



UNIVERSITÀ  
DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

## COURSE SYLLABUS

### Psycholinguistics of Spoken and Signed Languages

2425-2-E2005P012

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#### Learning area

Acquiring language skills in LIS, LIST and Italian

#### Learning objectives

##### Knowledge and understanding

- linguistic modalities: a comparison between spoken language e sign language processing
- analysis of the experimental methodologies used in the investigation of the mechanisms involved in language processing
- language processing in bilingual individuals: a comparison between unimodal and bimodal bilingualism

##### Applying knowledge and understanding

- critical analysis of scientific texts
- detailed analysis of descriptive results (graphs)
- formulation of research hypotheses and analysis of behavioural data (reading times, reaction times, implicit processing measures, e.g. eye movement recording data)

#### Contents

The course provides a comprehensive overview of the mechanisms underlying the processing of language focusing on (i) the different models of language processing; (ii) the different experimental techniques and paradigms used in psycholinguistic research; (iii) different populations (monolinguals, bilinguals); (iv) different linguistic modalities (spoken languages / sign languages)

## Detailed program

1. Theories of lexical access (in monolinguals and bilinguals) in spoken languages and sign languages: focus on perceptual phenomena, language comprehension and language production
2. Experimental tools and methods for investigating language processing: behavioural experiments; use of eye-trackers; the ERP technique
3. Discussion of research questions related to language use and processing

## Prerequisites

I assume previous attendance of the course of Linguistics of Spoken and Sign Languages (1st year obligatory course), thus some basic notions of language structure (phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics) are taken for granted. Students lacking such basic knowledge should contact the instructor at the beginning of the course.

## Teaching methods

Delivered Didactics (lectures) : 36 hours  
Interactive Didactics (group work): 7 hours

## Assessment methods

The examination is oral and includes an interview aimed at assessing the acquisition of the main theoretical aspects discussed in the classroom and a discussion on a topic chosen by the student.  
International students can take the exam in English and prepare on English textbooks/articles.

## Textbooks and Reading Materials

Giustolisi B., *Psicolinguistica delle lingue dei segni. Aspetti di universalità e specificità nell'accesso al lessico*. 2022, Raffaello Cortina Editore  
Further reference articles will be indicated on e-learning during the lecture period

## Sustainable Development Goals

QUALITY EDUCATION | REDUCED INEQUALITIES

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