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Second Language Acquisition: A Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary Approach

While many think of the field of Second Language Acquisition (SLA) as inherently inter- or multidisciplinary, this widely held belief is indeed quite far removed from reality. As is true for most academic disciplines, there are many experts in SLA who have found their specific niches and are focused on exclusively intradisciplinary approaches in the study of SLA. This development is to the detriment of SLA classes which are geared toward undergraduate students whose career goal it is to become language teachers. In an attempt to rectify this and, hopefully, allow future teachers to get the most out of their class on second and foreign language learning, I have reworked an existing undergraduate SLA syllabus to incorporate sources from various disciplines. Additionally, I took care to increase the value of the class by using a backwards design model that starts with and focuses on the students' needs above all else. (150 words)