



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה

המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תש"פ 2019-20

Name of the course: Introduction to cognitive science – language acquisition

Lecturer name: Dr. Aviya Hacoen

Course number: 132-1-0091

Office hours: by appointment

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph

The goal of this course is to introduce students to the field of first language acquisition; to present them with the fundamental questions; and to familiarize them with the basic methodological tools required for pursuing independent research. We will discuss different language acquisition theories, the development of the various subparts of language and a number of methodologies to study child language. This course is not designed to provide definitive answers; its central aim is to intellectually stimulate the students and motivate them to further explore this incredible capacity which defines us as humans.

Key words: First language acquisition, experimental psycholinguistics, cognitive science, linguistic theory, syntax, semantics/pragmatics, experimental language and mind

Course requirements:

Attendance required	yes
1. Participation	5%
2. Reading questions	15%
3. Tutorial assignments	25%
4. Final exam	55%

Selected bibliography

- Boeckx, C. (2010). *Language in Cognition: Uncovering Mental Structures and the Rules Behind Them*. Chichester: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Eimas, P. D., Siqueland, E. R., Jusczyk, P., & Vigorito, J. (1971). Speech perception in infants. *Science*, 171(3968), 303-306.
- Fromkin, V., Krashen, S., Curtiss, S., Rigler, D., & Rigler, M. (1974). The development of language in Genie: A Case of language acquisition beyond the critical period. *Brain and Language*, 1 (1), 81–107.
- Guasti, M. T. (2002). *Language Acquisition: The Growth of Grammar*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Lust, B. (2006). *Child Language: Acquisition and Growth*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.
- McDaniel, D., McKee, C., & Cairns, H.S. (1996.) *Methods for assessing children's syntax*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.