



APPL7250

Advanced Topics in Second Language Acquisition

Session 1, In person-scheduled-weekday, North Ryde 2022

Department of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

Lecturer and Convenor

Peter Roger

peter.roger@mq.edu.au

Contact via E-mail

12 Seconfd Way Room 505 (12SW 505)

Flexible - please e-mail for an appointment

Director of Education, Department of Linguistics

Philip Chappell

philip.chappell@mq.edu.au

Contact via E-mail

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

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://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates>

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

ULO1: Identify and explain current issues and research trends in the field of second

language acquisition (SLA)

ULO2: Demonstrate familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate two areas of SLA research

ULO3: Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience

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

ULO5: Apply knowledge of SLA research to an educational context of personal relevance

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
Online Key Concepts Quiz	10%	No	25/03/2022 - 26/03/2022
Critical review	20%	No	Monday 04/04/2022 at 23.59 PM
Annotated bibliography presentation	20%	No	Monday 09/05/2022 at 23.59 PM
Applying SLA Research	50%	No	Friday 03/06/2022 at 23.59 PM

Online Key Concepts Quiz

Assessment Type ¹: Quiz/Test

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **25/03/2022 - 26/03/2022**

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: **Monday 04/04/2022 at 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 familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate two areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to an educational context of personal relevance

Annotated bibliography presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Media presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **Monday 09/05/2022 at 23.59 PM**

Weighting: **20%**

For this assignment, students will prepare a short (5 minute) PowerPoint presentation with oral commentary 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 familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate two areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to an educational context of personal relevance

Applying SLA Research

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 32 hours

Due: **Friday 03/06/2022 at 23.59 PM**

Weighting: **50%**

For this assessment task, students will write a 2500 word essay in which they apply research findings in one area of SLA research to a context/purpose of personal or professional relevance.

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 familiarity with and the ability to critically evaluate two areas of SLA research
- Communicate knowledge of SLA research to a professional audience
- Apply knowledge of SLA research to an educational context of personal relevance

¹ If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the [Writing Centre](#) for academic skills support.

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

APPL7250 is co-taught with APPL8250, and will be available both externally (online) and internally (on campus). A weekly oncampus lecture-seminar will be held on Wednesdays from 11 AM - 1 PM - please see the timetable for room details. These sessions will be live-streamed on Zoom, and will also be recorded for all students to access during the semester. The iLearn site for APPL8250/7250 contains details of assessment tasks, weekly readings, discussion forums, lecture slides and additional resources

Unit Schedule

Week	Topic	Lecturer
1	Approaches to studying second language acquisition: An overview	Peter Roger
2	The role of age in second language acquisition	Peter Roger

3	The role of the first language in second language acquisition	Peter Roger
4	Learner language, errors and error analysis	Peter Roger
5	Developmental patterns in learner language	Peter Roger
6	Motivation in second and foreign language learning	Peter Roger
	MID-SEMESTER BREAK	
7	Learning styles and language learning	Peter Roger
8	Language learning strategies	Peter Roger
9	Acquisition of the lexicon in a second language	Peter Roger
10	Acquisition of second language pragmatics	Peter Roger
11	Formal instruction and second language acquisition	Peter Roger
12	Foreign language aptitude and anxiety	Peter Roger
13	Unit Summary: SLA goes to Hollywood	Peter Roge

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution Procedure for Students and Members of the Public](#)
- [Special Consideration Policy](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the Academic Integrity Module](#)

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- [Subject and Research Guides](#)
- [Ask a Librarian](#)

Student Services and Support

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study

- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.