COURSE: EDML 394- Psychology of Second Language Acquisition

COURSE OBJECTIVES

● Learn the tools necessary for identifying psychological factors that hinder second language learning
● Apply knowledge acquired while in Spain to making the learning process more successful. Learn how personality traits, motivation, learning styles, etc., influence second language acquisition and perception of the study abroad experience
● Learn about and do commonly used tests and questionnaires on psychology and second language acquisition in order to facilitate future research in this area or others in general

STRUCTURE

1. Oral presentation by the professor of a topic, which will then be discussed. Each topic will be followed by a series of activities to be carried out by students.
2. Each topic will include a corresponding text (article, essay, etc.) which will serve as a springboard for an activity (key ideas of the text and personal opinion).
3. Coinciding with the final exam, students must hand in a final journal of 3 pages (approximately 1,000 words) in length, reflecting on the language learning experience in Spain. This activity synthesizes class learning with students’ personal experiences here in Spain. Criteria for evaluation are as follows:
   a. Quality of the content
   b. Organization and coherence
   b. Style, spelling and presentation.

   Activities included in this course:
   a. We will listen to Spanish songs in order to identify words from the text (use of music in learning a second language)
   b. We will view a movie on some intercultural aspect.
   c. An academic activity outside of class, to be determined based on the number of students and their interests.
2. Video analysis.

TEXTBOOK

Coursebook prepared by the instructor.
EVALUATION

Students will be evaluated on participation as well as contributions and willingness to collaborate in making the class function.

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<tr>
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<th>Written exam</th>
<th>40%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.</td>
<td>Activities</td>
<td>30%</td>
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<tr>
<td>0.</td>
<td>Participation</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>0.</td>
<td>Final journal</td>
<td>10%</td>
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1. OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Respect toward the instructor and classmates. Active participation in class.

1. TOPICS

WEEK 1

Topic 0: Multidimensionality of second language learning: a merely linguistic matter?

Reading 1. Popular Ideas about Second Language Acquisition.
Cómo dominar un idioma. News article. Class activity.
Ken Robinson video

WEEK 2

Topic 1: Language, the mother tongue and acquisition. “Learning Abroad”
Correction of activities on topic 1

Reading 2. MARTA BARALO (2010) COMO SE APRENDE LA LENGUA MATERNA
a. Do monkeys have anything interesting to say?
  a. Innatism, Interactionism, Behaviorism exercise.
  b. Lydia video http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G2XBIkHW954
  c. BBC animal communication videos.

WEEK 3
### Topic 2: Basic concepts in *Second Language Acquisition*; Correction activities

**MONDAY**

We will correct the activities from topic 2.

**Readings:**

Reading 3. Theoretical approaches to explaining. Essential conditions for SLA

a. It is not good to teach children languages before the age of 10.

### WEEK 4

**Topic 3: Environmental factors affecting second language acquisition.**

**Correction of activities**


a. Genie video [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmdycJQi4QA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hmdycJQi4QA)

b. Bialystock video [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hW_qpta6zb4&feature=relmfu](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hW_qpta6zb4&feature=relmfu)

b. Guest lecturer: Psycholinguistic aspects in second language learning

### WEEK 5

**Topic 4: Intelligence and linguistic aptitude and their influence on second language acquisition.**

**Correction of activities**


a. CLIC PPR PROFESOR

### WEEK 6

**EXAM**

### WEEK 7
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>MOVIE</td>
<td>We will do a role play on Role-Playing about the article Style Wars: A source of anxiety in language classrooms.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Motivation</td>
<td>Types of motivation and their influence on second language learning.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Correction activities Topic 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>a. Video Self-Determination Theory <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v84XxJkqvbU&amp;t=4s">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v84XxJkqvbU&amp;t=4s</a></td>
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WEEK 11

Topic 8. Learning styles and their influence on learning a second language

Correction of activities

Reading 8 Estrategias de Aprendizaje de una Segunda Lengua. Mente y Cerebro

a. Completion of style tests and commonly used strategies
b. Role play on article: Style Wars: A source of anxiety in language classrooms.
   Learning Styles don’t exist! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=slv9rz2NTUk

WEEK 11

Topic 9. Second language learning models

Topic 9 and due date for final project

RECOMMENDED BIBLIOGRAPHY


**MOTIVATION AND SLA**


**ADJUSTING TO A FOREIGN CONTEXT AND SLA**


**SECOND LANGUAGE LEARNING STRATEGIES & STYLES**


**ANXIETY AND SLA**


**SLA AND LEARNING DISABILITIES**


**PERSONALITY AND SLA**


**BRAIN COGNITION AND SLA**


RESEARCH AND SLA


OTHERS


