

ET9D5-60 Dissertation

23/24

Department

Applied Linguistics

Level

Taught Postgraduate Level

Module leader

Troy McConachy

Credit value

60

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

100% coursework

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

N/A

Module aims

The dissertation will give students the opportunity to put theory into practice and design a small-scale study that is meaningful and relevant in their professional contexts. More specifically, it will encourage students to reflect critically on issues and debates within TESOL and identify a topic for further research. It will provide students with an opportunity to explore this topic in depth, to develop a critical literature review, a suitable methodology and an appropriate approach to data analysis. All students will undertake a small-scale research project, largely independently.

Outline syllabus

This is an indicative module outline only to give an indication of the sort of topics that may be covered. Actual sessions held may differ.

Students work with individual supervisors to develop their small-scale research projects. The starting point is the research proposal (submitted for the pre-requisite module: Research methods in TESOL).

Students can undertake small scale research projects relevant to the needs and interests in their context in any area of TESOL and they will be assisted in designing and undertaking a feasible, ethical and methodologically sound project.

Learning outcomes

By the end of the module, students should be able to:

- Demonstrate in-depth knowledge and understanding of a selected topic within TESOL.
- Identify knowledge gaps and develop research questions within an area of TESOL.
- Search the literature effectively and develop own literature review.
- Devise and carry out an appropriate, small scale research project within TESOL.
- Communicate ideas effectively both in writing and in oral presentations.
- Explain and justify the professional relevance of the research undertaken.
- Draw links between theory and professional practice.
- Develop principled approaches to research that are ethical, rigorous and relevant within TESOL.

Indicative reading list

Bell, M (2005) *Doing your Research Project: A guide for first-time Researchers in Education, Health*

and Social Science Milton Keynes: Open University Press.

Creswell, J W (2008) *Research Design, Qualitative, Quantitative and Mixed Methods Approaches* London: Sage.

Dörnyei Z (2007) *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics* Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Paltridge, B and A Phakiti (2015) *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics* London: Bloomsbury

Research element

This module is entirely research focussed. Students engage in small-scale research relevant to their own professional contexts in line with their specific interests within the broad area of TESOL.

Subject specific skills

- Explain and justify the professional relevance of the research undertaken.
- Draw links between theory and professional practice.
- Develop principled approaches to research that are ethical, rigorous and relevant within TESOL.

Transferable skills

- Identify knowledge gaps and develop research questions within an area of TESOL;
- Search the literature effectively and develop own literature review;
- Devise and carry out an appropriate, small scale research project within TESOL;
- Communicate ideas effectively both in writing and in oral presentations;
- Work independently;

- Plan and manage time and workload to meet interim and final deadlines.
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Study

Study time

Type	Required
Tutorials	5 sessions of 1 hour (1%)
Private study	595 hours (99%)
Total	600 hours

Private study description

- Search for relevant literature and engage in reading and self-study.
- Plan their empirical research, apply for ethical clearance, contact relevant research participants and plan and undertake a small scale study independently.
- Draft and re-draft chapters about the literature review, methodology, data analysis and discussion of the findings.

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You must pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group A1

	Weighting	Study time
Dissertation	100%	

Feedback on assessment

Students will get formative feedback on drafts of the main chapters and a summative report will be uploaded and published on Tabula.

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research
- TETS-X9PR Postgraduate Taught TESOL
 - Year 1 of X9PR TESOL
 - Year 1 of X9PR TESOL
- TETS-X9PS Postgraduate Taught TESOL (Part-time - 2 years)
 - Year 1 of X9PS TESOL (Part-time - 2 years)
 - Year 2 of X9PS TESOL (Part-time - 2 years)

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 1 of TIMA-L981 Postgraduate Social Science Research