

Syllabus

for course at advanced level

The Psycholinguistics of Bilingualism and Second Language Acquisition 7.5 Higher Education

Psykolingvistiska perspektiv på tvåspråkighet och andraspråksinlärnin Credits

7.5 ECTS credits

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| Course code: | CT7141 |
| Valid from: | Spring 2023 |
| Date of approval: | 2022-06-01 |
| Department | The Department of Swedish Language and Multilingualism |
| Main field: | Bilingualism |
| Specialisation: | A1N - Second cycle, has only first-cycle course/s as entry requirements |

Decision

This syllabus was adopted by the Board of the Department of Swedish Language and Multilingualism on 2022-06-01.

Prerequisites and special admittance requirements

120 ECTS credits of previous university studies, including 30 ECTS credits in Linguistics or corresponding linguistic study. English 6 or the equivalent.

Course structure

| Examination code | Name | Higher Education Credits |
|------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| PSYK | The psycholinguistics of bilingualism | 7.5 |

Course content

The course aims to provide knowledge about bilingualism from a psycholinguistic, neurolinguistic, and cognitive perspective. The course focuses on some of the most central issues in the field of bilingualism from a psycho- and neuro-linguistic perspective, such as the role of age of acquisition, the question of ultimate attainment, the role of cross-linguistic influence, and individual differences. These questions will be addressed in light of current theoretical models of bilingual language representation and processing. The course also explores the relationship between language and cognition. The course provides an orientation to methods used in psycho-/neurolinguistic research on bilingualism.

Learning outcomes

In order to pass the course, students are expected to be able to:

- discuss and problematize the basic concepts of psycho- and neurolinguistics from a learning and bilingualism perspective
- describe some of the most relevant factors that influence bilingualism/second language acquisition and discuss these critically from a psycho- and neurolinguistic perspective (e.g., role of age in bilingualism, bilingual language activation, the bilingual lexicon, etc.)
- describe and critically discuss individual differences in second language acquisition
- describe and discuss models of language processing and development in bilinguals and second language learners, including theoretical models about the neurological correlates of the phenomena concerned (in terms of brain areas and brain responses)
- describe and critically discuss some of the evidence concerning the relationship between bilingualism and cognition

- account for methods in psycho-/neurolinguistic research on bilingualism.

Education

Instruction is given in the form of lectures and seminars. Attendance is mandatory. Completing the mandatory assignment(s) and meeting the mandatory attendance requirement is a prerequisite for participation in the next written examination. The language of instruction is English. For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be available at least one month before the course starts.

Forms of examination

a. The course is examined on the basis of oral presentations of research articles and a written exam. The principles for the weighting of the individual course assignments are described in the grading criteria. The language of examination is English and/or Swedish by agreement.

For more detailed information, please refer to the course description. The course description will be available at least one month before the course starts.

If a student has a certificate with recommendations for special pedagogical support due to a long-term disability, the examiner can adapt the examination or allow the student an alternative examination.

b. Grades will be set according to a seven-point grading scale related to the learning objectives of the course:

A = Excellent

B = Very good

C = Good

D = Satisfactory

E = Adequate

Fx = Fail, some additional work required

F = Fail, much more work required

c. Students will be informed of the written grading criteria when the course starts.

d. In order to pass the course, students must receive a grade of E or higher on all examinations, complete all mandatory assignments and meet the attendance requirement (at least 85 %). A student who is absent more than 15 %, must re-take the course or catch up on missed lesson times (up to 85% attendance) the next time the course is offered. Completing the mandatory assignment(s) and meeting the mandatory attendance requirement is a prerequisite for participation in the next written examination.

e. At least three examination opportunities should normally be offered within a one-year period. At least one examination opportunity should be offered during the year the course is not provided.

Students who receive the grade E or higher may not retake the examination to attain a higher grade. Students who receive the grade Fx or F on an examination twice in a row by the same examiner are entitled to have another examiner appointed for the next examination, unless there are special reasons to the contrary. Such requests should be made to the Department Board.

f. Completion of a supplementary assignment in order to convert the grade Fx into a passing grade on the oral presentations may be permitted if the student is close to meeting the criteria for a passing grade. The student will be notified, where appropriate, of any additional requirements by the teacher. Adequate corrections of flaws related to understanding – minor misunderstandings, minor inaccuracies or overly limited arguments – will not be awarded more than the grade D. Adequate corrections of simple mistakes related to formatting will be graded using the grades A-E.

Interim

When the syllabus is discontinued, students have the right to be examined according to this syllabus once per semester during a transition period of three semesters.

Limitations

This course overlaps with the content of the course CT7140 Psycholinguistic Aspects of Bilingualism, 7,5, second cycle, which previously had the code CT7040, consequently, it may not be included in a degree together with CT7140/CT7040 Psycholinguistic Aspects of Bilingualism.

Required reading

For up-to-date information about required reading, please refer to the department's website www.su.se/svefler. The current reading list will be made available at least two months before the course starts.