

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI MILANO-BICOCCA

COURSE SYLLABUS

Psycholinguistics

2526-2-E2401P116

Learning area

INTERDISCIPLINARY COMPETENCES

Learning objectives

Knowledge and understanding

- What do linguistics and psycholinguists study?
- What are the modalities of language?
- What does it mean to know a language?
- How do we process language in comprehension and production?
- Why is the study of language science relevant for psychologists?

Applying knowledge and understanding

- In situations of language assessment;
- In situations of evaluating a text, a psychological test;
- In situations of using language to convey information and in social iterations (i.e. almost always);
- In situations of neuropsychological assessment of an adult or developmental patient with a deficit in lexical or syntactic production or comprehension

Making judgements

Development of the ability to critically analyze theories and empirical data in the fields of linguistics and psycholinguistics, evaluating their relevance in psychological, clinical, and educational contexts. Acquisition of independent reasoning skills in interpreting linguistic and communicative phenomena, including those related to atypical or impaired conditions.

Communication skills

Enhancement of the ability to clearly and appropriately convey theoretical concepts and empirical findings, both orally and in writing, adapting the communicative register to different contexts. Development of competence in interacting within working groups, including interdisciplinary teams, and in managing complex communicative situations.

Learning skills

Development of autonomous learning skills through the integration of diverse sources (textbooks, scientific articles, case studies), and the ability to critically update one's knowledge on language-related topics relevant to psychology. Consolidation of a reflective and conscious study method, useful for continuing education and applied professional settings.

Contents

The different components of language knowledge will be presented. Similarities and differences between spoken and signed languages will be discussed. Topics in psycholinguistics and methods used to investigate lexical processing as well as language production will be introduced.

Detailed program

- What is language?
- What does linguistics study?
- · What does psycholinguistics study?
- · Description of spoken and signed languages
- Language processing: comprehension and production of words and sentences
- Bilingualism

Prerequisites

None

Teaching methods

In addition to classroom lectures, part of the teaching will take place through the discussion of scientific articles and audio-visual materials.

The material is made available on the elearning site of the course, so that it can also be used by non-attending students.

Students who regularly attend the course can enhance their understanding of certain topics by preparing a presentation and abstract based on a scientific article approved by the lecturer.

Assessment methods

The exam is written, with open and multiple choice questions. The questions aim at ascertaining the effective acquisition of both theoretical knowledge and the ability to apply them to the analysis of linguistic phenomena of everyday communication. The evaluation criteria are: the correctness of the answers, the ability to argue, synthesize, create links, and critically read linguistic phenomena.

Participating to optional activities contributes to final evaluation.

Upon student's request, the exam can be completed with an oral examination, on all the course topics.

Although this course is held in Italian, Erasmus students may contact the lecturer to request to take the exam in English.

Textbooks and Reading Materials

Arcodia & Panunzi (2023)* Linguistica. Introduzione alle scienze del linguaggio.* Pearson Erasmus students are encouraged to reach out to the lecturer to discuss an appropriate bibliography in English.

Sustainable Development Goals

GENDER EQUALITY | REDUCED INEQUALITIES