The Acquisition of English as a Second Language: Sentence and Word Order  2015/2016

Code: 42299  
ECTS Credits: 6

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Semester</th>
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<tr>
<td>4313157 Advanced English Studies</td>
<td>OT</td>
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</tbody>
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Contact

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Email: Mireia.Llinas@uab.cat

Teachers

Mireia Llinàs Grau

Prerequisites

This subject studies language and its acquisition and, therefore, the minimum requirements are:

a) interest in both language and the process of acquisition
b) a good level of English to be able to read, understand and produce texts about the topic
c) a basic knowledge of syntax*

* For those students who lack this knowledge, basic readings are available.

Please contact me if this is your case before the course begins.

Objectives and Contextualisation

Objectives

The main objective of this course is to study how the grammar of English is acquired. We will begin with a review of language and its basic components and then consider how a first language is acquired. We will then observe the differences between L1 and L2 acquisition but will concentrate on English as an L2 and also as an L3/Ln. The course includes a review of techniques of data collection for linguistic research.

Skills

- Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
- 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 one's 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. Analyse different proposals regarding the acquisition of syntax.
3. Analyze data from English syntax of a language corpus to test hypotheses.
4. Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
5. Critically read academic articles on the acquisition of language from a generativist point of view.
6. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
7. Explain the evolution of the syntax of learners of a second language
8. Identify linguistic ideologies that influence multilingualism in different institutional contexts.
9. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
10. Write advanced level academic texts on the acquisition of language from a generativist point of view.

Content

Units

1. Language
2. L1 acquisition
3. The acquisition of a second language
4. The acquisition of a third language
5. Data collection

Methodology

Class activities:
- Lectures on specific topics.
- Readings: comment and debate.
- In-class exercises.
- Class presentations.

Autonomous activities:
- Reading and study.
- Use of virtual campus.
Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Type: Directed</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Theoretical classes and group debate.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>2, 4, 9</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Type: Supervised</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class discussion and debate. In-class exercises. Individual tutorials.</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>1, 2, 4, 5, 9</td>
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<td><strong>Type: Autonomous</strong></td>
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<td>Reading and study. Use of virtual campus.</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>1, 2, 5, 6, 10</td>
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Evaluation

Assessment:

Written project: 60%

Oral presentation: 20%

Reading summaries, questions and exercises: 20%

Evaluation activities

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>A written project</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>An oral presentation</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings and exercises for each topic</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>1, 2, 5, 6, 10</td>
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Bibliography


* Specific references for each unit will be provided at the beginning of the course.