

## Second Language Acquisition and Second Language Learning (A704051)

**Course size** *(nominal values; actual values may depend on programme)*

**Credits 3.0**

**Study time 90 h**

**Course offerings and teaching methods in academic year 2024-2025**

A (semester 2)

Dutch

Gent

independent work  
lecture

**Lecturers in academic year 2024-2025**

Eyckmans, June

LW22

lecturer-in-charge

Plevoets, Koen

LW22

co-lecturer

**Offered in the following programmes in 2024-2025**

**crdts**

**offering**

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, French)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, German)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Italian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Language Technology)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Russian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Spanish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, English, Turkish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, German)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Italian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Language Technology)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Russian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Spanish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, French, Turkish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Italian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Language Technology)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Russian)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Spanish)

3

A

Bachelor of Arts in Applied Language Studies: a combination of at least two languages(main subject Dutch, German, Turkish)

3

A

Elective Set Linguistics

3

A

**Teaching languages**

Dutch

**Keywords**

### **Position of the course**

In this introductory course, students will be familiarized with the basic principles, methods and developments of second language acquisition and learning.

The course's objectives are:

- Provide insight in the characteristics and nature of the field of second language acquisition and learning
- Provide an overview of the main research methods in second language acquisition
- Teach students how to select, read and interpret scientific papers within this domain
- Teach students data literacy (make them familiar with interpreting result sections, graphic illustrations of data in scientific papers)

### **Contents**

The course focuses on:

- second language learning history
- second language learning research is distinguished from related disciplines such as psycholinguistics, neurolinguistics and sociolinguistics
- the methodology of assessment is discussed and illustrated
- contextual and individual variables in second language learning are discussed and illustrated
- the methodology of empirical research is discussed
- basic principles of descriptive statistics are illustrated and exercises are presented through the online platform
- national and international research concerning multilingual education are discussed
- vocabulary acquisition research serves to illustrate the importance of memory for language learning
- CALL is discussed and illustrated

### **Initial competences**

Average general knowledge that can be expected from someone who has completed secondary education; no specific starting competences required.

### **Final competences**

- 1 Having knowledge and understanding of different aspects of second language acquisition and learning,
- 2 Having knowledge and understanding of assessment methodology, being able to identify central tendency measures and standard deviation, being able to interpret graphic representations of data
- 3 Having knowledge and understanding of the contextual and individual factors that influence language learning
- 4 Being able to select, read and interpret scientific papers with the domain of second language acquisition and learning
- 5 Having knowledge and understanding of simple, descriptive statistics and being able to apply this knowledge

### **Conditions for credit contract**

Access to this course unit via a credit contract is unrestricted: the student takes into consideration the conditions mentioned in 'Starting Competences'

### **Conditions for exam contract**

This course unit cannot be taken via an exam contract

### **Teaching methods**

Lecture, Independent work

### **Extra information on the teaching methods**

6 lectures (two sessions of 75 minutes)  
self-study: reading two scientific papers about second language acquisition autonomously (7.5 hours)  
independent study: exercises on the online learning platform (7.5 hours)

## **Study material**

Type: Syllabus

Name: Introduction in foreign language acquisition and didactics

Indicative price: € 4

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Type: Slides

Name: Slides

Indicative price: Free or paid by faculty

Optional: no

Language : Dutch

Available on Ufora : Yes

## **References**

DeKeyser, Robert (2007). *Practicing in a second language: Perspectives from applied linguistics and cognitive psychology*. Cambridge University Press.

Gass, S. & Mackey, A. (2012) *Handbook of Second Language Acquisition*. London: Routledge.

## **Course content-related study coaching**

Interactive support through the online learning platform.

Feedback possible after appointment.

## **Assessment moments**

end-of-term assessment

## **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the first examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

## **Examination methods in case of periodic assessment during the second examination period**

Written assessment with multiple-choice questions

## **Examination methods in case of permanent assessment**

## **Possibilities of retake in case of permanent assessment**

not applicable

## **Extra information on the examination methods**

The written exam consists of multiple choice question (no correction for guessing).

## **Calculation of the examination mark**

Final score for the course is 100% determined by the exam result.

## **Facilities for Working Students**

Student may be exempt from attending the course.

No possibility of taking the exam at a different date.

Feedback can be provided outside of office hours.