



Course Specification

(Bachelor)

Course Title: *First Language Acquisition*

Course Code: *ENG4210*

Program: *English: Linguistics Track*

Department: *Department of English*

College: *College of Social Sciences*

Institution: *Umm Al-Qura University*

Version: *2022*

Last Revision Date: *2023*



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A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: *4 hours*

2. Course type

A. University College Department Track Others
B. Required Elective

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: *Year 4 – Level 10*

4. Course general Description:

The course provides undergraduate students with the essential background to the study of First Language Acquisition (FLA). It introduces students to the theories and research evidence related to the acquisition of first language (mother-tongue) in children. In this course, students will learn how children develop linguistic knowledge of their first language, including phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic knowledge. Since the number of bilingual children is growing, the course will also discuss bilingualism in children and the risk factors for language delay or disorders.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

Foundations of Linguistics 2

6. Co-requirements for this course (if any):

7. Course Main Objective(s):

To enable students to explain how children acquire their first language(s) from infancy through the later school years.

2. Teaching mode (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	<i>4 hrs. per week</i>	<i>%100</i>
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Traditional classroom ● E-learning 		
4	Distance learning		





3. Contact Hours (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	Lectures	4hrs x 11wks
2.	Laboratory/Studio	
3.	Field	
4.	Tutorial	
5.	Others (specify)	
Total		44 hours

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and understanding			
1.1	Define key concepts in the theory and research of first language acquisition.	K1, K2	Lectures Interactive teaching	Written Exam
1.2	Describe the development of language in children, including phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic development.	K1, K3	Lectures Interactive teaching	Written Exam
2.0	Skills			
2.1	Evaluate theoretical and empirical research in the study of first language acquisition.	S1, S5	Lectures Interactive teaching Group work Discussions	Written Exam Written assignment (Short essay)
2.2	Analyze the developmental characteristics in child language development.	S1, S2, S3, S5	Lectures Interactive teaching Group work Discussions	Written Exam Written assignment (Data analysis)
2.3	Assess the risk factors for language delay or disorder in child language development.	S1, S2, S3, S5	Lectures	Written Exam





Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
			<i>Interactive teaching Group work Discussions</i>	<i>Written assignment (Data analysis)</i>
3.0	Values, autonomy, and responsibility			
3.1	<i>Commit to the standards of integrity, punctuality, responsibility, and ethical behavior in class participation, preparation of assignments, and exams.</i>	V1	<i>General guidance Discussions</i>	<i>Assignments Exam performance Class participation</i>
3.2	<i>show tendency of continuous self-learning and independence in work and education.</i>	V2	<i>General guidance Discussions</i>	<i>Class participation</i>

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1.	<i>Introduction: What is first language acquisition and overview of the key concepts</i>	2
2.	<i>Communication development in infancy</i>	4
3.	<i>Phonological development in child language</i>	6
4.	<i>Semantic development in child language</i>	4
5.	<i>Morphological development in child language</i>	6
6.	<i>Syntactic development in child language</i>	6
7.	<i>Theoretical approaches to first language acquisition</i>	4
8.	<i>Atypical language development</i>	6
9.	<i>Bilingual language development</i>	6
10.	<i>Exams</i>	2
Total		44

D. Students Assessment Activities

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Written Exam	5	20%
2.	Written Assignment (Data Analysis)	7	15%
3.	Written Assignment (Short Essay)	10	15%
4.	Final Exam (written)	12	50%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.).





E. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. References and Learning Resources

Essential References	Gleason, Jean Berko, & Nan, Bernstein Ratner (2017). <i>The development of language</i> . 9 th Ed. Boston: Pearson.
Supportive References	Clark, Eve (2009). <i>First Language Acquisition</i> . Cambridge: CUP. O'Grady, William (2005). <i>How children learn language</i> . Cambridge: CUP. Guasti, Maria Teresa (2002). <i>Language acquisition: the growth of grammar</i> . Massachusetts: MIT Press.
Electronic Materials	Summary handouts for the main topics covered in each class are available in Blackboard (a web-based learning resource)
Other Learning Materials	https://www.youtube.com/user/thelingspace http://www.thelingspace.com/

2. Required Facilities and equipment

Items	Resources
facilities (Classrooms, laboratories, exhibition rooms, simulation rooms, etc.)	<i>Classrooms</i>
Technology equipment (projector, smart board, software)	<i>Projector, internet, AV</i>
Other equipment (depending on the nature of the specialty)	

F. Assessment of Course Quality

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of teaching	<i>Peer reviewer</i>	<i>Sample of exam papers and a form</i>
Effectiveness of Students' assessment	<i>Peer reviewer</i>	<i>Sample of exam papers and a form</i>
Quality of learning resources	<i>Students</i>	<i>Questionnaires</i>
The extent to which CLOs have been achieved	<i>Teachers</i>	<i>Exams</i>
Other		

Assessors (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify))

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	
REFERENCE NO.	
DATE	

