

# LIN6720 Second Language Acquisition

Spring 2022

Instructor: Stefanie Wulff, Ph.D. (swulff@ufl.edu)

Office hours: Tuesdays 3-4pm face-to-face in Turlington 4131D or online (zoom info on Canvas), or by appointment

## Class Meeting Times

This is a face-to-face class, which means that we will meet regularly on Tuesdays 11:45am-2:45pm in CBD (Classroom Building) 0230.

Students are allowed to record video or audio of class lectures. However, the purposes for which these recordings may be used are strictly controlled. The only allowable purposes are (1) for personal educational use, (2) in connection with a complaint to the university, or (3) as evidence in, or in preparation for, a criminal or civil proceeding. All other purposes are prohibited. Specifically, students may not publish recorded lectures without the written consent of the instructor.

A “class lecture” is an educational presentation intended to inform or teach enrolled students about a particular subject, including any instructor-led discussions that form part of the presentation, and delivered by any instructor hired or appointed by the University, or by a guest instructor, as part of a University of Florida course. A class lecture does not include lab sessions, student presentations, clinical presentations such as patient history, academic exercises involving solely student participation, assessments (quizzes, tests, exams), field trips, private conversations between students in the class or between a student and the faculty or lecturer during a class session.

Publication without permission of the instructor is prohibited. To “publish” means to share, transmit, circulate, distribute, or provide access to a recording, regardless of format or medium, to another person (or persons), including but not limited to another student within the same class section. Additionally, a recording, or transcript of a recording, is considered published if it is posted on or uploaded to, in whole or in part, any media platform, including but not limited to social media, book, magazine, newspaper, leaflet, or third party note/tutoring services. A student who publishes a recording without written consent may be subject to a civil cause of action instituted by a person injured by the publication and/or discipline under UF Regulation 4.040 Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code.

## Course Description

In this class, we will familiarize ourselves with key concepts, theories, and empirical research on child and adult second language acquisition (SLA).

## Course Objectives

By the end of this course, you will have acquired the ability to intelligently discuss aspects of the theory and practice of language learning based on knowledge of the scholarly research in the field. You will also have learned how to analyze learner data both for research purposes and to inform ESL teaching practice.

## Course Credit Requirements and Grading

### Terminology Reviews: 9% (1% each)

You are responsible for 9 terminology reviews, each counting 1% towards your final grade. In these reviews, you are asked to provide short definitions (like in a glossary) for key terms and concepts covered in the referenced chapter. The terminology reviews are due on the dates listed on the course schedule and are submitted on Canvas.

### Exams: 30% (10% each)

Exams. There are 3 exams. Each exam counts towards 10% towards your final grade. The exams will be due on the dates listed on the course schedule and are submitted on Canvas.

### Discussion Boards: 30% (5% each)

You will participate in 6 Discussion Boards that summarize key content and give commentary on 6 video lectures that address different key issues in contemporary second language acquisition research. Specific instructions for each Discussion Board are provided on Canvas. The Discussion Board responses are due on the due dates shown on the course schedule and are submitted on Canvas.

### Theory Presentations: 15%

Groups of one or more students will give a presentation that summarizes a chapter in [VKW]. The presentation should be 15 minutes long. A draft of the presentation must be submitted to Prof. Wulff via email one week before the presentation is scheduled (swulff@ufl.edu). Late submission reduces the maximum score by 2.5 points for each day that the submission is late.

### Theory Discussion Boards: 16% (2% each)

You will participate in 8 Discussion Boards that respond to questions about a particular theory of second language acquisition. Specific instructions for each Discussion Board are provided on Canvas. The Discussion Board responses are due on the due dates shown on the course schedule and are submitted on Canvas.

### Attendance and Participation

Attendance is mandatory for all class meetings. You are allowed to miss up to three 50-minute class periods (lectures and TA sections combined) without any excuse. Each further unexcused absence will lower your grade by one level (e.g. from an A to A-). Excused absences must be consistent with university policies in:

<<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>>.

### Extra Credit and Make-up Assignments

There is one extra credit opportunity in this class: you can complete the Kognito training to earn 3 extra points. This assignment is available on Canvas like all other assignments. If you have three or more excused absences, please contact Dr. Wulff to discuss the possibility of a make-up exam or equivalent. You cannot make up for unexcused absences.

### Grading Scale

Your total score determines your final grade on this grading scale:

100-93=A; 92.9-90=A-; 89.9-87=B+; 86.9-83=B; 82.9-80=B-; 79.9-77=C+; 76.9-73=C(S); 72.9-70=C-(U); 69.9-67=D+; 66.9-63=D; 62.9-60=D-; 59.9-0=E. For information on current UF grading policies for assigning

grade points, please go to <<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies>>.

I aim to grade and give feedback on any course assignments as promptly as possible, within a week at the latest. For more information on how exactly each assignment will be graded, please read the Grading Rubrics page on Canvas.

### **Classroom Etiquette**

Please switch your cell phone to silent during class. If we are meeting on Zoom, mute your microphone unless you are speaking to minimize background noise for everyone. Please make every effort to arrive to class on time (even if it is on Zoom). Being more than 10 minutes late to the start of the course will count as an absence on each third occasion of such tardiness. We will familiarize ourselves with other rules of “netiquette” in the first week of classes; a summary of netiquette rules is on Canvas.

### **Technology and Materials Requirements**

There are two required text books for this class:

Ortega, Lourdes. 2009. *Understanding Second Language Acquisition*. London: Hodder Education [ORT]; this book is available as an e-book through the University of Florida library system.

VanPatten, Keating & Wulff. 2020. *Theories in second language acquisition: An Introduction*. 3rd edition. New York: Routledge. [VKW]. Please purchase a copy of this book.

All other course materials will be available on CANVAS. To participate fully in this course, you will need to be able to access the Canvas course site.

### **Student Accommodations**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the disability Resource Center by visiting <<https://disability.ufl.edu/students/get-started>>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **Course Evaluation**

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <<https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/students>>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <<https://ufl.bluer.com/ufl>>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <<https://gatorevals.ua.ufl.edu/public-results>>.

### **University Honesty Policy**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Honor Code (<<https://www.dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code>>) specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. Furthermore, you are obligated to report any

condition that facilitates academic misconduct to appropriate personnel. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor or TAs in this class.

### **Software Use**

All faculty, staff, and students of the University are required and expected to obey the laws and legal agreements governing software use. Failure to do so can lead to monetary damages and/or criminal penalties for the individual violator. Because such violations are also against University policies and rules, disciplinary action will be taken as appropriate. We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to uphold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honesty and integrity.

### **Student Privacy**

Federal laws protect your privacy with regards to grades earned in courses and on individual assignments. See <http://registrar.ufl.edu/catalog0910/policies/regulationferpa.html> for more information.

### **Campus Resources: Health and Wellness**

- U Matter, We Care: if you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit [umatter.ufl.edu](http://umatter.ufl.edu) to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.
- Counseling and Wellness Center: visit [counseling.ufl.edu](http://counseling.ufl.edu) or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.
- Student Health Care Center: call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit [shcc.ufl.edu](http://shcc.ufl.edu).
- University Police Department: visit [police.ufl.edu](http://police.ufl.edu) or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).
- UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center: for immediate medical care, call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; [ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center](http://ufhealth.org/emergency-room-trauma-center).

### **Campus Resources: Academic Resources**

- E-learning technical support: contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail ([helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu)).
- Career Connections Center: career assistance and counseling services [career.ufl.edu](http://career.ufl.edu), Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601.
- Library Support: [cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask](http://cms.uflib.ufl.edu/ask) various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.
- Teaching Center: Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring [teachingcenter.ufl.edu](http://teachingcenter.ufl.edu).
- Writing Studio: 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers [writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio](http://writing.ufl.edu/writing-studio).
- Student Complaints On-Campus: [sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code](http://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code)
- On-Line Students Complaints: [distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process](http://distance.ufl.edu/student-complaint-process).