

Utrecht Summerschool 2025 – August 11 to 15

S32: Psycholinguistics

This elementary to intermediate level course will provide the student with a basic knowledge of psycholinguistics, a research domain on the intersection of linguistics, psychology and neuroscience. Three major research topics in psycholinguistics will be presented: language comprehension, language production and (first) language acquisition. In addition, we will discuss language disorders, both acquired (aphasia) and innate (developmental language disorder; dyslexia).

This course focuses on the psycholinguistic endeavor of mapping out the learning and cognitive mechanisms that allow humans to pick up patterns and regularities in linguistic input, and that might thus support the process of language acquisition. We will focus on: (i) recognizing words and understanding sentences; (ii) producing spoken language; (iii) brain damage and aphasia; (iv) language acquisition in the first 4 years of life; (v) developmental language disorder and dyslexia.

Lecture 1 (August 11)

- The link between language and the brain, brain damage and aphasia

Lecture 2 (August 12)

- * From sound to meaning: recognizing words and understanding sentences.

Lecture 3 (August 13)

- * From intention to articulation: producing spoken language.

Lecture 4 (August 14)

- * Building the system: language acquisition in the first 4 years of life.

Lecture 5 (August 15)

- * Innate language difficulties: developmental language disorder and dyslexia.

Recommended reading:

Cowles, W. (2011). *Psycholinguistics 101*. New York (etc.): Springer Publishing Company.

Harley, T. A. (2010). *Talking the talk: Language, psychology and science*. Hove (UK): Psychology Press.

Wijnen, F., van Ewijk, L., & Eling, P. (2017). *Language* (Chapter 9). In Kessels, R., Eling, P., Ponds, R., Spikman, J., van Zandvoort, M. (Eds.), *Clinical Neuropsychology*. Amsterdam: Boom Publishers.