Second Language Acquisition

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Course Description

This course is intended to provide an overview of linguistic research on second language (L2) learning, such as language development in children and adults; the acquisition of phonological, morphological, and syntactic systems; the role of both parent and child in the acquisition of communicative competence. This course will pay special attention to the most important issues of second language acquisition (SLA). More importantly, this course will discuss the implications of research on L2 for foreign language learning. The course will thus explore the multiple aspects of this area, including theoretical background; the nature of language learning, styles and strategies, personality factors, sociocultural factors, communicative competence, interlanguage, contrastive and error analysis, the learning of various language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing), and recent developments in all of these areas.

Reference Book

Brown, H. Douglas. *Principles of Language Learning and Teaching* (5th, ed).

    London: Prentice Hall, 5th, ed., 2007 (main textbook).

Course Outline (Mon. 8:45-12:10; Wed. 1:30-16:55)

7/14:   Introduction of SLA: Differences Between L1 & L2

7/16:   Ch 9: Cross-linguistic influence and learner language I

7/21:   Ch 9: Cross-linguistic influence and learner language II

            Ch 1: Language, Learning, and Teaching

7/23:   Ch 3: Age and acquisition I

7/28:   Ch 3: Age and acquisition II; Ch2: First Language Acquisition

7/30:   Class presentation (Ch 4: Human learning)

8/1:   Mid-term exam (Chs 1, 2, 3, 4, 9)

8/4:   Ch 5: Styles and strategies

8/6:   Ch 8: Communicative competence I

8/11:   Ch 8: Communicative competence II

8/13:   Ch 7: Sociocultural factors

8/18:   Ch 6: Personality factors

8/20:   Class presentation (Ch 10: Toward a theory of SLA)

8/22:   Final exam (Chs 5, 6, 7, 8, 10)