LIN 6796-18B8: COGNITIVE NEUROSCIENCE OF LANGUAGE
SYLLABUS - SPRING 2015

Classroom: MAT 3
Time: Tuesday 8-10th periods (3-6 pm)

Instructor: Dr. Edith Kaan
Office: 4127 Turlington Hall.
Office Hours: Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:55-2:45 pm; and by appointment
Contact info: kaan@ufl.edu
Course website: on Canvas, lss.at.ufl.edu

Prereqs:
LIN graduate core course, or equivalent in other disciplines. Please contact the instructor for permission.

Aims of this course:
• To learn how brain imaging techniques can be applied to psycholinguistic research, and the potential pitfalls of doing so
• To learn to evaluate brain imaging studies of language in terms of their scientific and methodological aspects
• To improve oral presentation skills

Assignments:
Your grades will be based on: on paper presentations (20 %), active participation in class and timely postings of discussion questions (5 %), three critical summaries (30 %), and a final written assignment (45 %).

Paper presentations:
• Approximately 15 minutes; one paper per presenter per session. The number of presentations over the entire course depends on enrollment.
• Powerpoint or Prezi file, email this to yourself or put it on a memory key
• Last slide has points for discussion, including questions from classmates (see below)
• Will be followed by a 10-15 minute group discussion
• Mail a copy of your slides to kaan@ufl.edu before or right after class.
• Please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Kaan if you have questions when preparing your presentation

Active participation:
• Contributing to discussion in class
• Posting at least one critical question/discussion point and one response for each paper on the “Discussion” page on Canvas by 8pm the night before class (preferably sooner).

Summaries:
• Summaries are due on these three topics:
  Summary i: brain imaging methods, N400, LAN, P600, syntax or predictive processing
  Summary ii: visual word form area, morphology, syntax or speech perception
  Summary iii: motor theory, production, cognitive control or the TBA topic of April 14
• For each of these topics:
  (1) write a critical summary of one of the required readings (this needs to be a different reading from the one you presented in class)
  (2) write a summary of an article that is one link away from this or another required reading on that topic, i.e., a paper that cites this required reading or is cited by this required reading.
• Summaries should include how the articles relate to each other and what we can learn from considering the studies together.
• To be handed in through Canvas, on or before: February 10, March 17, and April 21
Final written assignment:
- About 15 pages long, double spaced, including references
- APA formatting
- Structured like a grant proposal
- Contains an overview of the literature on a selected psycho/neurolinguistic topic
- Contains a proposal for a new, original experiment using the brain imaging methods discussed in class, or patients with brain damage, to investigate language in the brain.
- Topic should be chosen before March 17 (each will meet with Dr. Kaan around that time)
- Draft handed in before April 7 (Sakai).
- Final version due: April 28, 2013 (Sakai)
- Students will give a brief presentation of their proposals in the last class

Grading:

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<th>Grade</th>
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<td>90-100</td>
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For UF grading policies for assigning grade points, see: http://gradcatalog.ufl.edu/content.php?catoid=5&navoid=1054#grades.

Policies:
- Please turn off all cell phones.
- Students are required to hand in all assignments and tests before the class period they are due. Please contact the instructor in advance if you need to skip a class, or cannot make a deadline. Please also make sure you have at least one external backup of the assignments you make for this class. Computer problems will not be considered a valid excuse for missing deadlines.
- If you are absent for more than one class, or miss more than 15 minutes of more than three 50-minute class periods without a documented medical or academic excuse, one point will be deducted from your final score for each additional time you are absent, leave early, or come late. There will be no make-up exams or assignments without a documented medical excuse. See: https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx
- Academic Honesty: See the University of Florida Honor Code and the academic honesty guidelines at http://www.dso.ufl.edu/scct/process/student-conduct-honor-code/

Accommodations for students with disabilities:
Students with disabilities requesting accommodations should first register with the Disability Resource Center (352-392-8565, www.dso.ufl.edu/drc/) by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter which must be presented to the instructor when requesting accommodation. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

Course evaluation:
Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at https://evaluations.ufl.edu. Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at https://evaluations.ufl.edu/results/.

Readings:
The list of readings can be found below. Readings can be obtained from the UF library website (e-journals). Where indicated, the reading is available through the course website or e-reserves. In some cases, a hardcopy will be made available for you to xerox. Background readings pertain to the lecture and are optional; Discussion readings are required. NOTE: READINGS AND SCHEDULE BELOW ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE!
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Discussions and required readings</th>
<th>Lecture</th>
<th>Background readings</th>
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Other required readings:
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<th>Topic</th>
<th>References</th>
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<td>Mar 3</td>
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and  
### Discussion: Tones and attrition


### Motor theory of speech perception

**Summary II**


### Discussion: motor theory


### Language production


### Topic TBA Draft of paper due

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<td>Apr 14</td>
<td>Project presentations</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
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<td>Apr 21</td>
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