**Title:** Language Research from Conception to Publication

**Course instructors:**

Prof Shanley Allen (University of Kaiserslautern) - Writing

Dr. Laurel Brehm (Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics) - R

Dr. Damián Blasi (University of Zürich and Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History) – Data Science

Instructors for lab demonstrations (lab internal): Prof Giosuè Baggio, Dr. Evelyn Milburn, Dr. Isabella Fritz

**Dates:** October 14-18, 2019

**Number of sessions:** 5 full days

**Number of hours per session:** 6 hours

**Course Description**  
Having a strong understanding of the current methods used in the language sciences including a solid foundation of academic writing and statistics are essential skills for every experimental linguist. To enhance these skills of the current LingPhil students, we are organizing a one-week intense course that covers topics from the conception of experiments all the way to writing up a study’s findings for publication. During this one-week course, the following sub-courses will be offered:

**Scientific writing (Prof Shanley Allen)**  
The course is designed to walk students through the different steps of scientific writing; starting from the planning stage to the concise and precise writing of different parts of a paper. The course also includes hands-on sessions where students get the chance to discuss their own writings and provide feedback to their peers.

**Introduction to data science for the language sciences (Dr. Damián Blasi)**In this course, the instructor will provide a brief introduction to data science, revisiting classic statistical topics as well as recent methodological developments from the last decade. The topics covered will be illustrated with case studies taken from the instructor’s work as well as from others, ranging from linguistic typology to language acquisition, historical linguistics and psycholinguistics.

**Introduction to R (Dr. Laurel Brehm)**  
In this course, students will be introduced to the statistical software R which has become increasingly popular in the language sciences over the last couple of years. Topics covered in the hands-on sessions include importing, processing and visualizing data as well as fundamentals of the R language including its basic syntax.

**Lab demonstrations**In short presentations, students will be introduced to three experimental methods used in psycholinguistics (i.e. eye-tracking, EEG and fNIRS) followed by demonstrations of how such language experiments are run in practice.

**Social Activity**  
To round off this one-week course, we are organizing a hiking trip on Saturday morning that also includes lunch.

**Preliminary Schedule**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday** |
| 9.00 – 10.30 | Data Science | Scientific Writing | Data Science | R course | R course | Hiking |
| 10.30 – 10.45 | Break | Break | Break | Break | Break |  |
| 10.45 – 12.15 | Data Science | Scientific Writing | Data Science | R course | R course |  |
| 12.15 – 13.15 | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch |  |
| 13.15 – 14.45 | Scientific Writing | Data Science | Scientific Writing | Lab visit | R course |  |
| 14.45 – 15.15 | Break | Break | Break | Break | Break |  |
| 15.00 – 16.30 | Scientific Writing | Data Science | Scientific Writing | Lab visit | R course |  |

**Credits awarded:** 10 ECTS

**To get full credit award for the course, students will have to complete an assignment for each of the three main courses of the week:**

**Scientific Writing**Different sections of an article-in-progress (e.g., abstract, introduction, methods, discussion – approx. 5 pages) have to be re-written and the student has to comment on the changes based on what they have learned during the course.

**Data Science**A 2000 word essay on a topic determined by the instructor (Damián Blasi)

**R course**With a given dataset, the student has to apply a set of statistical tests as well as visualize the data.

In addition, the requirements include (a) active participation during the lectures, (b) reading the relevant literature provided by each instructor.