Second Language Acquisition

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Graduate degree: Ph.D. in second language acquisition
Faculty: https://flare.uiowa.edu/people
Website: https://flare.uiowa.edu/graduate/phd-second-language-acquisition

Second language acquisition (SLA) is a multidisciplinary field whose goal is to understand the processes that underlie non-native language learning. The doctoral program in second language acquisition draws from varied academic disciplines, among them linguistics, psychology, psycholinguistics, sociology, sociolinguistics, discourse analysis, conversation analysis, and education.

The interdisciplinary Ph.D. in second language acquisition is sponsored by Foreign Language Acquisition Research and Education (FLARE). More than 20 faculty members affiliated with SLA are drawn from various departments in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Education. Second Language Acquisition is one of the units in the Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures.

Programs

Graduate Program of Study

Major
- Doctor of Philosophy in Second Language Acquisition

Facilities

The Center for Language and Culture Learning provides a wide variety of facilities and services to the Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures (DWLLC), including a 24-computer Instructional Technology Center (ITC) and five All-In-One Studios/small group study rooms equipped with video production and editing software, a Computer Assisted Language Learning Lab with 25 computers integrated with Sanako software for language practice, a SignAll lab for American Sign Language learning and practice, and virtual reality hardware and development space.

The center provides spaces for quiet study as well as for group meetings. Departments, programs, and student organizations are welcome to host conversation hours, film nights, study groups, workshops, and more. The center supports a robust peer tutoring program in many of the languages taught in DWLLC, with both in-person and online availability, as well as Directed Independent Language Study, through which faculty, staff, or students can be paired with a tutor to learn a language not taught in the DWLLC.

Courses

Second Language Acquisition Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SLA:3302</td>
<td>Introduction to Chinese Linguistics</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA:3400</td>
<td>Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:4300</td>
<td>Introduction to Spanish Syntax</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:4301</td>
<td>Introduction to Spanish Phonology</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:4401</td>
<td>Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:5000</td>
<td>Teaching and Learning Languages</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA:5010</td>
<td>Introduction to Syntax</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA:5020</td>
<td>Introduction to Phonology</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:5401</td>
<td>First Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:6010</td>
<td>Syntactic Theory</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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<tr>
<td>SLA:6011</td>
<td>Phonological Theory</td>
<td>3 s.h.</td>
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Prerequisites and Corequisites are specified in each course description.

Second Language Acquisition

1
SLA:6301 Topics in Spanish Language Acquisition 3 s.h.
Theoretical linguistic approaches to monolingual, bilingual, and second language acquisition of Spanish and Portuguese; varied topics. Taught in Spanish. Requirements: at least one course in linguistics (e.g., general introduction to linguistics). Same as SPAN:6150.

SLA:6302 Topics in Comparative Romance Linguistics 3 s.h.
Comparative study of phonology, morphology, or syntax of the main Romance languages as informed by linguistic theory; diachronic or synchronic perspective. Taught in English. Recommendations: additional graduate coursework in linguistics. Same as LING:6190, SPAN:6190.

SLA:6303 Spanish Phonology 3 s.h.
Modern approaches to synchronic phonology as applied to Spanish; focus on traditional descriptive problems, recent generative analyses. Taught in Spanish. Requirements: phonology or linguistics course. Same as SPAN:6110.

SLA:6304 Spanish Syntax 3 s.h.
Spanish syntactic constructions examined in framework of selected syntactic theory; emphasis on development of syntactic argumentation. Taught in Spanish. Requirements: one course in syntax. Same as SPAN:6120.

SLA:6452 Topics in Second Language Acquisition 3 s.h.
Overview of current second-language acquisition research in the generative linguistic framework; focus on characterizing second language learners' linguistic competence and how it is constrained by principles of universal grammar. Offered fall semesters. Prerequisites: (LING:3010 or LING:5010) and (LING:3020 or LING:5020). Same as LING:6080.

SLA:6500 Graduate Seminar in Multilingual Education 3 s.h.
Theoretical perspectives of pivotal research issues at the forefront of foreign language education; systems available to foreign language professionals for disseminating research. Same as EDTL:6480.

SLA:6501 Reading in a Second Language 3 s.h.
Current theory, research, practice in second language reading field; role of textual features and the reader in reading comprehension. Same as EDTL:6484.

SLA:6502 Principles of Course Design for Second Language Instruction 3 s.h.
Contemporary views of second language curriculum design; guidelines necessary for the creation of prototypical curriculum units to be transposed into classroom-ready forms; for individuals interested in foreign language materials development. Same as EDTL:6497.

SLA:6503 Fundamentals of Second Language Assessment 3 s.h.
How to write language tests; discussion of fundamental issues in development of new tests or selection of existing tests. Same as EDTL:6400.

SLA:6504 Second Language Program Management 3 s.h.
Preparation for supervising, administering foreign language programs at all levels; for precollegiate language teachers and graduate students. Same as EDTL:6402.

SLA:6506 Multilingual Education and Applied Linguistics 3 s.h.
Introduction to research in language teaching and learning, drawing on theories and research in applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, anthropology, and psychology; students gain understanding of fundamentals in second language acquisition, educational linguistics, applied linguistics, and methods used in teaching and learning second/foreign languages; applications and implications of research considered when reviewing multilingual education policy and practice. Same as ASIA:6483, EDTL:6483.

SLA:6920 Multimedia and Second Language Acquisition 3 s.h.
Combination of theory and practice regarding use of multimedia and technology to enhance foreign language teaching and second language acquisition research. Taught in English. Same as FREN:6920, GRMN:6920, SPAN:6920.

SLA:6970 Cultural Curriculum 3 s.h.
Culture’s role in foreign/second language teaching; definition, pedagogy, assessment, and materials that allow culture to be taught and learned. Same as EDTL:6409.

SLA:7020 Readings in Second Language Acquisition arr.

SLA:7025 Special Projects in Second Language Acquisition arr.


SLA:7401 Advanced Syntactic Theory 2-3 s.h.
Recent developments in syntax; comparison of theories, argumentation, and uses of data. Prerequisites: LING:6010. Same as LING:7010.

SLA:7404 Seminar: Problems in Linguistics 2-3 s.h.
Intensive study of theoretical and practical problems. Same as LING:7090.

SLA:7405 Teaching Chinese as a Second Language V: Seminar in Research and Design 3 s.h.
Qualitative and quantitative research design theories and techniques. Taught in English. Prerequisites: CHIN:7401 and PSQF:4143. Same as CHIN:7405.

SLA:7406 Teaching Chinese as a Second Language I: Theories and Research 3 s.h.
Research, theory on acquisition of Chinese as a non-native language. Taught in English. Same as CHIN:7401.

SLA:7804 Teaching Chinese as a Second Language IV: Testing and Assessment 3 s.h.
Overview of goals, concepts, principles, research, and issues in assessment and testing of Chinese as a second language; knowledge of Chinese required. Taught in English. Same as CHIN:7404.