

Dear students,

welcome to the lecture *Second Language Acquisition*. This lecture deals with how learners acquire a second language, with a focus on instructional contexts. The lecture language will be English, and your grade is based on a final exam (three sittings).

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR INSTRUCTOR

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## AIM OF THE COURSE

The lecture will help familiarise yourself with the foundations and current key issues of second language acquisition (SLA). We will cover potential definitions of SLA, the nature of human language, first language acquisition, historical developments of theories and models, interlanguage phenomena, the role of input and output, instructed language learning, individual differences, and the mental lexicon.

## CONTENTS & COURSE BOOK CHAPTERS

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|--|------------------|
| 1. The nature of language              | (chapter 1)      |
| 2. Multilingualism                     | (chapter 2)      |
| 3. SLA data analysis                   | (chapter 3)      |
| 4. The role of the L1                  | (chapter 4 & 5)  |
| 5. Formal approaches to SLA            | (chapter 6)      |
| 6. Interlanguage                       | (chapters 8 & 9) |
| 7. Input, interaction, and output      | (chapter 10)     |
| 8. Instructed second language learning | (chapter 11)     |
| 9. Individual differences              | (chapter 12)     |
| 10. The mental lexicon                 | (chapter 13)     |

## WHAT YOU NEED TO DO TO PASS

1. either buy a copy of Gass & Selinker, 2008, 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, see below, or download the entire book from Magda Oiry's University of Massachusetts Amherst blog, under:  
<https://blogs.umass.edu/moiry/files/2015/08/Gass.Second-Language-Acquisition.pdf>
2. register and get yourself the lecture slides from the Moodle course *Second Language Acquisition* (<https://moodle.ph-ooe.at/course/view.php?id=1443>)
3. do 'points for discussion' from the course book at home and bring questions to the lectures
4. familiarise yourself with the glossary in the course book (pp. 514-522)
5. engage in interactive parts of the lecture
6. pass written final exam (> 60%), three sittings, 03.07.2018, 27.09.2019, 20.12.2019

## COURSE BOOK

Gass, S. M., & Selinker, L. (2008). *Second language acquisition. An introductory course*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition. London & New York: Routledge.