

# Designing a multilingual course to support second and third language acquisition

**Birgit Huemer**

**Katrien Deroey**

**Eve Lejot**

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University of Luxembourg  
Language Centre (ULLC)

# The university is a multilingual environment

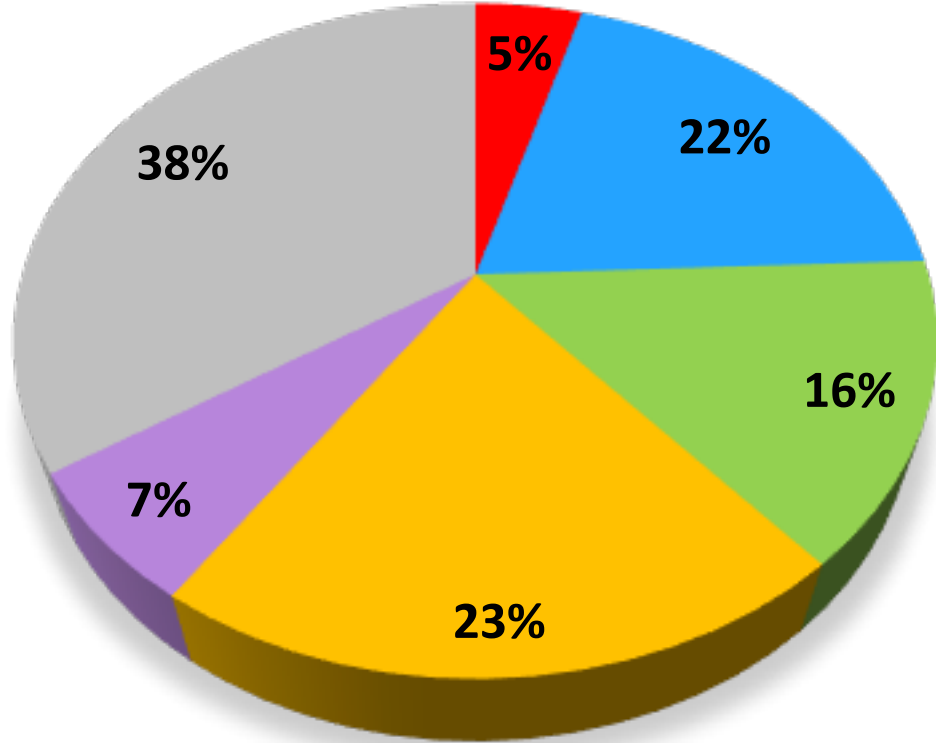
University languages: English, French, German

BA: bi- or multilingual

MA: c. 60% bi- or multilingual

Doctoral schools: mainly English

# The university is a multilingual environment



English French German Luxemburgish Portuguese Other

# Pilot 'Multilingual presentation skills': why?

'MA in Learning and Communication in Multilingual and Multicultural Contexts'

Multilingual resources

Demand for presentation skills

# Key learning outcomes

Clear, well-structured, context-appropriate, engaging presentation

Increased confidence to present and discuss in L2/L3

# Course organization

Elective, 2 ECTS, 18 participants

Five sessions of 3 hours

Three content sessions and teachers EN/FR/GE

Group & individual presentation

# Support

Slides in other language

Presentation phrases in all languages

Feedback checklist in all languages

Presentations recorded and sent

# Evaluation

Group and individual presentation

Written post-presentation reflection



# Findings

# Data sources

Pre-and post-course questionnaires

Presentation sign-up sheet

# The students

## Interest in multilingual communication

This type of course seems to be typically Luxembourgish to me (any language is welcome and you are expected to use the language you know in all circumstances) and that is also a reason for me to sign up.

Varied L1; L2/L3 level: English > German > French

Previous presentation training & experience

Aim: presentation skills & confidence

# Multilingual aims were achieved

Group presentations encourage L3

Sufficient support from group members

Individual presentations encourage L2 (English)

# Students benefited from and coped with multilingual input

‘Did the alternation between teaching languages (EN/FR/GE) stimulate your learning of these languages?’

 Yes

‘Did you use the translated PowerPoint slides when you didn't really understand something because of the language?’

 Most didn't

# Effects on confidence and insight were limited

'Did the course increase your confidence in presenting in your third (or other) language?'

 Lukewarm response

'Did the course help you identify what you need to improve in your third (or other) language to improve your presentation? '

 Mixed response

# How could the course be improved?

Course organization & communication

More practice

The system of less and most confident languages doesn't work in a proper way because for people who studies 2-3 languages from their childhood it doesn't make great effect.



# What did you like about the course?

Presentation feedback

Slide design

Multilingual format





# Lessons learnt

Works from A2 upwards

Only group presentations encourage L3

Small group sessions needed for individualized support

Contact:

[birgit.huemer@uni.lu](mailto:birgit.huemer@uni.lu)

[katrien.deroey@uni.lu](mailto:katrien.deroey@uni.lu)

[eve.lejot@uni.lu](mailto:eve.lejot@uni.lu)