

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
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English Linguistics : First language acquisition (2AN1087)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5
Pilier principal M A - sciences du langage et de la communication	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5
Pilier secondaire M A - sciences du langage et de la communication	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5

ph=période hebdomadaire, pg=période globale, j=jour, dj=demi-jour, h=heure, min=minute

Période d'enseignement:

- Semestre Printemps

Equipe enseignante:

Martin Hilpert

Objectifs:

The three goals of this course are the following: (i) students will discover how young children learn a first language (ii) students will learn to read academic literature on language acquisition; and (iii) students will develop the skills to write a (first) term paper on language acquisition in linguistics.

Contenu:

How do children learn to talk? In this class, we will talk about the developmental milestones that babies and children go through when they first learn language. We will discuss key differences between first and second language learning, and we will be concerned with hotly debated questions surrounding the very nature of language learning (â€˜Are children better language learners than adults?â€™ â€˜Is there a critical time window for the acquisition process?â€™ â€˜Do children work out their native language by means of innate linguistic knowledge?â€™). These questions will require us to familiarize ourselves with different methods for studying learner language, from studying child language in so-called corpora (transcribed electronic text collections) to experimental techniques and their statistical evaluation.

Forme de l'évaluation:

There are two main tasks that will be evaluated. The first task is a group research project which students will carry out in small groups (4-5) and which will be presented orally at the end of the class. The second task is a term paper, which will be written individually by each student.

Pré-requis:

Lecture: Introduction to English Linguistics

Forme de l'enseignement:

The class will consist of lectures, group project work, and group discussions. This class requires a fair amount of reading and a fair amount of data analysis.