



APPL8250

Second Language Acquisition

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Peter Roger

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Margaret Wood

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MAppLing or MAppLingTESOL or MTransInterMAppLingTESOL or MEd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit explores a variety of approaches to the study of second and foreign language acquisition in both instructed and naturalistic settings. The unit focuses on the range of factors that influence the learning/acquisition of a second language, as well as ways of studying the characteristics of learner language. Throughout the unit, participants are encouraged to reflect on the relevance of second language acquisition research to their own experiences as both language learners and professionals working in educational contexts or other language-related areas.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

ULO1: Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second language acquisition (SLA)

ULO2: Demonstrate in-depth familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate three areas of SLA research

ULO4: Demonstrate an understanding of the range of internal and external factors that influence an individual's learning of a second language

ULO3: Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience

ULO5: Apply knowledge of SLA research to personally relevant educational contexts

General Assessment Information

1. All assessment due dates and times refer to local time in Sydney, Australia
2. Full instructions for each assignment, together with marking criteria and instructions for submission, will be available on iLearn
3. Extensions for assignments can be sought by applying for special consideration via ask.mq.edu.au - please advise the unit convenor as well if you have submitted a request for special consideration
4. Assignments submitted late without an extension may be penalised at 5% of the total marks available for the assignment per day late

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Online key concepts quiz</u>	10%	No	12.01 AM 30/03/2020 - 23.59 PM 31/03/2020
<u>Critical review</u>	20%	No	21/04/2020 23.59 PM
<u>Annotated bibliography presentation</u>	20%	No	18/05/2020 23.59 PM
<u>Learner Data Discussion Paper</u>	50%	No	15/06/2020 23.59 PM

Online key concepts quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **12.01 AM 30/03/2020 - 23.59 PM 31/03/2020**

Weighting: **10%**

This quiz consists of multiple choice questions that students complete online during a 48 hour period when the quiz is open.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second language acquisition (SLA)
- Demonstrate an understanding of the range of internal and external factors that influence an individual's learning of a second language

Critical review

Assessment Type ¹: Reflective Writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 18 hours

Due: **21/04/2020 23.59 PM**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will write a 1000 word guided critique of a scholarly journal article in the field of second language acquisition.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second language acquisition (SLA)
- Demonstrate in-depth familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate three areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to personally relevant educational contexts

Annotated bibliography presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **18/05/2020 23.59 PM**

Weighting: **20%**

For this assignment, students will prepare a short (5 minute) PowerPoint presentation detailing three academic references, and their relevance to their proposed research topic for the final assignment.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second language acquisition (SLA)
- Demonstrate in-depth familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate three areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to personally relevant educational contexts

Learner Data Discussion Paper

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 32 hours

Due: **15/06/2020 23.59 PM**

Weighting: **50%**

For this assessment task, students will collect a small amount of data from a language learner and write up the findings in the form of a small-scale research report

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second language acquisition (SLA)
- Demonstrate in-depth familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate three areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to personally relevant educational contexts

¹ If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

DELIVERY AND RESOURCES

Internal students: The unit will be delivered through a weekly lecture-workshop on Wednesdays from 11.00 - 13.00. Supplementary resources will be available on the iLearn site for the unit, and participation in the online discussions will also take place through the iLearn site. Internal students can also access the podcast mini-lectures that will be posted on iLearn to accompany the weekly topics.

External students: There are podcast mini-lectures for the modules covered in this unit, and external students can listen via ECHO to the weekly recorded lectures which as part of the internal offering of APPL8250. Reading and reflection activities can be completed individually, and students can interact with the convenor and other members of the group via the discussion board.

Unit Schedule

The unit is divided into thirteen sections. These match the thirteen teaching weeks that comprise the semester. During the mid-semester break, you can consolidate your knowledge of the material covered in the first half of the semester, and work on your critical review assignment. The unit schedule is provided in the section below.

Required and Recommended Texts and Materials

Unit readings: A selection of journal articles and book chapters is available through the Macquarie University Library, using the Leganto tool on iLearn. The lecturer will provide instructions for accessing the articles online through the Macquarie University Library collection.

Unit Webpage

The APPL8250 iLearn site has a range of resources, including course notes, tasks, and online discussions. To log in to the website, go to the URL below. Students have access to the website from the first day of the semester until the end of the examination period.

The URL is <https://ilearn.mq.edu.au>

Online Resources

As a postgraduate student, it is essential that you become skilled in accessing electronic resources. There is a range of other resources available to Macquarie students, including free electronic access to a wide variety of journal articles.

Unit Schedule

Week	Date	Topic	Lecturer
1	26 Feb 2020	Approaches to studying second language acquisition: An overview	Peter Roger
2	4 Mar 2020	The role of age in second language acquisition	Peter Roger
3	11 Mar 2020	The role of the first language in second language acquisition	Peter Roger
4	18 Mar 2020	Learner language, errors and error analysis	Peter Roger
5	25 Mar 2020	Developmental patterns in learner language	Peter Roger
6	1 Apr 2020	Motivation in second and foreign language learning	Peter Roger
7	8 Apr 2020	Learning styles and language learning	Peter Roger
		Mid-semester Break	
8	29 Apr 2020	Language learning strategies	Peter Roger
9	6 May 2020	Acquisition of the lexicon in a second language	Jill Murray
10	13 May 2020	Acquisition of second language pragmatics	Jill Murray
11	20 May 2020	Formal instruction and second language acquisition	Peter Roger
12	27 May 2020	Foreign language aptitude and anxiety	Peter Roger
13	3 June 2020	Unit Summary: SLA goes to Hollywood	Peter Roger

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr) (<https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-centr>)

al). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- [Academic Appeals Policy](#)
- [Academic Integrity Policy](#)
- [Academic Progression Policy](#)
- [Assessment Policy](#)
- [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#)
- [Grade Appeal Policy](#)
- [Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#) (**Note:** *The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway) (<https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway>). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit [Policy Central](http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<http://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central>).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct>

Results

Results published on platform other than [eStudent](#), (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in [eStudent](#). For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit <http://students.mq.edu.au/support/>

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- [Workshops](#)
- [StudyWise](#)
- [Academic Integrity Module for Students](#)
- [Ask a Learning Adviser](#)

Student Enquiry Service

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Equity Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the [Disability Service](#) who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the [Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy](#). The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Late assignments

1. All assessment due dates and times refer to local time in Sydney, Australia.
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