Contrary to what we might expect, language learning seems easy for children, but tough for adults. We will examine how babies learn language, and the ways in which adult language learning may be different. Along the way, we'll cover topics relevant for language and linguistic theory, such as the neurological basis for language, modalities of language (spoken vs. signed), and speech pathology. We'll also discuss strategies for 2nd language teaching, and consider the factors that lead to successful 2nd language learning. On top of all that, we'll discuss how language affects the classroom and society in general, while we examine language varieties (standard versus non-standard), the development of reading and multilingualism. I hope to see you there!