





Erasmus+ KA1 Course

# **Second Language Acquisition in Childhood**



Erasmuslearn Training Center  
[www.erasmuslearn.eu](http://www.erasmuslearn.eu)  
Heraklion, Crete, Greece  
Organisation ID: E10020547





# Summary

Learning a second language is crucial in a world with open borders and a fast pace where communication is unrestricted. According to the school curriculums, teachers play a crucial role in facilitating the children to learn a second language. A variety of teaching and learning approaches has been implemented, some of which are: learning grammar rules, vocabulary, memorizing phrases and dialogues, engagement in tasks and games while speaking in the new language. However, in order to communicate effectively with the students, teachers should not only focus on textbooks but also take into account the individual learners' characteristics, development of knowledge and their ability to use it as well as the environments for learning a second language.



# Objectives

The aim of investigating second language learning in childhood is to provide professionals with the opportunity to understand how children acquire a second language, investigate some of the theories of child language learning and teaching methods and apply them based on the learning environment and the needs and abilities of children.



# Course Language


- English.
- Note: Participants must have at least a CEFR level B2 knowledge of English in order to be able to participate actively.

# Target Groups

CLIL post-education program is addressed to: school and preschool teachers, professors teaching in secondary education, foreign language teachers, educational councils, undergraduate or postgraduate college students. English B2 (Upper-Intermediate) is necessary.

# Methods & Tools

Lectures, discussions, group work, presentations, exercises, study visits, video- presentation, audiovisual tools, practical implementations, teaching proposals.



# Course Agenda

## Day 1

- Introductory meeting, explanation of practical arrangements.
- Presentation of timetable.
- Presentations of participating Organizations.
- Icebreakers, Introduction to the Course.

## Day 2

- Brief explanation and different perspectives of first language acquisition in early childhood.
- Childhood Bilingualism and benefits of second language acquisition in childhood

## Day 3

- Second language acquisition theories and applications.
- Behaviourism: mimicry and memorization.
- The innatist perspective: universal grammar and Krashen's 'monitor model'.
- Cultural Activities: Guided tour to the Historical Center of Heraklion.
- Dinner in a traditional restaurant of the town.

## Day 4

- Second language acquisition: a cognitivist/developmental perspective.
- Second language acquisition: a sociocultural perspective.
- Individual learner's differences and characteristics: learning styles, personality, motivation and attitudes, intelligence and identity.

## Day 5

### Study Visit

## Day 6

- Second language learning environments.
- Teacher-student interaction and student-student interaction.
- Presentations and discussion on proposals for second language teaching in classroom.
- Further suggestions for second language teaching in classroom.

## Day 7

- Erasmus+ program : objectives, priorities, actions, forms, budget, tips for applicants.
- Planning follow up activities, dissemination and exploitation of learning outcomes.
- Course Evaluation.
- Certifications.



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