Syllabus

Course Description

Course Title	Linguistics and language acquisition
Course Code	400005
Course Title Additional	
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GERM-01/C
Language	German
Degree Course	5 year master degree in Primary Education - German section
Other Degree Courses (Loaned)	
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Andrea Abel, Andrea.Abel@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/12496 Prof. Dr. Birgit Alber, Birgit.Alber@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/41363 Dr. phil. Birgit Spechtenhauser, Birgit.Spechtenhauser1@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/agricultural-environmental-food-sciences/academic-staff/person/30100
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
Course Year/s	1
CP	9
Teaching Hours	64
Lab Hours	16
Individual Study Hours	145
Planned Office Hours	27
Contents Summary	This course consists of three parts: the lecture "German Linguistics", the lecture "Language Acquisition" and the laboratory "Language Awareness: applications in teaching"

	The lecture "German linguistics" offers an introduction to the structures of contemporary German, following a descriptive and theoretically grounded approach. The German language is explored using the methods and principles of linguistics, enabling students to acquire the theoretical and methodological tools necessary for understanding and analyzing linguistic data. The lecture "Language Acquisition" introduces the acquisition of German in its various forms. Drawing on empirical data, it addresses key concepts, methods and theoretical approaches in the field of language acquisition research. The aim of the laboratory "Language Awareness" is to explore aspects of the grammar of German and its varieties using an inductive approach based on problem-solving methods. Two goals are pursued here: firstly, students are to deepen their knowledge of German grammar in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the linguistic system; secondly, teaching methods to promote language awareness, applicable in primary school and kindergarten, are taught using concrete examples.
Course Topics	The topics of the lecture 'German Linguistics' include: - Language as a semiotic code (in comparison to other communication systems) - The most relevant levels of linguistic analysis; examples and methods for identifying forms, functions, and structures, consideing also language variation: - Phonetics and phonology - Morphology - Lexicon and lexical semantics - Syntax and information structure The topics of the lecture 'Language acquisition' include: - Basic concepts of language acquisition research - Methods in language acquisition research - Explanatory models for language acquisition - Milestones of language acquisition - Linguistic and extra-linguistic influencing factors of language acquisition - multilingual acquisition

	The topics of the laboratory 'Language awareness' deepen and complement the content of the lecture 'Linguistics of German,' also taking into account the relationship between language standardization and variation. In the laboratory, students become familiar with important learning and teaching resources such as reference grammars and corpora of spoken and written German.
Keywords	Linguistics, language acquisition research, language awareness, German, language resources, methods and tools of linguistic analysis
Recommended Prerequisites	
Propaedeutic Courses	
Teaching Format	Lecture with multimedia support, discussion, exercises, in-depth study of the relevant literature, partner work (in the laboratory)
Mandatory Attendance	In accordance with the regulation
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes	Knowledge and Understanding Students are familiar with the fundamental structures of the German language (phonology, morphology, and syntax). They understand the variation within German across different linguistic levels (standard language, regional varieties, and dialects). They are familiar with the stages and different contexts of language acquisition. They know strategies for teaching and fostering language awareness. Applying Knowledge and Understanding Students are able to apply the knowledge they have acquired to the analysis of linguistic data, language acquisition contexts, and teaching materials for language awareness. They are able to draw on this knowledge to inform and improve their own teaching practice in kindergarten and primary school. Making Judgements Students are able to evaluate analyses of linguistic data and language acquisition contexts, as well as the quality of teaching materials designed to promote language awareness. Communication Students are able to present the knowledge they have acquired

	using appropriate disciplinary terminology and in a scientifically informed and reflective manner. Learning Skills Students are able to identify and use knowledge resources and tools in the fields of linguistics, language acquisition, and language awareness.
Specific Educational Objectives and Learning Outcomes (additional info.)	
Assessment	Written examination (90-minute exam) covering the lecture components; observation report for the laboratory component. The written examination comprises two related sections: Section 1: Linguistics of German (45 minutes): The exam consists of a series of closed-format questions on the fundamental concepts of linguistics and the analysis of the structure of German (multiple-choice, gap-fill, and matching tasks). Section 2: Language Acquisition (45 minutes): The exam consists of one open-ended question on the topics covered in the Language Acquisition component of the module. The answer should be written as a structured continuous text.
Evaluation Criteria	The overall grade for the module is based on the written examination and the observation report prepared for the laboratory component (see the laboratory description). The following assessment criteria apply throughout: ability to conduct linguistic analysis; accuracy of content; logical organization; clarity of argumentation; engagement with the relevant academic literature; ability to critically analyse and reflect (including self-reflection); linguistic accuracy; ability to transfer theoretical knowledge to teaching practice; appropriate use of academic terminology; and the ability to formulate independent, well-reasoned judgments. In accordance with the Faculty Examination Regulations, a passing overall grade for the module requires a passing grade in each individual course component that forms part of the module. If the overall module assessment is failed, the entire module examination

	must be retaken. Please note that, under the Examination Regulations, failing an examination after three attempts results in exclusion from the next three examination sessions (see also Article 6, paragraph 4, of the current Examination Regulations).
Required Readings	For the lecture ‚German Linguistics‘: Alber, Birgit (2022). *Linguistik des Deutschen - kompakt und kontrastiv*. QuiEdit, Verona (part I). Meibauer, Jörg, Ulrike Demske, Jochen Geilfuß-Wolfgang, Jürgen Pafel, Karl Heinz Ramers, Monika Rothweiler & Markus Steinbach (2015). Einführung in die germanistische Linguistik. 3. Auflage. J.B. Metzler Verlag, Stuttgart/Weimar. Kap. 2.1, 5.1, 5.2. For the lecture 'Language acquisition': Kauschke, Christina (2012). *Kindlicher Spracherwerb im Deutschen. Verläufe, Forschungsmethoden, Erklärungsansätze*. De Gruyter, Berlin – Boston. Kauschke, Christina (2023). Der typische Spracherwerb im Deutschen – Verläufe und Erklärungsansätze. In: Mayer, Andreas/Ulrich, Tanja (eds.): *Studienbuch Sprachheilpädagogik*. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart. 135–166.
Supplementary Readings	Für den lecture ‚German Linguistics‘: Meibauer, Jörg, Ulrike Demske, Jochen Geilfuß-Wolfgang, Jürgen Pafel, Karl Heinz Ramers, Monika Rothweiler & Markus Steinbach (2015). Einführung in die germanistische Linguistik. 3. Auflage. J.B. Metzler Verlag, Stuttgart/Weimar. For the lecture 'Language Acquisition':

	Grießhaber, Wilhelm (2022). *Spracherwerbsprozesse in Erst- und Zweitsprache. Eine Einführung. Münster*. Waxmann. Rohlfing, Katharina J. (2019). *Frühe Sprachentwicklung*. Narr Francke Attempto Verlag, Tübingen. Tracy, Rosemarie (2008²). *Wie Kinder Sprachen lernen. Und wie wir sie dabei unterstützen können*. Narr Francke, Tübingen.
Further Information	
Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	Quality education, Peace, justice and strong institutions, Reduced inequalities, Decent work and economic growth

Course Module

Course Constituent Title	German linguistics
Course Code	400005A
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GERM-01/C
Language	German
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Birgit Alber, Birgit.Alber@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/41363
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
CP	4
Responsible Lecturer	
Teaching Hours	32
Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	68
Planned Office Hours	12
Contents Summary	This course offers an introduction to the structures of contemporary German, following a descriptive and theoretically grounded approach. The German language is explored using the methods and principles of linguistics, enabling students to acquire the theoretical and methodological tools necessary for

	understanding and analyzing linguistic data.
Course Topics	- Language as a semiotic code (in comparison to other communication systems); - The most relevant levels of linguistic analysis; examples and methods for identifying forms, functions, and structures, including language variation: Phonetics and phonology; Morphology; Lexicon and lexical semantics; Syntax and information structure.
Teaching Format	Lecture with multimedia support, discussion, exercises, in-depth study of the relevant literature
Required Readings	Alber, Birgit (2022). *Linguistik des Deutschen - kompakt und kontrastiv*. QuiEdit, Verona (Teil I). Meibauer, Jörg, Ulrike Demske, Jochen Geilfuß-Wolfgang, Jürgen Pafel, Karl Heinz Ramers, Monika Rothweiler & Markus Steinbach (2015). Einführung in die germanistische Linguistik. 3. Auflage. J.B. Metzler Verlag, Stuttgart/Weimar. Kap. 2.1, 5.1, 5.2.
Supplementary Readings	Meibauer, Jörg, Ulrike Demske, Jochen Geilfuß-Wolfgang, Jürgen Pafel, Karl Heinz Ramers, Monika Rothweiler & Markus Steinbach (2015). Einführung in die germanistische Linguistik. 3. Auflage. J.B. Metzler Verlag, Stuttgart/Weimar.

Course Module

Course Constituent Title	Language acquisition
Course Code	400005B
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GERM-01/C
Language	German
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Andrea Abel, Andrea.Abel@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/12496
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
CP	4
Responsible Lecturer	
Teaching Hours	32

Lab Hours	0
Individual Study Hours	68
Planned Office Hours	12
Contents Summary	This course introduces the acquisition of German in its various forms. Drawing on empirical data, it addresses key concepts, methods and theoretical approaches in the field of language acquisition research.
Course Topics	- Basic concepts of language acquisition research - Methods in language acquisition research - Explanatory models for language acquisition - Milestones of language acquisition - Linguistic and extra-linguistic influencing factors of language acquisition - multilingual acquisition
Teaching Format	Lecture with multimedia support, discussion, exercises, in-depth study of the relevant literature.
Required Readings	Kauschke, Christina (2012). *Kindlicher Spracherwerb im Deutschen. Verläufe, Forschungsmethoden, Erklärungsansätze*. De Gruyter, Berlin – Boston. Kauschke, Christina (2023). Der typische Spracherwerb im Deutschen – Verläufe und Erklärungsansätze. In: Mayer, Andreas/Ulrich, Tanja (eds.): *Studienbuch Sprachheilpädagogik*. Kohlhammer, Stuttgart. 135–166.
Supplementary Readings	Grießhaber, Wilhelm (2022). *Spracherwerbsprozesse in Erst- und Zweitsprache. Eine Einführung. Münster*. Waxmann. Rohlfing, Katharina J. (2019). *Frühe Sprachentwicklung*. Narr Francke Attempto Verlag, Tübingen. Tracy, Rosemarie (2008²). *Wie Kinder Sprachen lernen. Und wie wir sie dabei unterstützen können*. Narr Francke, Tübingen.

Course Module

Course Constituent Title	Language awareness: Applications for teaching (lab.)

Course Code	400005C
Scientific-Disciplinary Sector	GERM-01/C
Language	German
Lecturers	Prof. Dr. Andrea Abel, Andrea.Abel@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/education/academic-staff/person/12496 Dr. phil. Birgit Spechtenhauser, Birgit.Spechtenhauser1@unibz.it https://www.unibz.it/en/faculties/agricultural-environmental-food-sciences/academic-staff/person/30100
Teaching Assistant	
Semester	Second semester
CP	1
Responsible Lecturer	
Teaching Hours	0
Lab Hours	16 Gruppe 1, 2 und 3: Prof. Dr. Andrea Abel Gruppe 4: N.N. Gruppe 5: Dr. phil. Birgit Spechtenhauser
Individual Study Hours	9
Planned Office Hours	3
Contents Summary	The aim of the laboratory is to explore aspects of the grammar of German and its varieties using an inductive approach based on problem-solving methods. Two goals are pursued here: firstly, students are to deepen their knowledge of German grammar in order to develop a more comprehensive understanding of the linguistic system; secondly, teaching methods to promote language awareness, applicable in primary school and kindergarten, are taught using concrete examples.
Course Topics	The topics of this laboratory deepen and complement the content of the lecture 'German Linguistics', including the relationship between language standardization and variation. In the laboratory, students become familiar with important learning and teaching resources such as reference grammars and corpora of spoken and written German.

Teaching Format	Discussion, practical exercises, partner work
Required Readings	There are no required readings for the LAB
Supplementary Readings	