PSY 4303: LANGUAGE ACQUISITION & DEVELOPMENT
FALL 2021

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TEACHING ASSISTANT: Albina Sıla Akarsu (albina@metu.edu.tr)

OFFICE HOUR: by appointment (feel free to e-mail to schedule an online meeting)

COURSE DATE & TIME: Friday 14:40 – 17:30 (Online)

COURSE TEXTBOOK (REQUIRED):

Language Development: From Theory to Practice (3rd Edition) by Khara L. Pence Turnbull (Author), Laura M. Justice (Author)

ISBN-13: 978-0134170428

ISBN-10: 0134170423

COURSE DESCRIPTION & OBJECTIVES:

- This course will be a comprehensive overview of language acquisition across the lifespan. It is designed to acquaintance students with the study of language with the aim of increasing awareness and appreciation of the complexity and magnificence of the symbolic system of language. It covers the key topics in language development ranging from research methods, theoretical perspectives, and major language milestones from birth to adolescence.

- Lectures will be based primarily on textbook material and will also be supplemented with material from other sources. Students will be responsible for both the material presented in class and material presented in the assigned sections of the textbook whether or not it is explicitly discussed in class.

COURSE GRADING:

- 30% of the final grade will be based on one **research proposal** (For this proposal, you will be asked develop an original research question and write a proposal for a new experiment related to a topic discussed in class), 30% of the final grade will be based on **one midterm,** 40% of final grade will be based **on final exam.**

- All exams will be a mixture of multiple choice and short essay questions. Exams will cover material from the textbook as well as lectures. Students are responsible for all the information contained in both. Exam dates and times will be announced later.

- **Make-up exams** will be given only if you have a legitimate excuse (e.g., official notice from the doctor) and you inform the instructor **72 hours** following the exam. Make-up exams will consist of multiple choice and short essay questions.

- **Extra credits** (up to 3) can be earned by taking part in experiments offered in the SONA system. Please consult https://metu-tr.sona-systems.com/faq_view.aspx for more information how to register.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

- Language Development: An Introduction (Ch1)
- Building Blocks of Language (Ch2)
- Neuroanatomy and Neurophysiology of Language (Ch3)
- **Midterm**
- The Science and Theory of Language Development (Ch4)
- Infancy: Let the Language Achievements Begin (Ch5)
- **Proposal Outline Due**
- Toddlerhood: Exploring the World and Experimenting with Language (Ch6)
- Preschool: Building Literacy on Language (Ch7)
- Documentary & Online discussion: Case of Genie
- School-Age Years and Beyond: Developing Later Language (Ch8)
- Language Diversity (Ch9)
- Language Disorders in Children (Ch10)
- **Proposal Submission**
- **Final Exam**

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- The METU Honour Code is as follows: "Every member of METU community adopts the following honour code as one of the core principles of academic life and strives to develop an academic environment where continuous adherence to this code is promoted. The members of the METU community are reliable, responsible and honourable people who embrace only the success and recognition they deserve, and act with integrity in their use, evaluation and presentation of facts, data and documents."

- Please abide by **MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC INTEGRITY GUIDE FOR STUDENTS** attached below.

MIDDLE EAST TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC INTEGRITY GUIDE FOR STUDENTS

Middle East Technical University aims to access knowledge and produce, apply and disseminate it for the social, cultural, economic, scientific and technological development of both our society and humanity by carrying out activities of education, research and community services at universal standards, and to educate individuals who are equipped with this knowledge and at the same time who respect knowledge and the rights of others. In accordance with this aim, all members and students of our university adopt the following METU Code of Honor:

> *"As reliable, responsible and honorable individuals, all members of Middle East Technical University embrace only the success and recognition they deserve, and act with integrity in the use, evaluation and presentation of facts, data and documents."*

What is academic integrity?
Academic Integrity entails carrying out original work and sharing ideas and findings of others provided that the source is cited.

What are infringements of academic integrity?
1. Plagiarism,
2. Cheating,
3. Presenting or submitting in different courses the whole or part of a personal study, homework or project done previously with a different purpose without citing the source,
4. Indicating sources that do not actually exist as references or creating a false data set,
5. Conducting academic work on behalf of other students,
6. Behaving in a manner so as to obtain an unfair advantage (obtaining false medical reports, declaring false excuses for period extensions and make-ups, transferring or obtaining the right of enrollment to a course in exchange for a personal gain, etc.),
7. Producing or making use of fraudulent documents (reference letters, medical reports, proficiency documents/scores, transcripts, etc.)
8. Impersonating someone else in an exam; having someone else impersonate oneself.

Plagiarism:
"Plagiarism is intentionally or unintentionally acquiring and using someone else's ideas and opinions and presenting them as if one's own without making a reference to or citing the source." (ODTÜ UEAM)

Detailed information on the types of plagiarism can be found at the address http://ueam.metu.edu.tr/intihal.

<u>Cheating:</u>

Cheating is described as any attempt or action involving the use of disallowed sources secretly while answering exam questions. Each item below is within the scope of cheating:

1. Peeking at another student's paper during an exam,
2. Peeking at another student's paper during an exam and copying the answers onto one's own paper,
3. Talking to other students during the exam,
4. Any kind of sharing of information and sources during an exam (exchanging notes, etc.)
5. Taking exam questions and/or answers out of the exam hall without permission by writing them down or photographing them,
6. Transmitting exam questions to someone else or obtaining answers through cellular phones or any other electronic gadget during the exam,
7. Writing notes concerning the content of the exam on desks and accessories used during the exam, or on one's body or elsewhere,
8. Having someone else do the academic work; doing work to be done individually with other students,
9. Submitting to the course instructor reports/documents such as homework or projects prepared by others as if one's own work.

Disciplinary action to be taken against cheating is arranged by the *Rules and Regulations Governing Student Disciplinary Actions in Institutions of Higher Education*, which can be found at the address http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/yonetmelikler.

<u>Reminders for students:</u>

1. Carefully read the documents concerning academic integrity which have been issued to you and the related regulations on the University's website.
2. Learn in detail which situations fall into the scope of plagiarism in academic studies from relevant resources (e.g. ODTÜ UEAM website). In cases of plagiarism, excuses such as "I wasn't aware that what I've done is within the scope of plagiarism" are unacceptable. Be informed that the responsibility for such behavior is entirely yours.
3. Use your own ideas in all of your work such a piece of homework, project etc. Indicate the source of any thought, idea, text, document or finding which does not belong to you.
4. Prepare all your homework, projects, reports etc. by referring to the accessible original (primary) sources.
5. During examinations, abide by the rules in the *Middle East Technical University Guide for Rules To Be Followed in an Examination Environment* as well as the rules determined by the instructor of the course.