

**Module title:** Experimental Linguistics

**Module code:** LIN5039

**Credit value:** 15

**Level:** 5

**Pre-requisite modules:**

### **Content Description**

This module provides students with introductory training in theoretical and practical elements of experimental linguistics. The module will include hands-on training in statistics and hypothesis testing, experimental design, data collection (including training in ethical human subjects research protocols), and data analysis. The module will also engage students in considering strengths and limitations of various kinds of linguistics data, and how multiple sources of data and methods of data collection can be combined to enhance understanding. Students will develop their critical reading skills and gain practice in presenting primary source literature to their peers.

### **Module Aims**

1. To give students the background and the skills to tackle experimental linguistics literature.
2. To give students the theoretical understanding and practical experience necessary to design, conduct and analyse linguistic experiments, with a specific focus on inferential statistical hypothesis testing.

### **Learning Outcomes**

Academic Content:

A1 Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of basic inferential statistics and hypothesis testing, including knowledge of some of the widely used tools for experimental design and data processing.

A2 Demonstrate an knowledge and understanding of the relationship between language and other human cognitive capacities (memory, decision making, sensory perception, etc).

A3 Demonstrate understanding of the core research areas and results in the field of experimental linguistics.

Disciplinary Skills – able to:

B1 Execute research methods of experimental linguistics (research design, human subjects ethics, data collection tools and data analysis procedures).

B2 Critically evaluate the research methods and results reported in the literature and the underlying theories.

B3 Conceptualize possible experiments to address theoretical linguistics issues.

Attributes:

C1 Design, conduct and analyse linguistic experiments, including using relevant software tools to execute this process.

C2 Develop research project management skills.

C3 Develop skills in communicating with research participants - both written and verbally.

### **Activity Hours**

Activity Type	Time spent (hours)
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Lecture	11
Seminar	11
Guided independent study	128
Total	150

### Indicative Reading List

- De Groot, A. M., & Hagoort, P. (Eds.). (2017). Research methods in psycholinguistics and the neurobiology of language: A practical guide (Vol. 9). John Wiley & Sons.
- Greene, J., & d'Oliveira, M. (2005). Learning to use statistical tests in psychology. McGraw-Hill Education (UK)
- Henrich, J., Heine, S. J., & Norenzayan, A. (2010). Beyond WEIRD: Towards a broad-based behavioral science. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*, 33(2-3), 111.
- Hoff, E. (Ed). (2012) *Research Methods in Child Language: A Practical Guide*. Blackwell Publishing
- Marantz (2005) Generative linguistics within the cognitive neuroscience of language. *The Linguistics Review*
- Stowe, Laurie A., and Edith Kaan. "Developing an Experiment: Techniques and Design." Electronic manuscript (2006).
- Urdan, T. C. (2011). *Statistics in plain English*. Routledge.