

Human Language Processing

Last Updated: Tue, 12/16/2025

Course prefix: PSYC

Course number: 2760

Section: A

CRN

32879

Instructor first name: Anna

Instructor last name: Ivanova

Semester: Spring

Academic year: 2026

Course description:

In this class, we will discuss the cognitive and neural mechanisms that allow humans to communicate using language. We will examine how our brains process information about words, sentences, and entire narratives; trace how speech, writing, and sign are converted into thoughts (and vice versa); trace language learning in infants and language impairment in disease; compare language processing in those who speak one language vs. many; and tease out the relationship between language and the rest of cognition.

Academic honesty/integrity statement:

Students are expected to maintain the highest standards of academic integrity. All work submitted must be original and properly cited. Plagiarism, cheating, or any form of academic dishonesty will result in immediate consequences as outlined in the university's academic integrity policy.

Core IMPACTS statement(s) (if applicable):

This is a Core IMPACTS course that is part of the Social Sciences area.

Core IMPACTS refers to the core curriculum, which provides students with essential knowledge in foundational academic areas. This course will help students master course content, and support students' broad academic and career goals.

This course should direct students toward a broad Orienting Question:

- How do I understand human experiences and connections?

Completion of this course should enable students to meet the following Learning Outcome:

- Students will effectively analyze the complexity of human behavior, and how historical, economic, political, social, or geographic relationships develop, persist, or change.

Course content, activities and exercises in this course should help students develop the following Career-Ready Competencies:

- Intercultural Competence
- Perspective-Taking
- Persuasion