

COURSE OUTLINE

1. GENERAL

INSTRUCTOR			
SCHOOL	PHILOSOPHY		
SEMESTER			
DEPARTMENT	PHILOLOGY-SECTION OF LINGUISTICS		
LEVEL	UNDERGRADUATE		
COURSE CODE	GLOF 143	CYCLE OF STUDY	ALL
COURSE TITLE	EXPERIMENTAL METHODS IN LANGUAGE ACQUISITION RESEARCH		
AUTONOMOUS EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES	TEACHING HOURS PER WEEK	CREDITS/ECTS	
IN CLASS LECTURES	3	5	
COURSE TYPE <i>Background, General knowledge, Scientific discipline, Development of Proficiencies</i>	BACKGROUND, SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE, DEVELOPMENT OF PROFICIENCIES		
PREREQUISITIES	NONE		
TEACHING AND EXAM LANGUAGE	ENGLISH		
AVAILABLE TO ERASMUS STUDENTS	YES (in English)		
WEBSITE (URL)	https://classweb.cc.uoc.gr/classes.asp		

2. LEARNING OUTCOMES

LEARNING OUTCOMES
<p>Upon successful completion of this course students should be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Demonstrate knowledge on issues related to theories on Language Acquisition (LA) 2. Examine specific issues related to syntax, phonology, morphology and semantics in LA 3. Evaluate research methodological issues on LA 4. Analyze significant research results on language development 5. Describe and evaluate the differences in methodological issues on LA 6. Utilize scientific results in testing the validity of a theoretical hypothesis
BROAD KNOWLEDGE/COMPETENCIES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of independent, creative and deductive thinking • Exercising critical thinking on scientific studies and organizational skills • Practicing self-improvement • Working in an interdisciplinary environment with multi-cultural data

3. COURSE DESCRIPTION

<p>Overall the course aims to provide students with practical and comprehensible information on the most frequent methods used in language acquisition research and the issues that are associated with these methods. The main aim is to present the rationale of the research methods on language acquisition. In doing so, we will discuss the main approaches and tools that the research on child language has adopted and analyze the fundamental principles of the theoretical approaches to language development. Special emphasis will be given on the design of a method in relation to the topic under investigation. More specifically, the course will deal with the research methods for data-collection and the approaches to data-analysis within the frame of a theoretical perspective. Within the various approaches, we will examine the role of external and language internal factors that may affect data-collection (e.g. biological and cognitive factors, extra-linguistic factors; age and bilingualism etc) and the ways to determine the linguistic conditions under investigation. We will discuss the role of baseline tasks and the statistical methods used in the analysis of the collected data.</p> <p>Moreover the course will emphasize on the comparison and evaluation of various methods (e.g. naturalistic versus experimental methods) in relation to the research topic and the ways that previous research on similar topics can provide supporting evidence (i.e. the distinction between primary and secondary research).</p>
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4. TEACHING AND LEARNING METHODS-EVALUATION

MODE OF DELIVERY	In class lectures	
OTHER SOURCES/ TECHNOLOGICAL AND COMMUNICATION SUPPORT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All class material available in class-web - Communication via e-mail 	
COURSE STRUCTURE	ACTIVITY	WORKING LOAD
	Lectures	(3×13=) 39
	Final Exams	3
	Independent study	83
	Total (25 working hours per credit)	125
STUDENT ASSESSMENT	Writing Final Exam (100% of grade) testing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the immersion of course information - the critical synthesis of the course information - application of taught solutions on novel data 	

5. SUGGESTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Lecture notes available in class-web.
- Dana McDaniel, Cecile McKee and Helen Smith Cairns (1998) *Methods for Assessing Children's Syntax*, MIT Press.
- Crain, S. and R. Thornton (1998) *Investigations in Universal Grammar: A guide to experiments on the acquisition of syntax*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- *Experimental Methods in Language Acquisition Research* (2010) Editors Elma Blom & Sharon Unsworth, John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Trevor A. Harley (2001) *The Psychology of Language: From Data to Theory*, Taylor & Francis Publisher (it also exists in Greek).
- Alison Mackey & Susan M. Gass (2005) *Second Language Research: Methodology and Design*, Routledge.
- David Eddington (2015) *Statistics for Linguists: A Step-by-Step Guide for Novices*, Cambridge Scholars Publishing.
- Wander Lowie (2012) *Essential Statistics for Applied Linguistics*, Bregtje Seton Palgrave.