



Department of English Studies

General information		
Name of the course	First Language Acquisition	
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	Elective	
Academic year	2022-2023 (winter semester)	
Language	English	
ECTS credits and manner of instruction	ECTS credits	3
	Number of class hours (Lectures + Exercises + Seminars)	30+0+0

1. COURSE DESCRIPTION
1.1. Course objectives
The course aims to familiarise students with basic findings about the acquisition of the first (native) language, contemporary theoretical approaches to first language acquisition and research methods for studying first language acquisition.
1.2. Course enrolment requirements and entry competences required for the course
Excellent knowledge of English
1.3. Expected course learning outcomes
On successful completion of the course, students will be able to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Explain basic terminology and research questions in the area of first language acquisition– Describe briefly the history of the discipline of first language acquisition– Describe and compare different research methods for the study of first language acquisition– Describe basic findings about the acquisition of phonology in the first language– Describe basic findings about the acquisition of morphosyntax in the first language– Describe basic findings about the acquisition of vocabulary and semantics in the first language– Describe basic findings about the acquisition of pragmatics in the first language– Describe, compare and evaluate different theoretical approaches to first language acquisition– Describe basic findings about individual differences in first language acquisition– Explain the role of age in first language acquisition– Describe basic findings about atypical language development– Compare typical and atypical language development– Describe basic findings about the development of language and literacy in the school years– Describe basic findings about language development in the adult years– Describe basic findings about bilingual first language acquisition

- Compare the processes of monolingual and bilingual first language acquisition

1.4. Course content

The course covers the following topics:

- Basic terminology and research questions in the area of first language acquisition
- The history of the discipline of first language acquisition
- Research methods for the study of first language acquisition
- The acquisition of phonology in the first language
- The acquisition of morphosyntax in the first language
- The acquisition of vocabulary and semantics in the first language
- The acquisition of pragmatics in the first language
- Theoretical approaches to first language acquisition
- Individual differences in first language acquisition
- The role of age in first language acquisition
- Atypical language development
- The development of language and literacy in the school years
- Language development in the adult years
- Bilingual first language acquisition

1.5. Manner of instruction

- ✓ Lectures
- ✓ Individual assignments