

Child Language Acquisition

Spring, 2024

Time: **Tuesday 12:10-15:10**
Classroom: C511, HSS Building
Instructor: Chun-Chieh Hsu (許淳潔)
Contact: cchsu@mx.nthu.edu.tw (by appointment, A531)

● Course Description

This course aims to introduce students the development of language in young children. We will look at various aspects of how children develop and acquire their native language, including phonology, morphology, semantics, syntax, and pragmatics. Important theories and issues in child language acquisition will be discussed, and various experimental methods will be introduced. The students may have also an opportunity to interact with little children and observe their language behaviors.

◆ Highlights of this course:

- ✓ *You will get to read and learn different theories proposed to explain how children acquire their mother tongues. You will develop a deep understanding of language acquisition process! ☺*
- ✓ *You will get to watch several videos and learn many interesting experimental methods that are used to test children's language and cognitive ability! ☺*
- ✓ *You will get to interact with little kids and observe their language behaviors. Most importantly, you will have a chance to design your own experiment to test their language ability in a fun way! ☺*

● Textbook & Website

- *Understanding Child Language Acquisition (UCLA)*, Caroline Rowland, 2014, Routledge
- *Relevant handouts and supplementary materials will be provided.*
- **Course Website** – <https://eeclass.nthu.edu.tw/>
- All announcements and reading/written assignments will be posted on the website.

● Requirements & Evaluation

<u>Class attendance and participation</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Reading and HW Learning Sheet</u>	<u>30%</u>
<u>Video Learning Reflection</u>	<u>10%</u>
<u>Exam: Individual Learning Report</u>	<u>25%</u>
<u>Small Group Project Report</u>	<u>25%</u>

● Tentative Syllabus (subject to any necessary changes)

W	Date	Theme	HW
1	02/20	Course Orientation / Group List	
2	02/27	Introduction to Language Acquisition (Film: <i>Human Brain Development: Nature/Nurture</i>) (Film: <i>Can Chimps Talk?</i>)	UCLA, Ch.1.
3	03/05	Communication Development in Infancy (Film: <i>The Baby Human series – To Relate</i>)	Development of Language, Ch.2
4	03/12	Learning the Meaning of Words (Film: <i>The Baby Human series – To Talk</i>)	UCLA, Ch.3
5	03/19	The sounds of language (Film: <i>The Baby Human series – To Talk</i>)	UCLA, Ch.2
6	03/26	Acquiring Syntax (I) (Film: <i>Acquiring the Human Language - taken from Human Language Series Part II</i>) First 30 minutes	UCLA, Ch.4 (Sec. 4.1-4.2)
7	04/02	Acquiring Syntax (II) (Film: <i>Out of mouth of babes</i>)	UCLA, Ch.4 (Sec. 4.3-4.5)
8	04/09	Acquiring Morphology	UCLA, Ch.5
9	04/16	Communicative Competence Language Impairment	UCLA, Ch.6
10	04/23	Multilingual/Bilingual Language Acquisition	UCLA, Ch.7 Video Report Due
11	04/30	Final Exam Week	
12	05/07	Individual Final Learning Report Presentation	Final Learning Report DUE
13	05/14	Group Project Topic Discussion	
14	05/21	Testing young children with your experiments!	
15	05/28	Final group project presentation	
16	06/04	Group project report DUE	

***本課程對AI使用規範: **有條件開放**

基於透明與負責任的原則，本課程鼓勵學生利用 AI 進行協作或互學，以提升本門課產出品質。根據本校公布之「大學教育場域 AI 協作、共學與素養培養指引」，本門課程採取有條件開放，說明如下：

學生可於課堂作業或報告中的「標題頁註腳」或「引用文獻後」簡要說明如何使用生成式 AI 進行議題發想、文句潤飾或結構參考等使用方式。然而，在本課程的「個人反思報告」、「小組採訪作業」中，學生不得使用生成式 AI 工具撰寫作業。若經查核使用卻無在作業或報告中標明，教師、學校或相關單位有權重新針對作業或報告重新評分或不予計分。本門課授課教材或學習資料若有引用自生成式 AI，教師也將在投影片或口頭標注。修讀本課程之學生於選課時視為同意以上倫理聲明。