

University of Arkansas – Fort Smith

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General Syllabus

FORL 4323 Second Language Acquisition

Credit Hours: 3 Lecture Hours: 3 Laboratory or other types of Hours: 0

Prerequisite(s): ENGL 1213 Comp II

Effective Catalog: 2024-25

A. Course Information

A. Catalog Description

Examines important theories of and research in second language acquisition (SLA), similarities and differences between first and second language acquisition, and the relevance of SLA to the second language classroom

B. Additional Information

This course is required for the Minor, Certificate of Proficiency and Endorsement in TESL

B. Student Learning Outcomes

A. Subject Matter

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Differentiate linguistic and cognitive variances between language learning by children and by adults
2. Comprehend, discuss, and apply the major theories of SLA.
3. Integrate cross-disciplinary concepts into curriculum development for second and/or foreign language.
4. Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of second language acquisition through reading and interpreting academic articles.

B. University Learning Outcomes (ULOs)

This course enhances student abilities in the following areas:

Analytical Skills**Critical Thinking Skills**

Students will identify problems/issues and develop solutions/analysis. Students will research, evaluate, and compare information from varying sources in order to evaluate authority, accuracy, regency, and bias relevant to the problems/issues.

Communication Skills (written and oral)

Students will communicate proficiently. Students will compose coherent documents appropriate to the intended audience. Students will effectively communicate orally in a public setting.

Ethical Decision Making

Students will model ethical decision-making processes. Students will identify ethical dilemmas and affected parties. Students will apply ethical frameworks to resolve a variety of ethical dilemmas.

Global & Cultural Perspectives

Students will reflect upon cultural differences and their implications for interacting with people from cultures other than their own. Students will demonstrate understanding or application of their discipline in a global environment.

C. Major Course Topics

- A. First language acquisition
- B. Second language acquisition
- C. Behaviorism
- D. Cognitive theories of SLA
- E. Social aspects of SLA
- F. Psycholinguistics
- G. Individual differences
- H. Sociocultural Theory