

LIN 4721 Section 0346**SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION****Spring, 2007****Dr. Virginia LoCastro**

Tuesday, period 4 (10:40-11:30); Thursday, periods 4 and 5 (10:40 to 12:20)
Classroom: Anderson (AND) 19

Office: Turlington 4131F

Office hours: Tuesday, 11:45 to 1:00, Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m. or by appointment

Phone: 392-0639 ext. 226

E-mail: locastro@lin.ufl.edu

Required Textbooks: available at the University of Florida Bookstore

Ellis, Rod (1997). *Second Language Acquisition*. Oxford University Press.

Lightbown, Patsy M. & Spada, Nina (2006). *How Languages are Learned*. 3rd edition.
Oxford University Press.

Course description

The course provides an introduction to second language acquisition theories and research for students interested in understanding the subject area as well as their own experiences as learners of second or third languages. The course considers the acquisition of any language, including first languages, and is not solely oriented towards students preparing to be language educators in the future.

Prerequisite: Lin 3010 or by permission of the instructor.

Course objectives

By the end of the semester, students will be able to discuss second language acquisition theories and research studies at some length in spoken and written texts. In addition, they will have become knowledgeable about one particular area of second language acquisition, the issue of pragmatic competence, through a hands-on experience of collecting field data with a non native speaker of English.

Assessment

- 15% Attendance, participation, and evidence of having done the assigned readings for each class
- 45% Three in-class tests during the semester that will require problem-solving skills and use of the knowledge acquired through the readings and class work

- 25% Project: "Social rules of speaking." Students will collect field data through interactions with a nonnative speaker of English and write a 10-15 page paper (2,500 to 3,000 word paper). We will be working with international graduate students in the Academic Spoken English Program at UF. More information on the project the first week of classes.
- 15% Oral presentations in groups of three on tasks related to the readings. The presentations will be scheduled throughout the semester.

Grades: A = 100-90; B = 89-80; C = 79-70; D = 69-60; E = below 60

Schedule

This schedule is tentative and subject to change.

Week	Start of week	Tuesday classes	Thursday classes
1	1/8	Introduction: Ellis 1	Introduction cont. and Introduction to project
2	1/15	L1 acquisition: L&S 1	Cont.
3	1/22	Bilingualism: eReserve	Cont.
4	1/29	Theories of SLA L&S 2	Cont.
5	2/5	Theories of SLA: TBD	Cont.
6	2/12	Test #1	Learner Language: Ellis 2, L&S 4
7	2/19	Interlanguage: Ellis 3	eReserve
8	2/26	Social aspects of IL: Ellis 4	eReserve
9	3/5	Discourse aspects of IL: Ellis 5	Test #2 eReserve
10	3/12	SPRING BREAK	NO CLASSES
11	3/19	Psycholinguistic aspects of IL: Ellis 6	eReserve
12	3/26	Linguistic dimensions: Ellis 7	eReserve
13	4/2	Individual differences: Ellis 8, L&S 3	Cont.
14	4/9	Classroom-centered research: L&S 5	Cont.
15	4/16	Instructed SLA: Ellis 9, L&S 6	Cont.
6	4/23	Test #3 (Final day of classes)	

Note: I will have to miss almost two weeks of classes (Weeks 11 and 12) as I will be away at conferences. Those classes will be taught by another instructor.

eReserves

The list of required readings that are located on line through the main library will be distributed the first day of classes, on January 9th, 2007.

Make-ups/Late work

In general, there are no make-up assignments or submission of late work. Negotiation is possible only with prior consultation and/or for emergencies.

There are also no make-ups for tests and no opportunities for “extra credit.”

Note on Attendance

My policy has been that, for a three-credit course, if you don't come to class three hours, I won't ask any questions unless you are expected to do a pre-arranged task. After three hours of absences, then your final grade may be lowered.

Classroom demeanor

Students are expected to arrive for class on time; a consistent pattern of lateness will result in a lower final grade for the course. Cell phones should be turned off during class time. A policy of mutual respect for all concerned will be in place.

Honesty

Any evidence of cheating on assignments will result in a failing grade for the course. Where applicable, students must clearly note all sources of information and appropriately reference use of all outside sources, for all forms of media used in work for the course. Plagiarism will not be tolerated. Please see the UF website for the rules concerning plagiarism at this university: See Academic Honesty or <http://www.dso.ufl.edu/judicial/procedures/academicguide.php>

Students with disabilities

Students requesting classroom accommodation must first register with the Dean of Students Office. The Dean of Students Office will provide documentation to the student who must then provide this documentation to the Instructor when requesting accommodation.

Final Note: Whenever you have a question or some problem, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me and/or visit my office and/or make an appointment to see me. You can also email me questions; if the question applies to the whole class, then send the question before class so I can prepare an answer or reorganize what I intend to teach for the day, if necessary.