

Course Description

How is language produced? How does L2 production differ from L1 production? How does production proceed in multilinguals? How do attention and memory mediate L2/multilingual production and development? How can engaging in production potentially lead to second language development? How do different conditions of interaction and cognition affect production?

In this course, the three dimensions of production, that is, oral fluency, complexity, and accuracy will be analyzed. In the first part of the course, current models of L2 production will be presented and discussed. Secondly, the links existing between oral production and language learning will be explored, with a special emphasis on the processes of attention and memory. Thirdly, the interactive and cognitive processes influencing oral production will be analyzed. Finally, the pedagogic implications of program design for oral production will be discussed. In order to achieve these goals, students will be asked read specialized articles and will become familiar with measurements of oral fluency, lexical and structural complexity, and accuracy through the analysis of transcriptions of L2 learners' oral productions.

Syllabus

1. Introduction to the three dimensions of oral production: fluency, complexity, and accuracy
2. L1 production models (Levelt et al.)
3. L2 production models (Kormos)
4. Multilingual production models (Costa et al.)
5. The links between production and acquisition and the mediating role of attention and memory.
6. Interactive and cognitive processes influencing oral production.
7. Analysis and application of fluency, complexity, and accuracy measurements:
 - 7.1 From a cognitive perspective
 - 7.2 From an inquisitional perspective

Methodology

- Individual or group presentations (critical summary of articles with a special focus on measurements of production)
- Individual or group analysis of oral productions
- Coding of the three dimensions of production of two tasks
- A final research project involving: lit review > data collection > transcription > coding > calculation > discussion of results (or without data collection).

Assessment

Continuous assessment based on:

- oral presentations of articles (20%)
- class contributions and participation (20%)
- coding of fluency, complexity, and accuracy (10%)
- final project (50%).

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