

Veranstalter:	Prof. Dr. Peter Siemund, Simone Lechner (LiMA)
Thema:	Second and Third Language Acquisition [AA-V2a/b, ENG-11, AA-M3, AA-M8, AA-M9, AA-M10, ENGAGE-M1, AA-W]
Art der Veranstaltung:	Seminar II
Veranstaltungsnummer:	53-519
Zeit:	2st., Di 10-12
Raum:	Phil 1219
Beginn:	16. Oktober 2012

Course description:

Knowing several languages is good for your health. If we can believe recent claims about the positive effects of multilingualism, polyglots can expect to develop better cognitive skills that help them to stay mentally flexible, especially when growing older. Apart from such general benefits, we all know from experience that learning languages seems to become easier with every additional language that we learn. Our brain, it appears, begins to form abstractions across the languages we know that help to categorize and learn new languages faster.

In this seminar, we will explore the acquisition of English as a second or third language, perhaps even as a fourth or further language. We will take a look at the errors learners typically make, which processes these errors cause, and investigate the influence of previously learnt languages on additional languages. For example, many linguists in the field of L3-acquisition claim that it is mainly your second language that influences your third language, and not your first language. This, at first glance, is certainly surprising. At the same time, there are also linguists who claim that only your first language has an influence, be it positive or negative, on whatever other languages you acquire during your lifespan. Finally, there are also linguists who argue that all previously acquired languages influence your third language.

We will be pursuing two objectives in this seminar. Firstly, we will try to work out what the current state-of-the-art in the field of second and third language acquisition is. We will also look at the concepts of bi- and multilingualism. To this end, we will read and discuss a selection of research papers and book chapters and also take a look at modern multilingual societies. Secondly, the seminar offers you active participation in an on-going research project in which the organizers of the seminar sample learners of English as a third or additional language with the learners coming from highly diverse linguistic backgrounds.

Course requirements:

short presentation plus term paper

Introductory literature:

Flynn, Suzanne, Claire Foley and Inna Vinnitskaya. 2004. "The Cumulative-Enhancement Model for Language Acquisition: Comparing Adults' and Children's Patterns of Development in First, Second and Third Language Acquisition of Relative Clauses." *International Journal of Multilingualism* 1 (1): 3-16.

Murphy, Shirin. 2003. "Second language transfer during third language acquisition". In: *Working Papers in TESOL & Applied Linguistics* 3(2): 1-21.

Rothman, Jason. 2011. "L3 syntactic transfer selectivity and typological determinacy. The typological primacy model." *Second Language Research* 27(1): 107-127.

Sprechstunde während der Vorlesungszeit:	Di 18-19 Uhr, Mi 12-13 Uhr (mit Anmeldung), Phil 107
Sprechstunden während der vorlesungsfreien Zeit:	28.8.12, 18.9.12, 25.9.12 jeweils 15-16 Uhr (mit Anmeldung), Phil 107