

Multilingualism in the Mind**2013/2014**

Code: 42294

ECTS Credits: 6

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313157 Estudis Anglesos Avançats / Advanced English Studies	P	1	0

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Use of languages

Principal working language: anglès (eng)

Prerequisites

A basic knowledge of linguistics is necessary to follow this course.

Objectives and Contextualisation

The aim of this course is to study how learners create new concepts in a second language, and how their lexicon is re-structured by the addition of L2 words and concepts to the ones already present, belonging to L1. This is done from a multidisciplinary perspective, bringing together ideas from theoretical linguistics, cognitive psychology, second language acquisition and bilingualism. The perspective taken is cognitive-pragmatic.

Skills

Estudis Anglesos Avançats / Advanced English Studies

- Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
- Analyse the relationship between factors, processes or phenomena in the acquisition of English as a second language, its learning and teaching methods, and its literature, history and culture.
- Apply methodological knowledge of statistical analysis and data generation, treatment and codification of multilingual databases, analysis of literary texts, etc. to research.
- Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
- Critically argue, issue judgements and present ideas on the basis of the analysis of information originating from scientific production in these areas.
- Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
- Distinguish and contrast between the different methodological and theoretical models applied to the academic study of the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.
- Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
- Use the English language for academic and professional purposes related to research into the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.

Learning outcomes

1. Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
2. Apply the concepts acquired to the reality of linguistic production by multilingual individuals.
3. Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
4. Critically read articles on multilingualism from the cognitive point of view.

5. Design experiments and data collection methods with multilingual speakers.
6. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
7. Differentiate the most recent theoretical concepts of use for explaining multilingualism from the individual's point of view.
8. Explain the advantages and disadvantages of the different models of linguistic production.
9. Explain the relationship between the language and thinking of multilingual individuals.
10. Recognise and question the bases of monolingualism in the field of cognitive linguistics.
11. Recognise the most important cognitive characteristics of multilingual individuals.
12. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
13. Write advanced level texts on multilingualism from the cognitive point of view.

Content

1. Concept vs word
2. Approaches to multilingualism
3. Models of multilingual production
4. Semantic processing in multilinguals
5. Conceptual representation in multilinguals
6. Language and thought

Methodology

This course requires the active participation of students both at home (reading the the papers in depth and doing the exercises), and in class (discussing the readings and the exercises).

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Type: Directed			
Lectures at the beginning of each topic to introduce the basic concepts	30	1.2	4, 7, 10, 11
Type: Supervised			
Class discussion of the assigned readings	6.5	0.26	2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 12
Discussion of exercises in class	6	0.24	5, 13
Type: Autonomous			
Readings to be done at home	12	0.48	1, 4, 6, 12

Evaluation

Various types of exercises will be assigned to students throughout the semester, in which the knowledge and skills acquired in class will be put into practice.

There will also be an end-of-term paper.

Evaluation activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning outcomes
Assignments throughout the semester	40%	35.5	1.42	2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 12, 13
Final paper (or exam)	60%	60	2.4	1, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13

Bibliography

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Gumperz, John J. & Stephen Levinson (eds). 1996. *Rethinking Linguistic Relativity*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Katz, Albert N., Cristina Cacciari, Raymond W. Gibbs, Jr & (eds). 1999. *Language and Thought in Development*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Kecskes, Istvan & Tünde Papp. 2000. *Foreign Language and Mother Tongue*. Mahwah: Lawrence Earlbaum.

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Lamberts, Koen & David Shanks (eds). 1997. *Knowledge, Concepts, and Categories*. Cambridge, Mass.: The MIT Press.

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Pavlenko, Aneta (ed). 2011. *The Bilingual Mental Lexicon*. Bristol, Buffalo, Toronto: Multilingual Matters.

Peeters, Bert (ed). 2000. *The Lexicon-Encyclopedia Interface*. Amsterdam: Elsevier.