



The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Syllabus

Read Part A: A Fundamental Processes of Reading - 34940

Last update 31-08-2021

HU Credits: 3

Degree/Cycle: 2nd degree (Master)

Responsible Department: Education

Academic year: 0

Semester: 1st Semester

Teaching Languages: Hebrew

Campus: Mt. Scopus

Course/Module Coordinator: Avital Deutsch

Coordinator Email: avital.deutsch1@mail.huji.ac.il

Coordinator Office Hours: Wednesday, 11:00-11:45

Teaching Staff:
Prof Avital Deutsch

Course/Module description:

This course will discuss the cognitive mechanisms involved in written word recognition. The discussion will focus mainly on single-word recognition and how written-word recognition is modulated by language-specific characteristics

Course/Module aims:

The aim of the course is to introduce the main models for written-word recognition via the empirical literature from which these models stem. Another aim is to train the students to read empirical literature in the cognitive domain of reading.

Learning outcomes - On successful completion of this module, students should be able to:

see course aims

Attendance requirements(%):

100%

Teaching arrangement and method of instruction: The discussion will be based on teacher presentations and students' reading of experimental literature describing the behavioral phenomena that lead to the various theoretical models of reading.

Course/Module Content:

Introduction

- *The development of writing systems: logographic, syllabic, alphabetical.*
- *The process of reading: What is the essence of written word recognition? What is the distinction between written-word recognition in beginning and skilled readers? Present the Word Superiority effect.*

Written word identification – a comprehensive discussion:

- *Visual word recognition: the recognition of complex visual patterns versus the identification of sub-lexical orthographic units. Introducing connectionist models of reading.*

- *Lexical access: Introducing the dual-route model (with direct and indirect routes) versus one-route feed-forward and/or feedback connectionist models. Discussing models of precise versus flexible coding of letter position.*

The presentation of the various models is based on empirical findings demonstrating the well-documented factors that affect written word recognition:

phonological and orthographic processing, word frequency, orthographic regularity, orthographic consistency and orthographic depth. The discussion will include the experimental paradigms commonly used in the field.

- The time course of deciphering phonological structure in written-word recognition.*
- Identification of orthographic structure: statistical learning models.*
- Discussion of the experimental paradigm of monitoring readers' eye movements as a tool for exploring the reading process. Introducing the E-Z-reader model of eye movements in reading. Discussing the role of attention in written-word recognition within a sentential context - serial versus parallel models for the allocation of attention.*
- Discussion of the theoretical implications of the basic research into written-word identification for teaching reading.*
- The role of morphological units in written word recognition – a comprehensive discussion of reading Hebrew. The discussion will include form priming and the transposition letter effect within and across morphemic boundaries.*
- The relation between written word identification and spelling.*

Required Reading:

Reading Part I: Fundamentals in reading/ Prof. Avital Deutsch (2021-2022)
Students will be required to read one article in a week.

Bibliography

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Additional Reading Material:

Students are encouraged to read the following book chapters which give overview on the main topics to be discussed in class:

Chapters 1,2,4 & 5 from

M. J. Snowling and C. Hulme, (Eds.) *The Science of Reading*, 2005, Blackwell

And Chapters 2, 3, 4 & 7 from

A. Pollatsek and R. Treiman (Eds.) *The Oxford Handbook of Reading*, 2015, Oxford University Press.

Course/Module evaluation:

End of year written/oral examination 90 %

Presentation 0 %

Participation in Tutorials 10 %

Project work 0 %

Assignments 0 %

Reports 0 %

Research project 0 %

Quizzes 0 %

Other 0 %

Additional information: