

# Language

Psyc 399, Winter 2021

Instructor: Dr. Stanka A. Fitneva

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Teams Office Hour: \_\_\_\_\_

## Course Description

What is the role of language in how we think, interact, and how our communities function? The course will sample from topics such as language evolution and development, communication, and social learning, among others to provide a broad overview of the ways language works at the individual, dyadic, and group levels.

## Course Format

This course is set-up for asynchronous delivery. The technology platforms we will use are onQ, Teams, and Feedback Fruits. After the add/drop period, we will set up Book Club groups which we hope will also function as study groups and help create a sense of a community. All assessments will be based exclusively on the readings listed in this syllabus. All additional material that is posted (podcasts, YouTube videos, slides, etc.) will aim to clarify or contextualize points in the readings but will not be tested.

## Learning Outcomes

Along with providing deeper understanding of how language works, this course aims to develop your critical thinking and communication skills. It will encourage you to observe language and engage with original scholarship in the area. Successful students will be able to:

1. define, provide examples of, and apply concepts of language research
2. compare and apply models of language learning, processing, and use
3. apply knowledge to derive conclusions from sample data
4. communicate in writing

Course Requirements and Grading Scheme

Quizzes (5 best of 7)	10%	objectives 1, 2
Assignment 1	10%	objectives 1, 3, 4
Assignment 2	15%	objectives 1, 2, 3, 4
Book club		
Book review	18%	objectives 1, 2, 4
Participation	5%	
Peer review	6%	objective 4
Final exam	36%	objectives 1, 2

For deadlines – all in Kingston, ON time (EST) – please consult the Timeline on onQ. If there is conflict between documents, the deadlines posted on the Timeline will apply. Consult the Timeline frequently and mark all deadlines in your agendas. The onQ Calendar cannot be used for all assignments so it is not to be relied on.

Rubrics for the assessment







## Schedule of Readings and Activities

subject to change : [check on Q Timeline for most up-to-date schedule](#)

Week	Topic	Materials	Activities & Assessments
Jan 11	Introduction	Chapter 1: Introduction	Introduce yourself Book Choice survey
Jan 18	Evolution	Chapter 2: Origins of Human Language	Book Choice due Jan 22 Quiz Ch2, open Jan 21, noon - <del>Jan 22</del> 11:55pm

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Mar 29	Ideas	Chapter 9: Understanding Sentence Structure and Meaning Ch7: 7.4 – motor theory of speech perception	Quiz Ch 9, 7, open Apr 1, noon – Apr 3 (Sat), 11:55pm
April 5	Power	Maass, A., Arcuri, L., & Suitner, C. (2014). Shaping intergroup relations through language. In T. M. Holtgraves (Ed.), Oxford library of psychology. The Oxford handbook of language and social psychology (p. 157–176). Oxford University Press.	Misunderstandings Assignment due –

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## Class Participation Guidelines and Resources

### Electronic Forums - Good Practice

- x Address your posts and sign your posts. This shows respect for the time and thought readers put in and makes it more likely for them to reply. onQ class forums are not chats, IM, or open-to-the-world support sites. They are to support our community



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Book Club: Self Evaluation and Group Work Assessment

Instructions

Upload completed assessment to onQ

Name file: BookClubName\_YourLastName\_date

Your Name: