🏛 **UCL**

Linguistics Modules - Module Information Sheet   **2018/19**

1. General information

Module Code	PLIN0035	Title	Psycholinguistics: Stages in Normal Language Development		Credits	15
Module Tutor	Kriszta Szendroi			**Contact**	k.szendroi@ucl.ac.uk	
Other tutor(s)						

Module available at the following levels									
Level 4 UG		Level 5 UG		Level 6 UG	X	Level 7 UG	X	Level 7 PG	

Module description
The course will introduce students to the different stages and process of normal language development. Different theoretical approaches to language acquisition will be introduced and evaluated in the light of research findings. The course will include a detailed overview of recent experimental work on first language acquisition within the principles and parameters framework, concentrating on both theoretical and methodological issues. Topics covered will include the acquisition of syntax, semantics and pragmatics.

Prerequisites	Introductory modules in syntax, semantics and pragmatics, and language acquisition, e.g. PLIN0011, PLIN0064 and PLIN0008 (or equivalent)
Timetable	https://timetable.ucl.ac.uk/tt/createCustomTimet.do#

Week by week summary
LECTURE 1   Introduction: The problem of language acquisition and how to solve it LECTURE 2   Infant language acquisition: statistics LECTURE 3   Infant language acquisition: prosody LECTURE 4   Acquisition of functional heads LECTURE 5   Acquisition of the binding principles: Principle A *READING WEEK* LECTURE 6   Acquisition of the binding principles: Principles B and C LECTURE 7   Acquisition of focus LECTURE 8   Acquisition of topic LECTURE 9   Acquisition of quantifier raising LECTURE 10   Statistical learning (Dr Wonnacott)Summary and student presentations

Information for students on other programmes and Affiliate/intercollegiate students:
If you want to take this module, you should select it on Portico as usual. Any general queries about taking the module can be addressed to Alexa Richardson: enquiries-linguistics@pals.ucl.ac.uk.

2. Teaching

Teaching methods and tutorial/lab arrangements
One-hour lecture followed by one-hour seminar-style backups (approx. 12-15 students). Being an advanced course, the lectures cover different areas of research and a reading list is provided for the students to learn more about these areas by independent study. The backups will be used to discuss the material covered by the lectures and by independent study.

Communication
Students should communicate by email. In their communications they should identify themselves as well as the course they are taking.

Workload
Students are expected to spend approx. 4 hours/week on private reading.

Core texts	N/A

Libraries and other resources: N/A	
Additional information	
Recording	
Lectures for this module are recorded via the UCL Lecturecast system, and a link to recordings will be made available via the Moodle page for this module. Please note that recordings can fail for a number of reasons.	

3. Assessment

Level 6 undergraduate		
Mode of assessment	Weight	Format
Coursework, 1000 words	50%	Written essay
Written Exam, 2 hours	50%	Written exam
Other assessment information		

Level 7 postgraduate		
Mode of assessment	Weight	Format
Other assessment information	***Assessment structure is the same as the undergraduate structure above.***	

4. Types of feedback

Types of feedback students on this module can expect to receive	This type of feedback is provided (X)
Generic tutor feedback	
Oral feedback is given to the whole class (eg this may be about coursework, an in-class or online task)	X
Electronic feedback to the whole group (eg see oral feedback above)	
Printed feedback to the whole group (eg answers to an exercise done in class, feedback relating to general performance on coursework or a task etc)	
Coverage of topics in class which have been raised by members of the class (eg in areas where students ask for clarification/elaboration, these topics are addressed in class)	
Electronic responses to the whole group via the VLE or via email (eg sending replies to individual queries to the whole group)	X
Other generic tutor feedback (please give details)	
Automated feedback	
Tests / quizzes within VLE These are tests which do not count towards the module mark, but serve to inform students of how well they are understanding materials taught.	
Personal Response Systems used within class (eg to test that students understand a concept, to survey which topics students would like elaborated)	
Other automated feedback (please give details)	
Specific, targeted tutor feedback	
Oral responses within class (eg demonstrators talking to students in lab, stats and computing classes)	X
Oral responses outside class (eg students are invited to telephone or meet with module staff with individual queries regarding topics taught)	X
Electronic responses to queries from individual students are provided (as above)	X
Summative comments on coursework (eg handwritten feedback at the end of a written assessment which counts towards the module mark)	X
On-script comments in the body of individual summative coursework	X
Indication of achievement against set marking criteria (eg for an individual essay or a lab report)	X
Feedback using a standard feedback form (eg essay feedback form or lab marking forms)	X

Oral feedback on coursework talking to individual students about their coursework on the phone or in person, this could be summative points or specific comments on parts of the essay / lab report / project	X
Electronic feedback on coursework This could be via email or on a VLE (eg using Gradebook on Moodle)	X
Other specific, targeted tutor feedback (please give details)	
Feedback from people other than module staff	
Peer feedback: fellow students commenting on/marking each other's work, or working together on a task (eg group work providing students with feedback on their ideas/understanding)	
Self-feedback (eg students evaluating their own coursework, worksheet answers, etc)	
Feedback from seminar tutors Students may receive feedback on their understanding of topics/answers to queries/feedback on coursework from their tutor (eg poster, Research Project presentations etc)	X
Other feedback from those not teaching module (please give details)	
Feedback related to examinations	
A mock examination is given to help students prepare for the final exam	
Marks for the previous year provided online, with a breakdown of marks for individual questions	
Samples of real student work, such as coursework, exam essays, and projects from previous students on the module.	
Other exam-related feedback (please give details)	

5. Specific transferable skills (categorised into skill areas)

Transferable students on this module can expect to develop	
Academic	
Learning Actively - Able to approach learning as an active agent, taking responsibility for the process and outcomes	
Analysing Data - Able to filter and organise information to develop an argument and work toward a conclusion, applying numerical analysis where appropriate	
Thinking Critically - Able to consider claims made against the evidence available and to develop one's own view systematically	
Using Sources - Able to locate and use appropriate books, journals, websites and other sources to gather relevant data	
Solving Problems - Able to use systematic approaches to overcome difficulties in producing a desired outcome	
Managing Projects - Able to plan a coordinated set of tasks and enact over time to produce a substantial result	
Self-management	
Reflecting on Learning - Able to review dispassionately one's approaches to learning and the outcomes and progressively improve the process.	
Managing Time - Able to prioritise tasks and commitments to achieve optimum results in a designated timeframe	
Being Creative / Innovative - Able to generate and apply original approaches to tasks and problems and produce improved outcomes	
Assessing Oneself - Able to identify one's own strengths, weaknesses, progress made and action needed to improve effectiveness	
Being Independent - Able to work at own initiative with minimal supervision, taking responsibility for action and outcomes	
Managing Resources - Able to allocate and conserve funds and other resources on a day to day basis and to support projects	
Communication	
Writing - Able to communicate in textual forms (essays, reports, journal entries, web pages etc.) in an appropriate style with a clear narrative flow	
Listening - Able to hear and appreciate the content, background and purpose of what someone else is communicating to you	

Using Information Technology - Able to use digital technology for managing information and to mediate communication for learning and other purposes	
Presenting - Able to speak to an audience, using visual aids as appropriate and respond to questions	
Communicating globally - Able to understand and manage factors affecting communication across cultures, including learning other languages	
Planning and making decisions - Able to identify steps needed to work towards goals and communicate them, including means of monitoring progress	
Working with others	
Working in teams - Able to co-operate with others, to contribute your strengths and learn from theirs with a common purpose	
Negotiating - Able to respect the needs and interests of others when they differ from your own and to find common ground	
Leading - Able to galvanise a team into cooperative action, to manage, guide or facilitate a group to maximise success	
Understanding others - Able to recognise the variety of ways in which people can think and approach tasks, adjusting your own to suit	
Assessing self and peers - Able to assess your own performance objectively and to give and receive constructive feedback with others	
Managing change - Able to adapt to changing circumstances and maintain focus on the group's declared goals	
Other transferable skills developed in this module	