

TSL507e Second Language Acquisition and Pedagogy

Level: 5

Credit Units: 5 Credit Units

Language: ENGLISH

Presentation Pattern: EVERY JULY

E-Learning: BLENDED - Learning is done MAINLY online using interactive study materials in Canvas. Students receive guidance and support from online instructors via discussion forums and emails. This is supplemented with SOME face-to-face sessions. If the course has an exam component, this will be administered on-campus.

Synopsis:

TSL 507 Second Language Acquisition examines critically theories that seek to explain the acquisition of a second language (SLA). These theories focus on different aspects of second language learning: learner's language, difference and strategies; social factors; language transfer; cognitive factors; and classroom interaction. The implications of some of these theoretical insights on language teaching and syllabus design are then considered critically.

Topics:

- Defining second language acquisition
- Learner errors and error analysis
- Order and sequence in SLA
- Variability in learner language
- The role of social factors in SLA
- The role of input/interaction in SLA
- The influence of language transfer on SLA
- Cognitive accounts of SLA
- Individual learner differences and learning strategies
- Classroom interaction and SLA
- SLA research and language teaching
- SLA research and the structural syllabus

Textbooks:

Lourdes Ortega Hodder: Understanding Second Language Acquisition (eText) (2009) Routledge
ISBN-13: 9781444174106

Learning Outcome:

- Compare different SLA theories
- Discuss the role of language environment (input/interaction/feedback) in SLA
- Examine second language learner data to better understand how language learning happens in interaction
- Critique cognitive accounts of SLA
- Assess the implications of SLA research on language pedagogy
- Appraise social dimensions of L2 learning

Assessment Strategies (Evening Class):

Components	Description	Weightage Allocation (%)
Overall Continuous Assessment	TUTOR-MARKED ASSIGNMENT 1	30
	GROUP BASED ASSIGNMENT 1	20
Overall Examinable Components	ECA	50
Total		100