

WESTERN UNIVERSITY
LONDON CANADA

Department of Psychology
Winter 2027

Psychology 3140G Section 001

Bilingualism

1. CALENDAR DESCRIPTION

This course will examine how people acquire, process, and use a second language. Topics will include simultaneous and sequential bilingualism, the critical period hypothesis, theories of bilingual language representation, cross-language transfer, language selection and switching, simultaneous interpreting, cognitive consequences of bilingualism, the bilingual brain, and bilingual education.

Prerequisites

One of: Psychology 2134A/B or 2135A/B

and

Psychology 2801F/G

(or one of Health Sciences 2801A/B, Psychology 2840F/G, Psychology 2855F/G, or the former Psychology 2800E)

and

Psychology 2811A/B

(or one of Biology 2244A/B, Economics 2122A/B, Economics 2222A/B, Geography 2210A/B, Health Sciences 3801A/B, MOS 2242A/B, Psychology 2830A/B, Psychology 2850A/B, Sociology 2205A/B, Statistical Sciences 2035, Statistical Sciences 2141A/B, Statistical Sciences 2143A/B, Statistical Sciences 2244A/B, Statistical Sciences 2858A/B, the former Social Work 2207A/B, or the former Psychology 2810)

or

Instead of Psychology 2801A/B and Psychology 2811A/B: the former Psychology 2820E

Antirequisites

N/A

3 lecture hours; Course weight: 0.5

Unless you have either the prerequisites for this course or written special permission from your Dean to enrol in it, you may be removed from this course and it will be deleted from your record. This decision may not be appealed. You will receive no adjustment to your fees in the event that you are dropped from a course for failing to have the necessary prerequisites.

2. COURSE INFORMATION

Instructor: Dr. Debra Jared
Office and Phone Number: WIRB 5150 (519) 661-2111 x84631
Office Hours: By appointment
Email: djjared@uwo.ca

Teaching Assistant: Hailey Suttorp
Email: hsuttorp@uwo.ca
Office Hours: By appointment

Delivery Method: In person
Time and Location of Classes: Tuesdays 9:30-10:30, Thursdays 9:30-11:30. UC-1105

3. COURSE MATERIALS

Course readings will be posted on OWL. Look under the Lesson tab for each week for the reading for that class.

4. COURSE OBJECTIVES & LEARNING OUTCOMES

The goal of the course is for students to develop an understanding of issues and theories of bilingual language processing, and how these can be addressed through research. Students can expect to develop their ability to read journal articles in psychology and to express their understanding orally and in writing. A specific skill that we will focus on is on how to support claims with evidence.

Learning Outcome	Learning Activity	Assessment
<i>Depth and Breadth of Knowledge.</i> Articulate the concepts and current states of knowledge in the cognitive study of bilinguals	Lectures Readings (journal articles) Videos	Three essay exams Assignment
<i>Knowledge of Methodologies.</i> - Access, interpret and critically evaluate research on the cognitive aspects of bilingualism. - Formulate a research hypothesis to address a question about bilingualism and design a research project to test that hypothesis.	Lectures Readings (journal articles)	Three essay exams Assignment
<i>Application of Knowledge.</i> Use evidence to support claims.	Lectures	Three essay exams
<i>Communication Skills.</i> Communicate in writing accurately, clearly and logically, using the discourse of the discipline of psychology	Readings (journal articles)	Assignment Three essay exams
<i>Autonomy and Professional Capacity.</i> Demonstrate initiative, personal responsibility and	Class instruction on	Assignment (advance

accountability	“looking after yourself to be healthy for an important day” (exams) and “working to meet a deadline”	drafts)
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5. EVALUATION

The evaluation and testing formats for this course were created to assess the learning objectives as listed in section 4 and are considered necessary for meeting these learning objectives.

Grades in the course will be based on three exams (10%, 10%, and 25% for the two mid-terms and final exam, respectively), one assignment (45% total; 10% Part 1 draft, 10% Part 2 draft, 25% final draft), and class participation (10%). Exams will be essay format and will require that information be drawn from both lecture material and course readings. The final exam is cumulative, in that it will include questions on material from across the course. The assignment requires written work of about 10 pages (~2500 words). Participation is .5% per class to a maximum of 10%. The class attendance sheet must be signed to receive credit.

For the Assignment, the skill of “working to meet an important deadline” will be developed. To that end, a draft of the first half of the assignment will be due on March 4 (worth 10 marks), and a draft of the second half will be due on March 23 (worth 10 marks). You must submit whatever you have on those sections by those dates. No exceptions. Time is needed to prepare the feedback that you will receive. The due date for a polished final draft is April 6 (worth 25 marks). To encourage planning ahead so that the assignment is ready in case of an unexpected situation at the end of the term, students who have the final polished draft submitted by April 4 will have 2 bonus marks added to their final mark.

PLEASE NOTE: Because this is an essay course, as per Senate regulations, you must pass the essay component of the course to pass the course. That is, the average mark for your written assignments must be at least 50%.

This course is exempt from the Senate requirement that students receive assessment of their work accounting for at least 15% of their final grade at least three full days before the date of the deadline for withdrawal from a course without academic penalty.

Policy on Missing Coursework

Students must seek academic consideration for **all** missed exams and late assignments from the university portal set up for this purpose. For Mid-term 1 and for the Final exam, supporting documentation is always required (i.e., self-attestation may not be used). For Mid-term 2, the request for consideration does not need to have supporting documentation. The final draft of the assignment has a flexible deadline. It will be accepted until April 8 without penalty. All requests for academic consideration beyond April 8 require supporting documentation.

Just one makeup exam will be given for each exam. Make up exams are Wednesday, February 10 (4:30-6:30), Wednesday, March 17 (4:30-6:30), and Thursday, May 6 (time TBD) for Mid-term 1, Mid-term 2, and the Final exam, respectively. Students must inform the instructor within 24 hours of the start of the exam that they will be seeking academic considerations and plan to write the makeup exam. If neither the scheduled exam nor the makeup exam is written, then students will have the option of writing the missing exam the next time the course is offered (likely Winter

2028).

Drafts 1 and 2 of the Assignment must be in by 9 pm on March 4 and 23, respectively, otherwise a mark of 0 on the draft will be given. The Final Draft of the Assignment is due by 9 pm on April 6. Unless academic consideration has been granted, assignments that are submitted after 9 pm on April 8 will incur a penalty of 10% per day (i.e., for each 24-hour period or part thereof), including weekends. You are responsible for ensuring that the correct version of your assignments is correctly uploaded on time. "I uploaded the wrong version" is not an acceptable excuse for submitting an assignment late.

Grading Expectations

The Psychology Department follows Western's grading guidelines:

https://www.uwo.ca/univsec/pdf/academic_policies/general/grades_undergrad.pdf

The expectation for course grades within the Psychology Department is that they will be distributed around the following averages:

70%	1000-level to 2099-level courses
72%	2100-2999-level courses
75%	3000-level courses
80%	4000-level courses

In the event that course grades are significantly higher or lower than these averages, instructors may be required to make adjustments to course grades. Such adjustment might include the normalization of one or more course components and/or the re-weighting of various course components.

Policy on Grade Rounding

Please note that although course grades within the Psychology Department are rounded to the nearest whole number, no further grade rounding will be done. No additional assignments will be offered to enhance a final grade; nor will requests to change a grade because it is needed for a future program be considered.

6. ASSESSMENT/EVALUATION SCHEDULE

There will be three **in person** exams: on Thursday, Feb. 4 (9:30-11:30), Thursday, March 11 (9:30-11:30), and during the April exam period (to be scheduled by the Registrar). Makeup exams are Wednesday, February 10 (4:30-6:30), Wednesday, March 17 (4:30-6:30), and Thursday, May 6 (time TBD) for the three exams, respectively.

Students are required to submit drafts of the Assignment on March 4 (first half), March 23 (second half), and the final draft on April 6. All assignments must be uploaded by 9 pm (NOT midnight).

7. CLASS SCHEDULE

Jan. 5	Introduction; Languages in the World and in Canada
Jan. 7	Introduction: Characteristics of Bilinguals
Jan. 12	Acquiring Sounds
Jan. 14	Acquiring Sounds
Jan. 19	Acquiring Words
Jan. 21	Acquiring Words

Jan. 26	Acquiring Grammar
Jan. 28	Acquiring Grammar
Feb. 2	Bilingual Education
Feb. 4	Mid-term 1
Feb. 9	Memory
Feb. 11	Memory
Feb. 16 & 18	Reading Week: no class
Feb. 23	Conceptual Representations
Feb. 25	Perceiving Speech
March 2	Reading
March 4	Reading
March 9	Producing Speech
March 11	Mid-term 2
March 16	Language Selection
March 18	Inhibitory Control & Executive Functioning
March 23	Cognitive Consequences of Bilingualism
March 25	Bilingual Brain
March 30	Aphasia in Bilinguals
April 1	Simultaneous Interpreting
April 6	Code Switching
April 8	Language & Thought

8. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

Scholastic offences are treated seriously at Western University. Students are expected to understand and comply with the University's standards of academic integrity. Scholastic offences may result in penalties up to and including expulsion from the University. Please read [Western's Scholastic Offences](#) policy for definitions and examples of Scholastic offences.

Statement on Use of Electronic Devices

Students will not be permitted to use electronic devices of any kind during mid-term and final exams.

Plagiarism Detection Software

All required papers may be subject to submission for textual similarity review to the commercial plagiarism detection software under license to the University for the detection of plagiarism. All papers submitted for such checking will be included as source documents in the reference database for the purpose of detecting plagiarism of papers subsequently submitted to the system. Use of the service is subject to the licensing agreement, currently between Western and Turnitin.com.

Use of AI

Responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) tools is **permitted** in this course as a support for learning, not as a substitute for critical thinking or scholarly work. All use of artificial intelligence tools must comply with Western University's academic integrity standards.

Students may use AI tools (e.g., ChatGPT, Claude, Copilot) for:

- Brainstorming ideas or refining research questions
- Improving clarity, grammar, or organization
- Preliminary or background exploration of topics

AI must not be used to:

- Generate full drafts or final versions of assignments
- Replace analysis, interpretation, or synthesis
- Fabricate, misrepresent, or cite sources that the student has not independently consulted
- Bypass engagement with course materials

You are ultimately responsible for all work submitted under your name. AI output should be critically evaluated, substantially revised, and integrated thoughtfully, not copied verbatim.

All written assignments must include a brief AI Usage Statement, indicating:

- Which tools were used (if any)
- The purpose for which they were used
- How the output was modified and incorporated

Assignments submitted without an AI Usage Statement will not be accepted. Misuse of AI or failure to disclose its use may constitute a scholastic offence and will be addressed in accordance with Western University's academic integrity policies. Students are responsible for ensuring that all work complies with Western's scholastic integrity standards.

9. ACADEMIC ACCOMMODATIONS AND ACCESSIBLE EDUCATION

Western University is committed to providing an accessible learning environment. Students with disabilities or medical conditions requiring accommodation are encouraged to contact Accessible Education as early as possible. Accommodations will be implemented in accordance with University policy. Please review [Western's policy on academic accommodations](#) for student with disabilities. Accessible Education provides supports and services to students with disabilities at Western. If you think you may qualify for ongoing accommodation that will be recognized in all your courses, visit [Accessible Education](#) for more information. Email: aew@uwo.ca Phone: 519 661-2147

10. ABSENCE & ACADEMIC CONSIDERATION

Please review Western's policy on [Academic Considerations](#)

11. OTHER INFORMATION

Helpful Websites

- Western's academic policies are available at the [Office of the Registrar](#).
- Departmental policies are available at the [Psychology Department website](#).
- Learning supports available at [Learning Development & Success](#).

Well-being

Western University provides a range of supports to promote student well-being. Students are encouraged to seek assistance when needed. Students who are in emotional/mental distress should refer to [Health and Wellness at Western](#) for a complete list of options about how to obtain help. Please contact the course instructor if you require material in an alternate format or if you require any other arrangements to make this course more accessible to you.

Grade Appeals

If you wish to appeal a grade, please read the [policy documentation](#) on requests for relief. Please

first contact the course instructor. If your issue is not resolved, you may make your appeal in writing to the Undergraduate Chair in Psychology (psyugrd@uwo.ca).

Copyright Statement

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