



King Faisal University
College of Arts
Department of English Language
Academic Plan: Course Description

1- Course identification

Department	Department of English Language		Level	7
Course title	Psycholinguistics		Code	ADEL 455
Course	Theoretical <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Practical <input type="checkbox"/>		
Domain	Language/ Linguistics		Prerequisite(s)	
Credit hours	2	Contact hours	2	ADEL 250: Introduction to Linguistics

2- Course content

“Psycholinguistics” introduces the main areas of Psycholinguistics. It covers the main mechanisms involved in natural language processing, the main theories of language learning with emphasis on the mentalist approach. It also reviews selected areas of language pathology. The course also reviews the psychological nature of concepts, semantic representation, linguistic primitives and the relationship between understanding and interpretation.

3- Course rationale

The course has been suggested because: 1) It provides students with the knowledge of the basic areas of Psycholinguistics. 2) It introduces the topic of language acquisition and the mental bases of semantic representation. 3- It is needed for introducing students to experimental design in Psycholinguistics and the study of psychological variables.

4- Course objectives

By the end of the course, students should be able to:

- 1- Demonstrate knowledge of the mentalist approach to the study language.
- 2- Show knowledge of experimental design in psycholinguistics and the study of psychological variables.
- 3- Show knowledge of selected areas of language pathology.
- 4- Demonstrate knowledge of the main mentalist theories of language acquisition.



5- Teaching methods

The course makes use of the following teaching/learning methods:

- 1- Lectures given by the teacher.
- 2- Teacher-prepared notes and handouts.
- 3- Case studies of examples of experimental design in psycholinguistics.
- 4- Student's reports and application.
- 5- Class Quizzes and assignments.

6- Course evaluation

Continuous assessment is the main method of evaluation. The following instruments are utilized:

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|---------------------------------|-----|
| 1- Attendance | 10% |
| 2- Class Quizzes and assignment | 10% |
| 3- Practical applications | 10% |
| 4- Midterm Exam | 20% |
| 5- Final Exam | 50% |

7- References and teaching learning resources

1- Main Textbook:

- 1- Carman, Micael, Bresnan J. and Anderson, S. R. (2005). *Psycholinguistics*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

2- Reference(s):

- 1- Pinker, Steven (2007). *Language Instinct: How the Mind Creates Language*. New York, HarperCollins Publishers.
- 2- Brown, H. Douglas (2006). *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching*. New York, Pearson ESL.

3- Websites:

- 4- WWW.barnesandnoble.com
- 5- KFU Webcity material
- 6- Saudi Universities online resources (Internet site)