

Fall Term 2008

Psychology 320 (Section 01)

Language Development

- Instructor:** Dr. Jerry Anglin (Room 4019, Psychology Building)
- Teaching Assistants:** Agnieszka Polanowski, Brian Garrison
- Meeting Times:** Tuesdays, 6:30 – 9:20 p.m.
- Place:** AL 208
- Purpose of Course:** To examine language development in humans from birth to adulthood. How basic linguistic skills (e.g., phonology, semantics, and grammar) and important communicative and pragmatic functions of language (e.g., conversation, narration, and persuasion) are acquired will be addressed. The importance of language development for acquiring social, cognitive, and literacy skills will also be considered.
- Course Requirements:** There will be 3 term exams (see course outline on the reverse side of this handout). Questions for the exams will be taken from both the readings and the lectures. There will also be one essay assignment. By October 14 or earlier you will be given the assignment and you will be asked to write an essay of not more than ten pages pertinent to language development and this course. Your essay will be due not later than Tuesday, November 25 and early submissions will certainly be welcome. (If you do submit your essay on November 25, the best time to submit it would be when you write Exam 3 on Tuesday November 25.)
- Book for the Course:** (available at the bookstore and on reserve at the ARTS LIBRARY)
- Berko Gleason, J. (2005). The Development of Language (6th edition). Toronto: Pearson Education, Inc.

(See reverse side of this handout for Course Outline and Reading Assignments.)

Course Outline and Reading Assignments for Psychology 320 (taught by J. M. Anglin)

Part 1. Sept. 9 – Sept. 29

Reading Assignment: Berko Gleason, J. (2005): Chapters 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Topics to be considered in this part of the course include: Introduction and Important Linguistic Concepts; Preparation for Language Development and Communication in Infancy; Early Language Development; Motherese; the “Starting Language”; Phonological Development; Early Word Learning; Semantic Development.

TERM EXAM 1: TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 30

Part 2. Oct. 1 – Oct. 27

Reading Assignment: Berko Gleason, J. (2005): Chapters 5, 6, and 7.

Topics to be considered in this part of the course include: Language Development during the Preschool Years; Learning Sentence Construction Skills; Morphological Development; Acquiring Communicative Competence; Pragmatic Development and Learning Conversation Skills; The Development of Displaced Language; Language and Thought; Theoretical Approaches to Language Acquisition.

TERM EXAM 2: TUESDAY OCTOBER 28

Part 3. Oct. 29 – Nov. 24

Reading Assignment: Berko Gleason, J. (2005): Chapters 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Topics to be considered in this part of the course include: Later Language Development; Language Development in the School Years; Language Acquisition and Literacy; Learning to Read and Write; Individual Differences and Language Disabilities; Language Development in Adulthood; Language Developments with Advanced Age; Adult Language and Brain Damage; Conclusions about Language Development.

TERM EXAM 3: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 25