

ANT 4930-002

LANGUAGE AND COGNITION

TTh 9:30 – 10:50 am

<u>Professors:</u>	Robert McCarthy	Douglas Broadfield
<u>E-mail:</u>	rmccar10@yahoo.com	broadfie@fau.edu
<u>Phone:</u>	561-297-1355	561-297-2256
<u>Office hours:</u>	TTh 1 – 3 pm, SO 173	TBA, SO 185

<u>Time:</u>	MW 9:30 – 10:50 am
<u>Place:</u>	SO 190
<u>Format:</u>	Lecture and discussion

Course Objectives: In this course, you will be introduced to the study of speech, language and cognition. Humans are unique among organisms in our faculty for language, planning, symbolic thinking, reflection and certain other types of intelligence. We will explore the reasons for our uniqueness throughout the semester, by studying the biological bases and evolutionary history for human speech, language and cognition.

Grading: Regular attendance is crucial for understanding the material presented in class, and attendance will be taken in every class. **Your grade in this course will be based on four exams, each of which count for 22.5% of your grade – attendance will make up the other 10%.** Please notify the relevant instructor ahead of time, whenever possible, if you need to schedule a make-up due to a documented emergency, or if you will be absent for a documented reason. Letter grades for the course will be assigned according to standard FAU policy.

Required textbook:

- Aitchison J. 2000. *The Seeds of Speech: Language Origin and Evolution*. Cambridge Univ. Press.
- In addition, announcements, handouts, and grades will be posted on Blackboard.

Advice: To do well in this course you must keep up-to-date with the readings!

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), students who require special accommodations due to a disability to properly execute coursework must register with the Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) located in Boca Raton - SU 133 (561-297-3880), in Davie - MOD I (954-236-1222), in Jupiter - SR 117 (561-799-8585), or at the Treasure Coast - CO 128 (772-873-3305), and follow all OSD procedures.

Students at Florida Atlantic University are expected to maintain the highest ethical standards. Academic dishonesty, including cheating and plagiarism, is considered a serious breach of these ethical standards, because it interferes with the University mission to provide a high quality education in which no student enjoys an unfair advantage over any other. Academic dishonesty is also destructive of the University community, which is grounded in a system of mutual trust and places high value on personal integrity and individual responsibility. Harsh penalties are associated with academic dishonesty. For more information, see http://www.fau.edu/regulations/chapter4/4.001_Honor_Code.pdf.

Day	Date	Topic	Professor	Reading
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PART I: HUMAN LANGUAGE

Tues.	Jan. 12	Introduction to the course	-	vii - xii
Thurs.	Jan. 14	What language is for	McCarthy	Ch. 1, 2
Tues.	Jan. 19	Design features of language	McCarthy	Ch. 14
Thurs.	Jan. 21	A brief linguistic history	McCarthy	Ch. 16, SR
Tues.	Jan. 26	Language acquisition	McCarthy	Ch. 4
Thurs.	Jan. 28	Speech	McCarthy	SR
Tues.	Feb. 2	Quantal theory	McCarthy	SR
Thurs.	Feb. 4	EXAM 1		

PART II: BRAINS AND COGNITION

Tues.	Feb. 9	Neuroanatomy	Broadfield	SR
Thurs.	Feb. 11	Brain function during speech and language	Broadfield	SR
Tues.	Feb. 16	Brain lateralization	Broadfield	SR
Thurs.	Feb. 18	Language areas of the brain	Broadfield	pp. 85-92
Tues.	Feb. 23	Evolution of brain size	Broadfield	SR
Thurs.	Feb. 25	Brains, genes and language	B & M	SR
Tues.	Mar. 2	EXAM 2		
Thurs.	Mar. 4	Outline of hominin evolution	McCarthy	Ch. 5, SR
Tues.	Mar. 9	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK		
Thurs.	Mar. 11	NO CLASS – SPRING BREAK		

PART III: HUMAN AND NON-HUMAN VOCALIZATION

Tues.	Mar. 16	Physiology of speaking and respiration	McCarthy	SR
Thurs.	Mar. 18	Articulatory organs of the vocal tract	McCarthy	SR
Tues.	Mar. 23	Hyolaryngeal muscles	McCarthy	SR
Thurs.	Mar. 25	Non-human vocal tracts and vocalizations	McCarthy	Ch. 8-9
Tues.	Mar. 30	Non-human primate minds	Broadfield	Ch. 6
Thurs.	Apr. 1	Animal language	Broadfield	SR
Tues.	Apr. 6	EXAM 3		

PART IV: EVOLUTION OF COGNITION, SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

Thurs.	Apr. 8	First steps	McCarthy	Ch. 8
Tues.	Apr. 13	Primitive grammar	McCarthy	Ch. 9
Thurs.	Apr. 15	NO CLASS – AAPA MEETINGS		
Tues.	Apr. 20	Complex grammar	McCarthy	Ch. 10-12
Thurs.	Apr. 22	Neanderthal language and cognition	B & M	SR
Tues.	Apr. 27	Evolution of creativity and the human mind	M & B	SR

April 29 7:45 – 10:15 am FINAL EXAM