

## **LANGUAGE ACQUISITION IN TANDEM WITH BRAZILIAN PARTNERS: A SYSTEMIC-FUNCTIONAL APPROACH**

Institutions have long recognized the need of their learners to participate in education programs through a flexible delivery of instructions. Over the past twenty years, interest in the intersection of foreign language teaching, the language learning process and the use of technology has given rise to a dramatic increase in the number of studies in tandem and teletandem. Tandem is hereby defined as web-based interactions with foreign language pairs where learners use communication tools for L2 acquisition. Through the use of technological resources and in a collaborative way, participants can experience situations of real use of the target language by interacting with a native or a competent speaker. Tandem learning is based on principles of autonomy and reciprocity, at levels that vary according to the proposals and the aims of the process. In this presentation, I intend to bring the development and the current state of the tandem language learning in Brazil in the university context. The observation includes the analyses of learners' perceptions of the use of technologies, with a view to identifying areas for enhancing the effectiveness of e-learning. Adopting the theoretical framework provided by the Systemic-Functional Linguistics, I look at the interpersonal implications on the learning process and the most accepted and effective computer-mediated methodologies and environments for Brazilian learners. The presenter aims to shed light on the following core issues: (a) the levels of interest, rejection and responsibility of the Brazilian graduating students as autonomous learners and tandem partners; (b) The students' savvy in some software applications. (c) The cultural and personality traces of the Brazilian partners in f2f and distance interactions.

**KEYWORDS:** Tandem. Systemic-Functional Grammar. Language Acquisition.