CLS Colloquium Lunch Series

Cognitive and Developmental Aspects of Multilingualism

Our PI group investigates language acquisition and processing in a range of populations, including late second language learners and simultaneous and successive bilingual children, in both instructed and naturalistic settings. Sharon Unsworth will briefly introduce the group, after which Claire Goriot and Wendy van Ginkel will present two studies that show the diversity of work in the group.

Claire Goriot will discuss the question whether the executive functions of pupils enrolled in early-English education are different from those of their monolingually educated peers. Tests of executive functioning, Dutch and English vocabulary, and general intelligence were administered to 204 pupils who were in the first, fifth or last year of primary school. Approximately half of them attended an early-English school and had received English lessons since first grade ($M_{\text{minutes/week}} = 120$). We compared the difference in average scores between and within the early-English and control schools, taking into account all measures.

Wendy van Ginkel will present a survey being conducted to acquire information on different aspects of idiomatic expressions. In addition, she will discuss how different idiom and target word properties affect reaction times using idiomatic expressions as prime sentences in a lexical decision task. A comparison will also be made for native speakers of Dutch and German L1 Dutch L2 bilinguals on the same task.

When: Tuesday 16 May, 2017 12:45-13:45

Lunch is provided! To register, please send an email to: clscolloquium@let.ru.nl

Where: E2.50 (Erasmus Building)

For more information, see www.ru.nl/cls