts with non-linguists, as well as for me to learn what you found interesting about this course.*

## **Course Policies**

**Course deadlines are NOT flexible without the prior approval of the instructor. No late work will be accepted.** If you have an emergency, you must notify me as soon as possible, AND provide documentation of the emergency, AND complete the work as promptly as possible, given the circumstances (we will determine a schedule together).

**I will check my e-mail at least once per day (except weekends), so you can expect a 24 hour response time.** Plan ahead! If you e-mail me on Friday evening, you may not get an answer until late on Monday.

**You must motivate yourself.** It is your responsibility to check D2L for announcements *every day*. You are responsible for your own participation. You are responsible for viewing all of the lectures and videos, for reading all of the assigned readings, and for completing all of the assignments on time.

**You are required to cite your sources in any written assignment you submit.** Give credit where credit is due; if an idea is not yours, you cannot present it as yours. If you do not cite your sources, you will not receive credit for the assignment. I do not care how you cite your sources (you can use MLA, APA, Chicago, or something else), as long as you cite your sources in some way. I understand that this may be new to some students. If that is the case, or if you have questions regarding what needs cited, please contact me so that I may help you.

**For any assignment that requires you to collect data from another person, you must tell them that you are collecting data for a class assignment.** You should not tell them the purpose of your experiment/assignment beforehand (tell them after so that you do not bias their responses), but you must tell them that you are collecting data for a class, and in reporting your results you must keep their identities anonymous. If you fail to do this, you will not receive credit for the assignment.

**Course documents (aside from the grading policy) may change,** with reasonable advance notice from the instructor.

**Grading Philosophy:** Your grade in this course will reflect the quality and timeliness of submitted assignments as well as your level of mastery of the course objectives as demonstrated on these assignments. Arguing a grade based on any criteria aside from these is inappropriate.

**Grade Review Policy:** If at any point you feel that you have received a grade that is unfair or inaccurate, please inform me in writing of your concern within **one week** of having received the grade. I will consider the issue carefully and reply to you as soon as possible with either a grade correction or a justification of why I believe the original grade should stand. In no case will your request for a grade review result in punitive measures being taken against you in this course. You are encouraged to request clarification or correction for any grading concern.

**It is your responsibility to ensure that you are comfortable with the technologies that are necessary for successful participation in this course.** If you have questions or concerns about the technological aspects of this course, there are university resources that are available to help you:

For general computing questions: [http://uits.arizona.edu/departments/the247#\\_blank](http://uits.arizona.edu/departments/the247#_blank).

For help with D2L: e-mail [d2l@email.arizona.edu](mailto:d2l@email.arizona.edu).

**This course is web-delivered. Technical problems are to be expected.** You must consider this possibility and have a back-up plan for completing your work on time. If you do experience a technical problem that is beyond your control (network interruptions, etc.), notify me as soon as possible, AND submit a problem report to the D2L team as promptly as possible, AND complete the work ASAP. If you do not follow these instructions, late work will not be accepted.

To submit a problem report to D2L:

- (a) Go to the D2L Help page at <http://help.D2L.arizona.edu> and click on "Report a Problem," OR
- (b) e-mail [d2l@email.arizona.edu](mailto:d2l@email.arizona.edu), and copy the instructor: [jonathangeary@email.arizona.edu](mailto:jonathangeary@email.arizona.edu).

**Academic Integrity Policy:** While you are encouraged to form study groups to discuss your homework assignments for the course, all work must be typed and completed individually.

- It is not acceptable to collaborate in any way on exams.
- It is not acceptable to submit work for this course which has been previously submitted by you or by anyone else for academic credit at any time.
- It is not acceptable to falsify any component of any document that you submit to this class for a grade.
- It is not acceptable to provide your work to other students in a manner that might facilitate their submission of your work under their name.
- It is not acceptable for any two or more students to submit assignments with substantial identical content.
- It is not acceptable for any student to submit assignments containing unattributed quotations or paraphrases from another source (see citation policy above).

Any violation of the Code of Academic Integrity will lead to either a grade of zero on the relevant assignment or a failing grade in the course. According to University Policy, further disciplinary action may be pursued for anyone with multiple code violations. The Code of Academic Integrity can be found at:

<http://deanofstudents.arizona.edu/codeofacademicintegrity>.

**Students with disabilities:** If you anticipate the need for reasonable accommodation to meet the requirements of this course, you must register with the Disability Resource Center (phone: 520.621.3268; web: <http://drc.arizona.edu/>) and request that they send me official notification of your accommodation needs as soon as possible. Please plan to email me personally to discuss accommodations and how my course requirements may impact your ability to fully participate. We can then plan how best to coordinate your accommodation.

## **Who am I?**

My name is Jonathan Geary, but you may call me Jonathan or Jon. I am from Pittsburgh, PA, and feel strongly about [my local dialect](#). I completed a BA in Linguistics with minors in History and Arabic Studies at Boston College in 2014. Now, I am a second-year PhD student in Linguistics at [the University of Arizona](#). My interests are primarily in psycholinguistics, phonology, morphology, historical linguistics, and language revitalization, and I do much of my work with Semitic and Quechuan languages. I strongly believe that the field of psycholinguistics needs more diversity, and where possible I will try to bring in relevant findings from non-Indo-European languages.

Outside of linguistics, I like animals (especially cats and sharks), coffee, horror and sci-fi films and novels, hiking, and going for long walks at night. My favorite place on campus is the secret turtle pond (check it out if you haven't before: [click here](#)).