

Introduction to linguistic experiment design

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The class will introduce students to (i) the notion of linguistic experiment and the types of design employed in order to set up these experiments and (ii) methods of data collection for production and comprehension studies.

During class, we will discuss a selection of journal articles that investigate language acquisition phenomena, with focus on studies that look into the acquisition of Romanian by monolingual children. Special attention will be paid to the experiments that are presented in the papers and to a critical discussion of aspects related to them. Building upon these articles, students will be presented with a set of topics for language acquisition experimental investigation and asked to pair up in order to design an experiment of their own, in accordance with their potential research interests.

The final grade will be given after three aspects have been taken into consideration: (i) class attendance, (ii) participation in the groups that work on experiment design and (iii) the grade obtained for the final written examination.

All the necessary bibliography will be provided by the professor, in pdf format.