

ET331-15 Quantitative Research

24/25

Department

Applied Linguistics

Level

Undergraduate Level 3

Module leader

Clay Beckner

Credit value

15

Module duration

10 weeks

Assessment

60% coursework, 40% exam

Study location

University of Warwick main campus, Coventry

Description

Introductory description

Quantitative research is an essential aspect of the social sciences and includes sampling methods and research designs such as experiments and quasi-experiments. Moreover, this module will help you to be confident in producing descriptive statistics and inferential statistical analyses like t-tests and correlations. These skills will be very useful not only for your academic studies, but also in your subsequent career.

[Module web page](#)

Module aims

This module aims to introduce selected data collection methods and analytical options relevant to language, culture and communication. This will further include the development of relevant skills in data collection and analysis as well as to engage critically with current issues in researching language, culture and communication using quantitative methods. Thus, this module will provide a solid foundation in relevant research skills and methods to allow students to undertake an in-depth study of issues relating to intercultural linguistics.

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.

The nature of quantitative research

Major principles of conducting quantitative research, strengths and weaknesses, etc.

Purpose of quantitative studies (descriptive, explorative, evaluative, predictive, explanatory, etc.)

Systematically designing quantitative research designs

The quantitative research process: An overview

Types of variables (nominal, ordinal, interval)

From research question to hypothesis

Overview and examples of basic quantitative research designs

Experimental designs, quasi-experimental/ ex-post facto designs, etc

Data collection procedures

Sampling techniques (e.g. random sampling, etc.)

Descriptive statistics: Theory and practice

Definition and use

Types of descriptive statistics (mean, median, quartiles, standard deviation, etc.)

Correlation analysis

Definition and use

Types of correlations (parametric, non-parametric, partial correlations, etc.)

Learning outcomes

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

- Identify different approaches to quantitative research and paradigmatic orientations underlying this methodological approach to analyse social phenomena
Critically evaluate data collection procedures and their impact on quantitative research designs
Describe and present relevant procedures for analysing data quantitatively
Critically assess research designs applied in published work

Indicative reading list

[Reading lists can be found in Talis](#)

[Specific reading list for the module](#)

Research element

Students will learn how to think critically about quantitative research methods, and will explore how to apply these methods in Applied Linguistics.

Interdisciplinary

This module integrates topics from Applied Linguistics, statistics and mathematics and illustrates principles using examples from across the social sciences, humanities and education.

Subject specific skills

Apply proper quantitative procedures in context and understand their limitations
Work and communicate effectively in multicultural teams
Systematically plan small-scale quantitative research studies
Know and properly apply key terminology related to quantitative research designs
Formulate precisely focused, answerable research questions and hypotheses
Identify relationships between different approaches of quantitative enquiries and understand their limitations and application in context
Perform basic statistical procedures and interpret them properly

Transferable skills

Systematically use analytical tools to find answers to defined research questions and hypotheses
Communicate and work effectively in teams
Present quantitative findings succinctly but precisely using key terminology

Study

Study time

Type	Required
Lectures	9 sessions of 2 hours (12%)
Seminars	9 sessions of 1 hour (6%)
Other activity	4 hours (3%)
Private study	119 hours (79%)
Total	150 hours

Private study description

Reading subject materials
Homework tasks
Assignments
Revision

Other activity description

Revision classes

Costs

No further costs have been identified for this module.

Assessment

You do not need to pass all assessment components to pass the module.

Assessment group D

Assessment component	Weighting	Study time	Eligible for self-certification
2000 word assignment	50%		Yes (extension)

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component			
750 word assignment	10%		Yes (extension)
Analysis of quantitative research, in preparation for subsequent assessments.			

Reassessment component is the same

Assessment component			
Centrally-timetabled examination (On-campus)	40%		No

- Answerbook Pink (12 page)

Reassessment component is the same

Feedback on assessment

Written feedback will be provided on one of the Department's standard feedback sheets, designed to conform to Faculty regulations. Where appropriate, additional feedback may be provided via personal meetings during office hours and individual arrangements.

[Past exam papers for ET331](#)

Availability

Courses

This module is Core for:

- Year 3 of UETA-X3Q5 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication
- Year 4 of UETA-X3Q8 Undergraduate Language, Culture and Communication (with Intercalated Year)
- Year 3 of UETA-Q310 in English Language and Linguistics
- Year 4 of UETA-Q311 in English Language and Linguistics (with Intercalated year)

This module is Core optional for:

- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T6 Undergraduate Linguistics with Arabic

This module is Optional for:

- Year 3 of UETA-Q1T1 Undergraduate Linguistics with Chinese
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R2 Undergraduate Linguistics with German
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R7 Undergraduate Linguistics with Russian
- Year 3 of UETA-Q1R4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish
- Year 4 of UETA-Q1A4 Undergraduate Linguistics with Spanish (with Intercalated Year)