

## Introduction to Psycholinguistics (H002368)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 3.0**

**Study time 90 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2023-2024**

A (semester 1)

English

Gent

lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2023-2024**

Bogaerts, Louisa

PP02

lecturer-in-charge

Jessen, Anna

PP02

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2023-2024**

Bachelor of Arts in Moral Sciences

crdts

offering

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

3

A

Master of Science in Teaching in Behavioural Sciences(main subject Psychology)

3

A

Master of Science in Psychology(main subject Theoretical and Experimental Psychology)

3

A

Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics(main subject Cognitive and Functional Linguistics)

3

A

Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics(main subject Linguistics in a Comparative Perspective)

3

A

Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics(main subject Multilingual and Foreign Language Learning and Teaching)

3

A

Master of Arts in Advanced Studies in Linguistics(main subject Natural Language Processing: Theory and Practice)

3

A

Exchange Programme in Psychology

3

A

Exchange Programme Linguistics and Literature

3

A

**Teaching languages**

English

**Keywords**

language, cognition, psycholinguistics, speaking, reading, understanding, language development, neurolinguistics, language evolution

**Position of the course**

What is language and how does it relate to cognition? What is the biological basis for language learning and use? How does language evolve over time?

The course provides an overview of research in psycholinguistics, a prominent domain of experimental psychology, at an introductory level. It will cover theories, research methods and empirical results in this domain.

**Contents**

This course covers the following topics:

- Language and cognition
- Linguistics
- Language development
- The biological basis of language
- Bilingualism
- Visual word recognition
- Auditory word recognition
- Sentence comprehension
- Word production
- Sentence production

- Language Evolution

### **Initial competences**

This course builds on certain course competences of Psychologische Functieleer II (i.e., a basic introduction in higher cognitive processes including language).

### **Final competences**

- 1 After this course, students are able to distinguish between linguistic levels and illustrate them with examples.
- 2 Sketch the processing steps between input and output for each modality of language processing.
- 3 Describe the different theoretical perspectives on how language perception and production develops.
- 4 Relate language processing levels to their developmental stage. Understand which methods can be used to tackle questions about language development.
- 5 Situate the language network in the brain and name its different functions. Apply this knowledge to understand clinical profiles of neurological patients.
- 6 Know the properties of the most important language-related ERP components and apply this knowledge to select relevant ERP-components for investigating specific research questions within psycholinguistics.
- 7 Give an overview of major theoretical issues in the field of language evolution.
- 8 Critically evaluate experimental investigations in the domain of psycholinguistics. Identify strengths and weaknesses and judge the fairness of scientific conclusions.

### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is determined after successful competences assessment

### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

### **Teaching methods**

Lecture

### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

Lectures with integrated exercises

### **Learning materials and price**

Slides (available on Ufora)

Estimated price: 0 euro

### **References**

- Harley, T. A. (2014). The Psychology of Language: From data to theory (3rd. edition). Hove, UK: Psychology Press
- Kemmerer, D. (2015). Cognitive Neuroscience of Language. Hove, UK: Psychology Press.

### **Course content-related study coaching**

- Interactive support
- By appointment

### **Assessment moments**

end-of-term and continuous assessment

### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

### **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with open-ended questions, Assignment

### **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

### **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

### **Extra information on the examination methods**

The exam consists of open questions.

### **Calculation of the examination mark**

Final grade: 20% on the submitted assignment and exercises, and 80% on the exam.

**Facilities for Working Students**

No video recordings are available. You can make an appointment for discussing questions (if needed also outside of standard working hours).