



Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit

Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam - Exchange programme Vrije Universiteit - 2020-2021

Language Testing

Course Code	L_WABACIW309
Credits	6
Period	P5
Course Level	300
Language Of Tuition	English
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities
Course Coordinator	dr. M. Brill
Examiner	
Teaching Staff	
Teaching method(s)	Seminar, Lecture

Course Objective

The aim of this course is to gain insights into the assessment of linguistic performances in second language learners and children with a developmental language disorder. The focus of this course will be on the process of constructing language tests. This is a stepwise process during which theoretical and practical perspectives are discussed. Based on the construct of language proficiency, notions such as final attainment and proficiency levels, will be applied to (good) test items and finally, to a (good) language test. We will also focus on different purposes of assessment and the way how one can carry out some calculations related to the test's reliability.

Academic competences:

- * to develop good test items for language proficiency tests;
- * to critically evaluate the quality of language tests (e.g. validity and reliability);
- * to give a presentation on a modern language test;
- * to give a presentation on a subject related to the content of this course.

Course Content

Evaluating learning performances is a challenging and difficult task. Since we measure Language Proficiency, we need to know what this construct is about, how it can be operationalized and how it can be measured. Based on the test results we can draw conclusions on both the reliability of the test and on the learner's proficiency.

Teaching Methods

Seminars (2 x 2 hours per week).

Method of Assessment

Two presentations and one take-home exam. The presentation about the test analysis must be awarded 'complete' and is the prerequisite for the take-home exam. The presentation about a subject related to the content of this course will be 20% of the final grade, while the take-home exam will be 80%. Both elements must be evaluated as sufficient.

Entry Requirements

Students must have passed First Language Acquisition and Language Impairment, and Second Language Acquisition.

Literature

To be announced before the start of the course, on the Canvas page.

Target Audience

Third year students CIS, specialisation 'Language Learning and Language Teaching'.