Second language acquisition (SS 2007)

Prof. Dr. Holger Diessel

Veranstaltungsart: Hauptseminar
Zeit: Do 16:15 – 17:45
Raum: SR 601
Sprechstunde   Mi. 14:00
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Course description

The course provides an introduction to the field of second language acquisition concentrating on theoretical and methodological issues (i.e. this is not a class on language teaching or language pedagogy). Taking a functional-cognitive approach, we will look at the development of grammatical and lexical phenomena and consider their implications for a general theory of language. In addition, the course provides an introduction to some of the main methods in L2 research, providing students with the opportunity to conduct an empirical investigation of a particular research topic.

Requirements

1. Empirical research paper
2. Presentation

Readings

Master copies of class readings are in the folder in front of my office

Script

A course script (for the first meetings) can be downloaded from my homepage

Schedule (Thursday)

19.4.   Introduction

26.4.   Essentials of first language acquisition
        [Finegan. 1989. Language acquisition (chap

3.5.   Comparing L2 acquisition to L1 acquisition
        [Lightbown & Spada. 2004 Learner language (chap 4)]

10.5.   Error analysis and interlanguage
        [Gass & Selinker 2001. The role of the native language (chap 3)]

17.5.   Student presentations: Nonlinguistic factors of L2 acquisition
        [Lightbown & Spada. 2004. Factors affecting L2 acquisition (chap 3)]

24.5.   Method 1: Collecting data
        [Mackey & Gass. 2005. Common data collection measures (chap 3)]

31.5.   Method 2: Analyzing quantitative data
        [Dancey & Reidy 2000: Variables and research design (chap 1)]
        [Dancey & Reidy 2000: Descriptive statistics (chap 2)]

7.6.   Case studies 1: negation, word order, relative clauses
        [Odlin 1989. Syntax (chap 6)]
        [Eckman et al. 1988. On the generalization of REL-clause instruction …]
        Student presentations: Relative clauses

14.6.   Fällt aus (LOT summer school)

21.6.   Case studies 2: phonology, tense and aspect
        [Odlin 1989. Phonetics, phonology, and witten systems (chap 7)]
        [Bardovi-Harlig & Reynolds 1995. The role of lexical aspect in …]
        Student presentations: Tense and aspect

28.6.   Theoretical issues: Nativism
        [Mitchell & Myles 2004: chap 3]

5.7.   Theoretical issues: Functionalism
        [Mitchell & Myles 2004. Cognitive approaches to L2 learning (chap 4)]
        Student presentations: Krashen's monitor model

12.7.   Presentation/discussion of research projects

19.7.   Final discussion

Seminar readings

Gass, Susan M. and Larry Selinker. 2001. Second Language Acquisition. An introductory course. Mahwah: Erlbaum.

Mackey, Alison and Susan M. Gass. 2005. Second Language Research. Methodology and design. Mahwah: Erlbaum.

Dancey, Christine and John Reidy 1999. Statistics without Math for Psychology. Prentice Hall.

Oldin, Terence. 1989. Language Transfer. Cross-linguistic influence in language learning. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Mitchel, Rosamund and Florence Myles. 2004. Second Language Learning Theories. London: Arnold.

Lightbown, Patsy and Nina Spada. 2004. How Languages are Learned. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ellis, Rod. 1997. Second Language Acquisition. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Krashen, S. 1982. Principles and Practice in Second Language Acquisition. London: Pergamon.

Bardovi-Harlig, Kathleen and Dudley W. Reynolds 1995. The role of lexical aspect in the acquisition of tense and aspect. TESOL Quarterly 29: 107-131

Eckman, Fred R., Lawrence Bell, and Diane Nelson. 1988. On the generalization of relative clause instruction in the acquisition of English as a second language. Applied Linguistics 9: 1-20.

Background readings

Doughty, Chaterine J. and Michael H. Long (eds.) 2003. The Handbook of Second Language Acquisition. Oxford: Blackwell.

Ellis, Rod and Gary Barkhuizen. 2005. Analysing Learner Language. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Recommended readings

Mackey, Alison and Susan M. Gass. 2005. Second Language Research. Methodology and design. Mahwah: Erlbaum.
        Chap 1 structure of research paper (obligatory),
        Chap 5, 8, 9   analysis of quantitative data (optional)