

ELECTIVE
Spring semester 2021-2022
Larisa Avram

LANGUAGE & MIND

Language & Mind is an elective course designed to offer students a brief overview of the field of biolinguistics, an interdisciplinary enterprise which builds on the biological basis of language.

The course addresses some fundamental issues regarding the properties of the language faculty: (i) the specificity of human language; (ii) the biological basis of the human language capacities; (iii) brain organization for language; (iv) how language is acquired by monolingual and bilingual children, in both typical and unusual circumstances; (v) the extent to which language acquisition is constrained by general cognitive development; (vi) language attrition.

Lecture notes and study materials (books, articles, movies) will be uploaded in Teams.

Assessment: Grades will be based on class participation (10%) and 3 quizzes which will each weigh 30% of the final grade. The quizzes will be cumulative but the questions will focus on recent material.

Maximum number of students: 40.

Course prerequisites: This course is intended for 3rd year undergraduates who have completed the course "Concepts of modern linguistics"

Please do not enrol in this elective course if you have not completed "Concepts of modern linguistics" and if you do not intend to attend classes regularly.