

ABSTRACT

This dissertation titled Teaching English to Deaf and Hard-of-hearing University Students aims to portray a picture of the situation of teaching English to university students, more specifically of those studying at Charles University in Prague.

The work is divided into two main parts. The first part brings general insight, also from linguistic perspective, into language competences and language acquisition by the hearing impaired. It describes variables and possible variables affecting spoken language acquisition by this minority. It gives basic overview of different levels of hearing loss on the grounds of medicine assessment of hearing loss. The dissertation stresses out the necessity of educating these students with respect to linguistic research and findings. Moreover, it emphasizes the needs to interweave linguistics and pedagogy and benefits of linguistics research and methods such as error analysis and contrastive analysis for enhancement of language productive skills of hearing impaired students.

The second part of the dissertation is devoted to the research of English language teaching to hearing impaired students at Charles University in Prague. The work summarizes the findings of five-year long research carried out at the Language Resource Centre, Faculty of Arts, Charles University in Prague. It deals with teaching approaches, strategies and methods used during the lessons and suggests possible solutions for efficiency improvement. This dissertation also presents work of the Language Resource Centre and its significant contribution towards development of language teaching, more specifically, English language teaching, with respect to Czech university deaf, Deaf and hard-of-hearing students.