

- Faculté des lettres et sciences humaines
- www.unine.ch/lettres

Seminar 1: Second Language Acquisition (2AN1120)

Filières concernées	Nombre d'heures	Validation	Crédits ECTS
Pilier principal B A - langue et littérature anglaises	Séminaire: 2 ph	cont. continu	5
Pilier secondaire B A - langue et littérature anglaises	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:

In this course, we will discuss

- why learning a second language is so much harder than learning a first language
- what factors determine how successful second language learners are
- what errors second language learners make
- how research in second language acquisition is carried out

Contenu:

This course introduces students to the field of second language acquisition (SLA), which is an area of linguistics that focuses on questions such as the following:

- How do human beings learn additional languages after they have learned their first language?
- What factors determine how well and how easily a second language is learned?
- How does SLA differ from the acquisition of a first language?

The course will address these overarching questions from different perspectives, touching on issues such as the age of the learner, the influence of the L1, the learning environment, the cognitive and social processes that are involved in language learning, the design of research projects, and theoretical models of SLA. At the end of the course, you will be able to

- understand central terms and concepts from SLA research
- explain what challenges learners face in the acquisition of a second language
- read SLA research critically and understand how a research study was carried out
- distinguish different theories of how SLA works

Forme de l'évaluation:

Regular reading assignments, homework quizzes on those reading assignments (20%)

A short group presentation and participation in class (20%)

A final exam (evaluation interne) (60%)

In order to pass the course as a whole, the final exam needs to be passable. Failure in the final exam will incur a rattrapage of another written exam.

Documentation:

Students are asked to buy a copy of the textbook 'Understanding second language acquisition' by Lourdes Ortega.

Ortega, Lourdes. 2009. Understanding second language acquisition. London: Routledge.
ISBN 13: 978-0-340-90559-3

Additional readings will be distributed electronically.

Pré-requis:

Students need to have taken an introduction to linguistics.

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lectures, discussion