



**Course Title**  
**PSYCO 357, Section B2**  
**Winter 2021**

**Instructor:** Dr. Alexander Taikh

**Office:** BSP-565 (currently remote)

**E-mail:** taikh@ualberta.ca

**Web Page:** <https://eclass.srv.ualberta.ca/>

Contains assignments, presentations and other lecture materials, due dates, and other course resources. The content will be updated regularly. You must be registered in the course to access the site. The login and password are the same as for your GPU account (where you receive your University of Alberta Mail).

**Office Hours:** Meetings will be held remotely. I will be available during regular lecture times (Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:50). If necessary, meetings can be made by appointment.

**Teaching Assistant(s):** Carlee Wilson

**Lecture Room & Time:** Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:30-10:50. Lecture recordings will be made available via Zoom recordings and remote meetings will take place via Zoom.

---

**Course Description:** 3 (fi 6) (either term, 3-0-0) A survey of theories and research on the production and comprehension of spoken and written language. Topics include speech perception, printed word recognition, sentence production and comprehension, discourse processing, reading, language development, and language pathologies. The focus will be on the processing mechanisms implicated by findings in the area. [Faculty of Arts]

**Course Prerequisites:** PSYCO 258.

It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they have the appropriate prerequisite(s) for the course.

**Technology Requirements/Recommendations for Remote Learning:**

For an optimal online learning experience, please review the University guidelines for [Technology for Remote Learning](#). If a student has any questions or concerns about these requirements/recommendations, it is highly recommended that they contact the instructor at the beginning of term.

**Student Resources for Remote Learning:**

Online learning may be new to you. Check out tips for success and find out more about online learning on the [Campus Life](#) page, and specifically on the [Student Resources for Remote Learning](#) page.

**Course Objectives and Expected Learning Outcomes:**

1. Learn and be able to explain psychological theories and approaches to the study of language processing.
2. Practice evaluating and understanding experimental research relevant to language processing.
3. Be able to interpret data arising from psychological studies.
4. Improve communication skills through writing assignments and participation in in-class discussions.

**Required Textbook:**

Sedivy, J. (2020) Language in the Mind. 2nd Edition. New York: Oxford University Press The textbook is available at the University Bookstore and an electronic version is available for purchase or rental at <https://www.vitalsource.com/en-ca/products/language-in-mind-julie-sedivy-v9781605358369>

**Recommended or Optional Learning Resources:**

Resources for the textbook (i.e. flashcards, activities, chapter outlines) can be found at: [https://oup-arc.com/access/sedivy-2e-student-resources#tag\\_chapter-01](https://oup-arc.com/access/sedivy-2e-student-resources#tag_chapter-01)

**Online learning resources:**

Additional learning resources aimed at facilitating student learning and perhaps including formative assessment tools, are available from the textbook publisher and may be accessed for a fee paid by the student to the third party provider (e.g. the textbook company). Students choosing to access and use the online resources should note the following:

1. Registration in the system and any monetary transactions are of your own accord and not the responsibility of the University.
2. Students should be mindful of protecting their personal information and should be aware of how their personal information might be used and/or shared.
3. Students SHOULD NOT use their @ualberta email address or CCID to register into the system and instead use a non-identifying email address or account.

**Important Dates:** See the current Calendar for the [Academic Schedule, Dates, and Deadlines](#), which include the Registration Add/Drop deadline and Withdrawal date.

**Lecture Schedule & Assigned Readings:**

Week	Tuesday	Thursday	Chapter/Topic	Assignment/ Due Date	
1	Jan. 12	Jan. 14	Introduction to course and Ch. 1 Science, Language, and the Science of Language		
2	Jan. 19	Jan. 21	Ch. 2 Origins of Human Language		
3	Jan. 26	Jan. 28	Ch. 3 Language and the Brain	Ch.2	Jan. 31
4	Feb. 2	Feb. 4	Ch. 4 Learning Sound Patterns	Ch.3	Feb. 7
5	Feb. 9	Feb. 11	Review of Ch. 2-4 on Feb. 9 Midterm 1 (Ch. 2-4) on Feb. 11	Ch.4	Feb. 14
6	Feb. 16	Feb. 18	Reading Week: No lectures		
7	Feb. 23	Feb. 25	Ch. 5 Learning Words		
8	Mar. 2	Mar. 4	Ch. 6 Learning the Structure of	Ch. 5	Mar. 7
9	Mar. 9	Mar. 11	Ch. 7 Speech Perception	Ch. 6	Mar. 14
10	Mar. 16	Mar. 18	Review of Ch. 5-7 on Mar. 16 Midterm 2 (Ch. 5-7) on Mar. 18	Ch. 7	Mar. 21
11	Mar. 23	Mar. 25	Ch. 8 Word Recognition		
12	Mar. 30	Apr. 1	Ch. 9 Understanding Sentence Structure and Meaning	Ch. 8	Apr. 4
13	Apr. 6	Apr. 8	Ch. 10 Speaking: From Planning to Articulation	Ch. 9	Apr. 11
14	Apr. 13	Apr. 15	Ch. 11 Discourse and Inference/ Review	Ch. 10	Apr. 18
				Ch. 11	Apr. 25
	Final Exam (Ch. 8-11): set by the registrar				

**Grade Evaluation:**

This table contains an approximate guideline for the course, however the instructor reserves the right to adjust this table and assign appropriate grades based on relative performance. Grades are unofficial until approved by the Department and/or Faculty offering the course.

Letter	Approximate Percentages	GPA Points	Descriptor
A+	92 – 100%	4.0	Excellent
A	88 – 91.99%	4.0	
A-	84 – 87.99%	3.7	
B+	78 – 83.99%	3.3	Good
B	74 – 77.99%	3.0	
B-	70 – 73.99%	2.7	
C+	65 – 69.99%	2.3	Satisfactory
C	60 – 64.99%	2.0	
C-	55 – 59.99%	1.7	
D+	53 – 54.99%	1.3	Poor
D	50 – 52.99%	1.0	Minimal Pass
F	0 – 49.99%	0	Failure

**Components of Course Grade:**

Assessment	Weight	Date
Weekly Assignments	20%	The assignment for a given chapter will be due by 5:00pm on Sunday a week after the lecture material was covered.
Midterm 1	24%	February 11, 2021
Midterm 2	24%	March 18, 2021
Final Exam*	32%	Set by the registrar

Students must verify this date on BearTracks when the Final Exam Schedule is posted.

**Re-examination:**

Because the weight of the final exam is less than 40%, there is no possibility of a re-examination in this course.

**Format of Tests and Exams:**

Midterms and exams will be administered through eClass and will take place during regularly scheduled class times.

**Attendance:** Please refer to the Calendar policies on [Attendance](#).

**Representative Evaluative Material:**

Examples of evaluative material for the midterm and final will be provided on eClass during the term.

**Missed Assessments Where the Cause is Religious Belief:**

For an excused absence where the cause is religious belief, a student must contact the instructor(s) within two weeks of the start of Fall or Winter classes to request accommodation for the term (including the final exam, where relevant). Instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the student request.

**Missed Weekly Assignments:**

The lowest grade for Weekly Assignments will be dropped when calculating the course grade. No late Weekly Assignment will be accepted. Failure to complete a Weekly Assignment on time for any reason will result in a mark of zero. Please note that you can miss 1 instance of Weekly Assignment without penalty.

### **Missed Midterm Exams:**

A student who cannot write a term test or complete a term assignment due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons must contact the instructor within 48 hours of the missed test. A student can apply to their Faculty for a deferred final examination. Students who failed at the start of term to request exam accommodations for religious beliefs are expected to follow the normal deferred final examination process. Such an application must be made to the student's Faculty office within two working days of the missed examination and must be supported by appropriate documentation or a Statutory Declaration (see Calendar for information on [Attendance](#)). Deferred examinations are a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferred examination will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferred examination is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

In all cases, instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the reason for the absence, at their discretion.

**Deferred Final Examination:** A student who cannot write the final examination due to incapacitating illness, severe domestic affliction or other compelling reasons can apply to their Faculty for a deferred final examination. Students who failed at the start of term to request exam accommodations for religious beliefs are expected to follow the normal deferred final examination process. Such an application must be made to the student's Faculty office within two working days of the missed examination and must be supported by appropriate documentation or a Statutory Declaration (see Calendar for information on [Attendance](#)). Deferred examinations are a privilege and not a right; there is no guarantee that a deferred examination will be granted. Misrepresentation of Facts to gain a deferred examination is a serious breach of the *Code of Student Behaviour*.

In all cases, instructors may request adequate documentation to substantiate the reason for the absence, at their discretion.

### **STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES:**

#### **Guidelines for Respectful Online Engagement:**

Students from many different backgrounds participate in courses at the University of Alberta. Sexist, racist, homophobic comments and other inflammatory remarks are not conducive to learning in our courses, and absolutely are not permitted. All participants are governed by the [Code of Student Behaviour](#). Be mindful when discussions involve controversial topics or issues, and consider the possibility that members of our community have themselves experienced some of these issues and/or very different realities because of these issues. Participate in a respectful and considered manner.

If you are witness to or the target of abusive or offensive behaviour in any course, please inform your instructor immediately. You may also contact the Psychology Undergraduate/Graduate Advisor, Associate Chair of Undergraduate/Graduate, or Chair.

**Academic Integrity:** The University of Alberta is committed to the highest standards of academic integrity and honesty. Students are expected to be familiar with these standards regarding academic honesty and to uphold the policies of the University in this respect. Students are particularly urged to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the [Code of Student Behaviour](#) and avoid any behaviour which could potentially result in suspicions of cheating, plagiarism, misrepresentation of facts and/or participation in an offence. Academic dishonesty is a serious offence and can result in suspension or expulsion from the University.

All students should consult the [Academic Integrity website](#) for clarification on the various offences. If you have any questions, ask your instructor. All forms of dishonesty are unacceptable at the University. Any offence will be reported to the Associate Dean of the Faculty, who will determine the disciplinary action to be taken. See the [Academic Discipline Process](#). Typical sanctions include conduct probation, a mark reduction or a mark of 0 on an assessment, a grade reduction or a grade of F in a course, a remark on the transcript, and a recommendation for suspension or expulsion from the University of Alberta.

### **Appropriate Collaboration:**

In this course, student are not permitted to collaborate on assignments, midterms, or the final exam. All work that you submit for evaluation should be your own work. Prior to the first assignment, all students should read the Appropriate Collaboration link on the Office of Student Judicial Affairs website ([Appropriate Collaboration](#)). An instructor or coordinator who is convinced that a student that has handed in work that he or she could not possibly reproduce without outside assistance is obliged, out of consideration of fairness to other students, to report the case to the Associate Dean of the Faculty.

### **Exams:**

Students will not be allowed to begin an examination after it has been in progress for 30 minutes. Students should refer to the Calendar information on [Conduct of Exams](#) for more information.

**Recording and/or Distribution of Course Materials:** Audio or video recording, digital or otherwise, of lectures, labs, seminars or any other teaching environment by students is allowed only with the prior written consent of the instructor or as a part of an approved accommodation plan. Student or instructor content, digital or otherwise, created and/or used within the context of the course is to be used solely for personal study, and is not to be used or distributed for any other purpose without prior written consent from the content author(s).

## STUDENT RESOURCES:

**COVID-19 Updates:** Updates pertaining to university-related activities can be found on the [COVID-19 Information website](#).

**Student Services and Resources:** General information about various services, including academic, financial, health and wellness, safety, and career development, can be found on the website for [Current Students](#).

**Accessibility Resources (AR) (1 – 80 SUB):** The University of Alberta is committed to creating work and learning communities that inspire and enable all people to reach their full potential. AR promotes an accessible, inclusive, and universally designed environment. For general information to register for services visit the [Accessibility Resources](#) webpage. Eligible students have both rights and responsibilities with regard to accessibility-related accommodations. Consequently, scheduling exam accommodations in accordance with AR deadlines and procedures is essential, and adherence to procedures and deadlines is required for U of A to provide accommodations.

**Academic Success Centre (1-80 SUB):** [The Academic Success Centre](#) provides professional academic support to help students strengthen their academic skills and achieve their academic goals. Individual advising, appointments, and group workshops are available year round in the areas of Accessibility, Communication, Learning, and Writing Resources. Modest fees apply for some services.

**The Centre for Writers (1-42 Assiniboia Hall):** The [Centre for Writers](#) offers free one-on-one writing support to students, faculty, and staff. Students can request consultation for a writing project at any stage of development. Instructors can request class visits and presentations.

**First Peoples' House:** [The First Peoples' House](#) provides an environment of empowerment for First Nations, Métis, and Inuit learners to achieve personal and academic growth.

**Health and Wellness Support:** There are many health and community services available to current students. For more information visit the [Health and Wellness Support](#) webpage.

**Office of the Student Ombuds:** The [Office of the Student Ombuds](#) offers confidential interviews, advice and support to students facing academic, discipline, interpersonal and financial difficulties.

## LEARNING AND WORKING ENVIRONMENT

The Department of Psychology, Faculty of Arts, and Faculty of Science are committed to ensuring that all students, faculty, and staff are able to work and study in an environment that is safe and free from discrimination, harassment, and violence of any kind. It does not tolerate behaviour that undermines that environment. [This includes virtual environments and platforms.](#)

The University of Alberta acknowledges that we are located on Treaty 6 territory, and respects the histories, languages, and cultures of the First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Policy about course outlines can be found in the [Evaluation Procedures and Grading System](#) section of the University Calendar.

**Disclaimer:** Any typographical errors in this syllabus are subject to change and will be announced in class and/or posted on the course website (e.g., eClass). The date of the final examination is set by the Registrar and takes precedence over the final examination date reported in this syllabus.

**Copyright:** Dr. Alexander Taikh, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Science, University of Alberta (2021)