



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תש"פ 2019-20

Name of the course: Linguistic and extra-linguistic effects on sentence comprehension

Lecturer name: Maayan Keshev

Course number:

Office hours:

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph

This course will introduce principles of incremental sentence comprehension and ambiguity resolution. We will review several influential theories and discuss the role of different factors like syntactic structure, context, frequency and cognitive load. Students will be familiarized with the essential models and phenomena in sentence comprehension and will acquire skills for understanding psycholinguistic experiments.

Key words: Psycholinguistics, sentence processing, sentence comprehension

Course requirements:

Attendance required yes

1. 6-8 assignments 30%

2. Final exam 70%

The main topics of the course

1. Serial-modular approaches and the effect of syntactic structure on parsing decisions
2. Parallel-interactive approaches and the effects of context on parsing decisions
3. Working-memory based approaches:
 - Dependency-Locality theory
 - Cue-Based Retrieval
4. Probabilistic approaches:
 - Surprisal theory
 - Rational Noisy-Channel Processing

Bibliography

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- Gibson, E., Bergen, L., & Piantadosi, S. T. (2013). Rational integration of noisy evidence and prior semantic expectations in sentence interpretation. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, *110*(20), 8051-8056
- Levy, R. (2008). Expectation-based syntactic comprehension. *Cognition*, *106*(3), 1126-1177.
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- Lewis, R. L., Vasishth, S., & Van Dyke, J. A. (2006). Computational principles of working memory in sentence comprehension. *Trends in cognitive sciences*, *10*(10), 447-454.
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