Department & Faculty: Dept. of Modern Languages, Faculty of Management and

Human Resource Development

Subject & Code: Second Language

Acquisition (MPB 1313)

Total Lecture Hours: 14 hours x 3 weeks

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Semester: II

Academic Session: 2008/2009

Lecturer : Associate Professor Khairi Izwan Abdullah

Room No. : Block F54 (CTL)/D05 308

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Email : m-khairi@utm.my

Student Learning Time:

Learning Activity	Learning Hours		
• Lectures	3 hrs x 14 wks =	42 hours	
 Reading/Library 	2.5 hrs x 14 wks =	35 hours	
Research			
• Assignment 1 & 2	2 hrs x 14 wks =	28 hours	
 Group Discussion 		8 hours	
 Preparation for Final 		7 hours	
Exam			
	Total SLT = 120 hours		

Synopsis : The course comprises three main parts. The first part introduces

participants to some of the key issues in second language acquisition such as the role of input, interaction and output, and some major second language acquisition theories. The second part involves the participants in reading and critically evaluating some research work on specific aspects of SLA such as the acquisition of grammatical competence, vocabulary acquisition and the effects of tasks on second language development. Attention will be given to the research procedure and instruments used in the studies examined. The final part provides opportunity for the participants to carry out their own small-scale study on a specific aspect of SLA by integrating the theoretical input in the first part and the knowledge on

research procedure gained in the second part.

Prepared by:

Name: Assoc. Prof. Khairi Izwan Abdullah

Signature:

Date: 22.12.2008

Certified by: (Course Coordinator)

Name: Assoc. Prof. Dr. Noor Abidah Mohd.

Omar Signature:

Date: 22.12.2008

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Objectives

- 1) To enable participants to critically compare and contrast different views of language learning and to derive pedagogical applications for the second language class from the various views.
- 2) To develop in participants a better awareness and understanding of classroom practices from an SLA perspective.
- 3) To develop lifelong learning skills in seeking, evaluating and managing information in the field of SLA.
- 4) To introduce participants to the process of academic research and writing in the field of SLA.

Learning Outcomes : By the end of the course, students should be able to:

Learning Outcomes	Assessment	
1) critically evaluate the Behaviourist, Innatist and	Assignment 1 (Academic	
Interactionist views of language learning and develop, from	Paper: Key Issues in SLA);	
the various views, a coherent approach to language	Final Examination	
teaching in the L2 class.		
2) independently seek, evaluate and synthesise	Assignment 1	
information from a variety of sources in writing an		
academic paper that adheres to established academic		
conventions.		
3) carry out an interaction analysis of authentic	Final Examination	
classroom data based on given guidelines.		
4) independently conduct a small-scale study on an issue	Assignment 2 (Project:	
related to SLA in accordance with proper research	Research in SLA)	
methods and procedures in the field.		

Weekly Schedule:

Week 1 : Introduction

a) Course overview

b) Difference between L1 and L2 acquisition

c) Factors affecting L2 acquisition

Week 2 : Theories of SLA and their pedagogical implications - Behaviourist view

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Languages, I Human Reso Subject & C Acquisition (culty of Management and Semester: II ce Development Academic Session e: Second Language			
Weekly Sche	le (Cont'd):			
Week 3	: Theories of SLA and their pedagogical implications Interactionist views	– Innatist and		
Week 4	 Review of SLA theories a) The notion of Communicative Competence vis-à-vis the Behaviourist, Innatist and Interactionist views b) Critical evaluation c) Pedagogical implications 			
Week 5	: Mid-Semester Break			
Week 6	: Focus on form			
Week 7	: Research in SLA: Critical Review (1) – Investig grammatical competence	Research in SLA: Critical Review (1) – Investigating acquisition of grammatical competence		
Week 8	: Research in SLA: Critical Review (2) – Investigacquisition	gating vocabulary		
Week 9	: Research in SLA: Critical Review (3) – Investigon SLA	gating effects of tasks		
Week 10	: Project: Research in SLA – a) Research design b) Proposal			
Week 11	: Research in SLA – Peer critique			
Week 12	: Research in SLA – Analysis of findings			
Week 13	: Interaction in the classroom – A framework for Inte	eraction Analysis		
Week 14	: Interaction in the classroom – Facilitating language teacher-student interaction	Interaction in the classroom – Facilitating language development through teacher-student interaction		
Week 15	a) Review – SLA and language teachingb) Revision			

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Teaching

Methodology : Lectures, Project Work, Group Work, Discussion and Presentation

References : Brown, H.D. (2000). Principles of Language Learning and Teaching (4th

edition). New York: Addison Wesley Longman.

Brown, H.D. and Gonzo, S.T. (1995). *Readings on Second Language Acquisition*. Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall Regents.

Ellis, R. (1985). *Understanding Second Language Acquisition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ellis, R. (1990). *Instructed Second Language Acquisition*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.

Ellis, R. (1994). *The Study of Second Language Acquisition*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Gass, S. M., & Selinker, L. (2001). Second Language Acquisition: An Introductory Course (2nd ed.). Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Johnston, M. and Pienemann, M. (1987). Second Language Acquisition: A Classroom Perspective. Hillsdale, NJ.: Erlbaum.

Lightbown, P.M. and Spada, N. (1999). *How Languages are Learned*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

McLaughlin, B. (1987). *Theories of Second Language Acquisition*. London: Edward Arnold.

Journal articles: e.g. articles in Studies in Second Language Acquisition

Assessment	<u>Marks</u>	<u>Date</u>	LO Addressed
Assignment 1: (Academic Paper: Key issues in SLA) Assignment 2: (Project: Research in SLA) Examination:	40%	Week 6	LO1 & LO2
	40%	Week 14	LO4
	20%	Exam week	LO1 & LO3