Cognitive & Linguistic Sciences 45
Language and the Mind
Semester II, 2004-2005

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Course web site: http://www.cog.brown.edu/courses/45/

Texts & Readings


Supplementary readings (TBA).

Course Requirements

**Exams.** There will be two non-cumulative in-class short-essay exams, covering the material presented in readings, lectures, and class discussions. On each of the exams, there will be a mixture of required and optional essay questions. The midterm exam will be given on **March 11** (Friday) and will count for about **25%** of your course grade. A quiz will be given on **April 27** (Wednesday) and will count for about **15%** of your grade.

**Workshops** There will be two labs on topics of interest relevant to language and the mind. Before the day of each lab, you will be responsible for participating in a brief experiment. On the day of the lab, the design of the experiment will be explained and group data will be presented and discussed. You will be responsible for bringing a 2-3 page lab write-up to class at the class meeting following the lab. Labs are tentatively scheduled to be held on **February 14** (Monday) and **March 14** (Monday). Each lab will count for about **5%** of your grade.

**Paper Summaries** You are responsible for writing three one-page summaries of supplementary articles assigned during the course. These should summarize articles selected from three
different sections of the course (there are five in total). Your summaries are due in class on the final data of the relevant section. Each paper summary will count for about 5% of your grade. Citations of supplementary articles for the first section of the course are attached; lists for the remaining sections will be handed out periodically in class. All articles are available on-line through the Brown library. (Note: you are not responsible for reading all of the articles listed, though one or two from each list may be assigned for general class reading.)

Term Paper The final requirement is a 10-15 page research paper, which will count for about 35% of your grade. This option involves reading and critically reviewing literature on a topic relating to language and the mind. We will be happy to suggest possible topics, but our preference is that you chose a general topic of personal interest. In either case, you must meet with Professor Morgan to obtain approval for your topic no later than April 6. At this meeting, we will help you get started in finding relevant literature. In addition, you must submit an outline of your paper no later than April 29. Your completed paper will be due by noon, Tuesday, May 17. For additional information, please see the FAQ at the course homepage.

Course Outline

I. Language and Perception: Jan. 28-Feb. 14

Readings:
Harley, Chapter 1 (pp. 3-26)
Harley, Chapter 2 (pp. 27-43)

II. Words: Feb. 16-Mar. 9

Readings:
Aitchison
Harley, Chapter 6 (pp. 141-177)
Harley, Chapter 7 (pp. 179-217)
Harley, Chapter 8 (pp. 219-242)

Midterm: Mar. 11

III. Language and Thought: Mar. 16-Mar. 25

Readings:
Gentner & Goldin-Meadow (selections)
Harley, Chapter 3 (pp. 47-89)
IV. Ambiguity: Apr. 4-Apr. 15

Readings:
- Harley, Chapter 9 (pp. 245-274)
- Harley, Chapter 10 (pp. 275-309)
- Harley, Chapter 11 (pp. 311-345)

No class, April 8

V. Creationism: Apr. 18-Apr. 25

Readings:
- Harley, Chapter 4 (pp. 91-129)
- Harley, Chapter 5 (pp. 131-138)

Film:
- Truffaut's L'enfant Sauvage (The Wild Child)
Language and perception: Supplementary readings


