

UNIVERSITY OF RIJEKA Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

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Department of English Studies

General information		
Name of the course	Acquisition of English as a Second Language	
Course instructor	Dr Tihana Kraš, Associate Professor	
Study programme	Graduate Study Programme in English Language and Literature (MA in	
	Teaching English as a Foreign Language - TEFL)	
Status of the course	Compulsory	
Academic year	2022-2023 (summer semester)	
Language	English	
ECTS credits and manner of instruction	ECTS credits	3
	Number of class hours	30+0+15
	(Lectures + Exercises + Seminars)	

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION

1.1. Course objectives

The course aims to familiarise students with basic findings about the acquisition of English as the second (non-native) language and to prepare and encourage them for independent research into this process and the process of second language acquisition in general. It also aims to encourage them apply the findings about second language acquisition to teaching English as a foreign language.

1.2. Course enrolment requirements and entry competences required for the course

Excellent level of written and spoken English.

1.3. Expected course learning outcomes

On successful completion of the course, students will be able to:

- Describe basic findings about the acquisition of phonology in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the acquisition of morphosyntax in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the acquisition of semantics and vocabulary in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the acquisition of pragmatics in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the development of the listening skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the development of the reading skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the development of the speaking skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about the development of the writing skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- Describe basic findings about second language processing with a special focus on English

- Explain how different factors affect the acquisition of English as a second language
- Explain the implications of the results of specific studies into the the acquisition of English as a second language for the theory and practice of teaching English as a foreign language
- Write a critical review of an empirical study into the acquisition or processing of English as a second language or conduct such a study

1.4. Course content

The course covers the following topics:

- The acquisition of phonology in the second language with a special focus on English
- The acquisition of morphosyntax in the second language with a special focus on English
- The acquisition of semantics and vocabulary in the second language with a special focus on English
- The acquisition of pragmatics in the second language with a special focus on English
- The development of the listening skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- The development of the reading skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- The development of the speaking skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- The development of the writing skill in the second language with a special focus on English
- Second language processing with a special focus on English
- Factors affecting the acquisition of English as a second language
- The relevance of the research findings into the acquisition of English as a second language for the theory and practice of teaching English as a foreign language
- (A critical review of) an empirical study into the acquisition or processing of English as a second language

1.5. Manner of instruction

- ✓ Lectures
- ✓ Seminars and workshops
- ✓ Individual assignments