The Acquisition of Phonology and Lexical Access in English as a Second Language

Code: 42300
ECTS Credits: 6

Degree
4313157 Advanced English Studies

Type
OT

Year
0

Semester
0

Contact
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Prerequisites
Basic knowledge of linguistics is necessary to follow this course; in particular, previous knowledge of general phonetics and phonology and familiarity with with the English sound system will considerably facilitate following this subject.

Objectives and Contextualisation
Students will be introduced to the main topics and theories in second language acquisition research with an emphasis on the acquisition of phonology and lexical access. Students will become familiar with current research methods and data analysis techniques through an analysis of representative literature and class discussion and assignments.

Objectives:
- To achieve a general understanding of research on second/foreign language acquisition.
- To become familiar with the main theoretical frameworks and methodologies in the acquisition of second language speech.
- To describe the perception and production processes involved in L2 learning.
- To apply knowledge from speech analysis and acoustics to the study of L2 speech.
- To apply theoretical notions to the practical study of the acquisition of L2 speech and lexical access.
- To understand the relationship between phonological and lexical acquisition.

Skills
- 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.
- 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 new technologies for capturing and organising information relevant to lifelong learning and problem-solving in professional activities.
• 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.
• Work effectively in teams in multilingual, multicultural and interdisciplinary professional and/or academic environments.

Learning outcomes
1. Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
2. 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.
3. Critically read academic articles on the acquisition of phonology and lexical access in second languages.
4. Design experiments in accordance with the methodologies used in the field of the acquisition of phonology and lexical access in second languages.
5. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
6. Distinguish the basic concepts used in the field of the acquisition of phonology and the lexical access in second languages.
7. Identify the different theoretical models in the field of the acquisition of phonology and lexical access in second language.
8. Produce critical reviews of academic articles on the acquisition of phonology and lexical access in second languages.
9. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
10. Use new technologies for capturing and organising information relevant to lifelong learning and problem-solving in professional activities.
11. Work effectively in teams in multilingual, multicultural and interdisciplinary professional and/or academic environments.
12. Write high level academic texts on the acquisition of phonology and lexical access in second languages.

Content
1. Introduction to the study of speech. Research methods in L2 speech.
2. Main issues in L2 speech. Theories and models in L2 speech acquisition.
3. Factors affecting the degree of foreign accent. Age and confounds with age in the acquisition of phonology.
4. Intelligibility, comprehensibility and foreign accent. L2 error typology.
5. Speech perception and the notion of cross-linguistic similarity.
7. The acquisition of suprasegmental structure.
8. Phonetic training and L2 speech acquisition.
9. L2 speech acquisition and the teaching of pronunciation.

Methodology
Lectures and illustrations, discussion of readings, in-class exercises, labs, discussion of assignments, student presentations, data collection and analysis.

**Activities**

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<thead>
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<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lectures</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>2, 3, 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Practical sessions</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>1, 2, 9, 5, 4, 3, 11, 10</td>
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<td><strong>Type: Supervised</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Assignments</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>5, 4, 6, 8, 12, 3, 11, 10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Readings and discussion</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1, 5, 8, 12, 3</td>
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<td><strong>Type: Autonomous</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Homework and study</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2, 5, 6, 8, 3</td>
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**Evaluation**

Final paper or exam - 50%

Assignments throughout the semester - 50%

**Evaluation activities**

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<th>Weighting</th>
<th>Hours</th>
<th>ECTS</th>
<th>Learning outcomes</th>
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<td>Assignments and homework throughout the term</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>12.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Term paper or exam</td>
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<td>12.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>1, 2, 9, 5, 4, 6, 12, 3, 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Bibliography**

**Main bibliography**

- Background readings in (English) phonetics and phonology


- Weekly readings


Further reading


See also: http://liceu.uab.es/~joaquim/applied_linguistics/L2_phonetics/Fonetica_L2_Bib.html