



UNIVERSITY OF  
CALGARY  
**Faculty of Arts**  
**School of Languages, Linguistics, Literatures and Cultures**

LING 349  
Language and Mind  
Lectures: TR11:00-12:15  
Location: ES 054  
Winter 2017

**COURSE OUTLINE**

<b>INSTRUCTOR'S NAME:</b> David Liebesman	
<b>OFFICE LOCATION:</b> SS 1202	<b>OFFICE HOURS:</b> Tues: 12:30-2:30 PM
<b>TELEPHONE NUMBER :</b> 403-220-3163	
<b>E-Mail :</b> david.liebesman@ucalgary.ca	
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>  Examining the nature of language can give us insight into the nature of the mind, and vice-versa. We'll focus on two main issues. The first is whether language acquisition can teach us anything about the innate structure of the mind, as is the contention of Chomsky and his followers. The second is whether contingencies of our language radically affect the way we think, which is one version of the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis.	
<b>OBJECTIVES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To understand and evaluate the key arguments for nativism from language competence and acquisition.</li><li>• To understand and evaluate some key arguments for the hypothesis that language contingencies determine the structure of thought.</li><li>• To clearly present and critically evaluate important arguments pertaining to the mind/language connection.</li></ul>	
<b>DISTRIBUTION OF GRADES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Two exams (worth 30% of the grade each; Feb. 16 and March 16)</li><li>• One Quiz (worth 10% of the grade; April 11)</li><li>• One paper, in two drafts (worth 30% of the grade; draft Due March 30<sup>th</sup> and Final paper due April 17)</li></ul>	
<b>GRADING SCALE</b>  A+ 97-100% B+ 84-88% C+ 69-73% D+ 54-58% A 93-96% B 79-83% C 64-68% D 50-53% A- 89-92% B- 74-78% C- 59-63% F 0-49%	
<b>REQUIRED TEXTS</b>  Cowie, Fiona. <i>What's Within?</i> Oxford University Press. McWhorter, John. <i>The Language Hoax.</i> Oxford University Press. Jackendoff, Ray. <i>Patterns in the Mind.</i> Basic Books.	
<b>COURSE NOTES</b>	



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- The readings can be dense and difficult so plan to read everything twice. Remember that the material is worth it!
- Screens (cell phones, computers, tablets) are banned in class, unless an independent arrangement is made beforehand with the professor. If you use a screen during class, you run the risk of public humiliation.
- If you can't make it to one of the exams, or the quiz, convincing reason must be given and arrangements must be made in advance. Make-up exams will be different, and potentially more difficult.

#### **ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT**

1. **Plagiarism** is a serious offence, the penalty for which is an F on the assignment and possibly also an F in the course, academic probation, or requirement to withdraw. Plagiarism exists when:

- a) the work submitted or presented was done, in whole or in part, by an individual other than the one submitting or presenting the work (this includes having another impersonate the student or otherwise substituting the work of another for one's own in an examination or test);
- b) parts of the work are taken from another source without reference to the original author;
- c) the whole work (e.g., an essay) is copied from another source, and/or
- d) a student submits or presents work in one course which has also been submitted in another course (although it may be completely original with that student) without the knowledge of or prior agreement of the instructor involved.

While it is recognized that scholarly work often involves reference to the ideas, data and conclusions of other scholars, intellectual honesty requires that such references be explicitly and clearly noted." Plagiarism occurs not only when direct quotations are taken from a source without specific acknowledgement but also when original ideas or data from the source are not acknowledged. A bibliography is insufficient to establish which portions of the student's work are taken from external sources; footnotes or other recognized forms of citation must be used for this purpose.

2. **Cheating** at tests or examinations includes but is not limited to dishonest or attempted dishonest conduct such as speaking to other candidates or communicating with them under any circumstances whatsoever; bringing into the examination room any textbook, notebook, memorandum, other written material or mechanical or electronic device not authorized by the examiner; writing an examination or part of it, or consulting any person or materials outside the confines of the examination room without permission to do so, or leaving answer papers exposed to view, or persistent attempts to read other students' examination papers.

3. **Other academic misconduct** includes, but is not limited to, tampering or attempts to tamper with examination scripts, class work, grades and/or class records; failure to abide by directions by an instructor regarding the individuality of work handed in; the acquisition, attempted acquisition, possession, and/or distribution of examination materials or information not authorized by the instructor; the impersonation of another student in an examination or other class assignment; the falsification or fabrication of clinical or laboratory reports; the non-authorized tape recording of lectures.

4. Any student who voluntarily and consciously aids another student in the commission of one of these offences is also guilty of academic misconduct.

#### **DISABILITIES AND ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATION**

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. Students with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre should contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. Students also required to discuss their needs with the instructor no later than fourteen (14) days after the start of this course.

#### **EMERGENCY EVACUATION ASSEMBLY POINTS**

Craigie Hall: Professional Faculties food court (alternate: Education Block food court)

Education Block and Tower: Scurfield Hall atrium (alternate: Professional Faculties food court)

Kinesiology: north courtyard, MacEwan Student Centre (alternate: University Theatres lobby)



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For the complete list of assembly points please consult  
<http://www.ucalgary.ca/emergencyplan/assemblypoints>

#### **FACULTY OF ARTS PROGRAM ADVISING AND STUDENT INFORMATION RESOURCES**

- Have a question, but not sure where to start? The new Faculty of Arts Program Information Centre (PIC) is your information resource for everything in Arts! Drop in at SS110, call us at 403-220-3580 or email us at [artsads@ucalgary.ca](mailto:artsads@ucalgary.ca). You can also visit the Faculty of Arts website at <http://arts.ucalgary.ca/undergraduate> which has detailed information on common academic concerns.
- For program planning and advice, contact the Student Success Centre (formerly the Undergraduate programs Office) at (403) 220-5881 or visit them in their new space on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor of the Taylor Family Digital Library.
- For registration (add/drop/swap), paying fees and assistance with your Student Centre, contact Enrolment Services at (403) 210-ROCK [7625] or visit them at the MacKimmie Library Block.

Contact for Students Union Representatives for the Faculty of Arts:

[arts1@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts1@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts2@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts2@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts3@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts3@su.ucalgary.ca), [arts4@su.ucalgary.ca](mailto:arts4@su.ucalgary.ca)

#### **FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AND PRIVACY (FOIP) ACT**

Graded assignments will be retained by the Department for three months and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Final examinations will be kept for one calendar year and subsequently sent for confidential shredding. Said material is exclusively available to the student and to the department staff requiring to examine it.

Please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/secretariat/privacy> for complete information on the disclosure of personal records.

#### **INTERNET AND ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION DEVICES**

Devices such as laptops, palmtops and smartbooks are allowed provided that they are used exclusively for instructional purposes and do not cause disruption to the instructor and to fellow students. Cellular telephones, blackberries and other mobile communication tools are not permitted and must be switched off.

#### **SAFEWALK**

To request a Safewalk escort anywhere on campus, 24 hours a day and seven days a week, please call 403-220-5333 or use one of the Help Phones.

Web: <http://www.ucalgary.ca/security/safewalk>

#### **STUDENT UNION INFORMATION**

Representatives and contact details: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/home/contact.html>

Student Ombudsman: <http://www.su.ucalgary.ca/services/student-services/student-rights.html>

#### **WRITING ACROSS THE CURRICULUM**

Writing skills should cross all disciplines. Students are expected to do a substantial amount of writing in their courses and, where appropriate, instructors can and should use writing and the grading thereof as a factor in the evaluation of student work. The services provided by the Writing Centre in the Effective Writing Office (<http://www.efwr.ucalgary.ca/>) can be utilized by all undergraduate and graduate students who feel they require further assistance.