SHS 465/565: Speech and Language Acquisition  
Spring 2004

Tuesday and Thursday 3:15 – 4:30 p.m., Coor 184

INSTRUCTOR:  
David Ingram, Ph.D.  
Office: Coor 3408. 480-965-7525 Email: David.Ingram@asu.edu  
Office Hours: T, Th 4: 40-5:30, or by appointment

TA:  
Kendra Brown. Office Coor 2222 Email: Kendra.Brown@asu.edu  
Office Hours: Th 10:00 – 1:00, or by appointment


COURSE DESCRIPTION AND OBJECTIVES:  
This course examines the acquisition of language by children. It examines how children acquire the major areas of language (phonology, semantics, syntax, morphology, pragmatics), the stages of acquisition that they follow, and related topics such as individual differences, atypical development, and the acquisition of reading.

COURSE PREREQUISITE: SHS 367 (language science) or equivalent; SHS 250 is highly recommended.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

Readings: There are weekly reading assignments from the textbook. These need to be done prior to class in order to understand the material being presented. They cover a broader range of material than that covered in class.

Tests: There are four tests during the course, three mid-term examinations and one final examination. Each test is worth 25 points, for a total of 100 points. Each test is based on the material covered since the previous test. Each test may include multiple choice, true/false, fill in the blank, matching, and short answer questions. The tests only cover material covered in class and related readings in the text, i.e. questions will not be asked on material in the text that is not covered in class. You will, however, be expected to demonstrate understanding and competence involving topics that are covered in lectures, but are not in the textbook. Your knowledge of the material, however, will be enhanced by all the textbook information, not just that to be tested.

Final Examination: The final examination covers all the material covered in the course. It is designed to provide you with an opportunity to review all the information studied to have a better overall view of first language acquisition.

Analyses: Students registered for SHS 565 have to complete two analyses, each worth 10 points for a total of 20 points. The analyses are each brief papers (2 to 3 pages plus appendices) of selected data on phonology, semantics, syntax and morphology respectively. They are designed to expose
you to the analysis of children’s language and provide an opportunity to develop your writing skills for short reports. The analyses must be typed, double spaced, with 1 inch margins, in 12 pt font and stapled. Tables within the report may be single-spaced. Phonetic symbols may be handwritten but they must be legible and follow standard IPA format. Place your name, SHS 565, the date, and the title of the assignment at the top of the first page. They are given out on a Tuesday and due on Thursday of the following week. Late papers may not be accepted. Please save and back up your work frequently as computer crashes, malfunctions, disk failures, etc cannot excuse you from turning in the assignment on time. Students may work together on the analyses, but not on the writing of the report. Students who work with another student should indicate that within their report.

**DISPOSITION OF ASSIGNMENTS/EXAMINATIONS:**
All tests and papers will be kept by the instructor. They are returned in class for review and then collected.

**PLAGIARISM:**
To plagiarize is to present as your own work any work this is not exclusively yours. Plagiarism of all or a portion of any assignment (including cheating on an exam) will not be accepted. Plagiarism will result in a failing grade.

**WITHDRAWAL/INCOMPLETE:**
Please read the ASU Schedule of Classes, Spring 2003 for details. The final Drop/Add Period is Jan 19-25, the Unrestricted Withdrawal Deadline is Feb 15, and the Restricted Course Withdrawal is April 2. As the Schedule notes, all dates are tentative and subject to change by ASU with notice.

**GRADING:**
Scoring of the examinations, projects and participation assignments will add up to 100 points for SHS 465, and to 120 points for SHS 565. Grades will be assigned in the following percentages:

- 90 -100 % = A
- 80 -89 % = B
- 70 -79 % = C
- 60 -69 % = D
- Below 60% = E

The instructors will use attendance, participation and increased performance as the semester progresses to assign letter grades in the event of points that are at the cut off (e.g. 89.5).

**CLASS NOTES:**
Class material is presented in PowerPoint presentations using “key words” for note taking. Summaries are also available on the instructor’s webpage. Handouts will be provided when material is more detailed in nature. When relevant, some classroom activities will also take place, e.g. practice analyses of language samples.
### SHS 465/565 Course Schedule, Spring 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Readings/Assignments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 20, 22</td>
<td>Overview of course; History of Child Language Studies</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 27, 29</td>
<td>Stages of Language Development</td>
<td>Chapter 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 3, 5</td>
<td>Prelinguistic Development</td>
<td>Chapters 2, 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 10, 12, 17</td>
<td>Phonological Development</td>
<td>Chapter 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 19</td>
<td>Test #1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb 24, 26</td>
<td>Semantic Development</td>
<td>Chapter 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 2, 4</td>
<td>Syntactic Development</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 9, 11</td>
<td>Morphological Development</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 16, 18</td>
<td>Spring Break</td>
<td>Chapter 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 23, 25</td>
<td>Review, Test # 2 on 25th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 30, Apr 1</td>
<td>Pragmatic Development</td>
<td>Chapter 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 6, 8, 13</td>
<td>Theories &amp; Individual Differences</td>
<td>Chapters 7 &amp; 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 15, 20</td>
<td>Atypical Development</td>
<td>Chapter 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 22</td>
<td>Test #3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 27, 29</td>
<td>Reading &amp; Writing</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>School Age Language Development</td>
<td>Chapter 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 11</td>
<td>FINAL EXAM  2:40 – 4:30</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>