



| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Course Code LALI-395 | Course Title Academic Research | ECTS Credits 6 |
| Department Languages and Literature | Semester Fall | Prerequisites LALI-141 LALI-221 |
| Type of Course Required | Field Language Teaching Literature | Language of Instruction English |
| Level of Course 1st Cycle | Year of Study 3 rd | Lecturer(s) Dr Chris Alexander/ Dr Rossie Artemis |
| Mode of Delivery Face-to-face | Work Placement N/A | Co-requisite None |

Objectives of the Course:

The main objectives of the course are to:

- develop the student's capacity for analysis, synthesis and interpretation
- develop skills in data gathering and analysis
- foster critical reasoning regarding the strengths and weaknesses of various methods of research
- develop research skills appropriate to the fields of Linguistics and Literature demonstrated in coherent assignments and projects
- develop the student's ability to work autonomously/independently

More specifically, this course highlights awareness of enduring issues in data gathering and analysis and of the strengths and weaknesses of various methods. An initial introductory range of qualitative and quantitative data gathering methods will be covered, such as: introduction to questionnaire design, an introduction to interviewing. Aspects of advanced questionnaire design will also be described i.e. attitude measurement, Likert scales, semantic differentials. The student will also become familiar with using the Internet for academic research and the importance of considering ethics in research. APA referencing style will be discussed and practised.

Learning Outcomes:

After completion of the course students are expected to be able to:

1. work independently with secondary literary sources in conjunction with

- particular primary texts;
2. analyse and evaluate secondary sources as to their appropriateness, methodology, bias, language level, and cultural content;
 3. master Internet and library database research;
 4. master the MLA (in literature) and APA referencing style (in linguistics);
 5. create a full research proposal (in literature and linguistics);
 6. design a sound questionnaire and semi-structured interview schedule;
 7. design research data collection that considers research ethics;
 8. undertake basic statistical analyses.
 9. create a full research proposal and give a presentation about their chosen research proposal.

Course Contents:

1. Introduction to course
2. Undertaking academic research: example of research question; quantitative-qualitative.
3. Literature Review: using the Internet for academic research
4. Questionnaires part one: lecture with questions
5. Questionnaires part two
6. Referencing in Applied Linguistics: Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA, 5th Edition).
7. Statistical analysis (mean/mode/median/standard deviation)
8. Interview schedule design and the principals of undertaking interview research
9. Workshops
10. Presentations
11. What is "Post-Colonial Studies"?
12. Past, Present and Future of the Colonial and the Postcolonial
13. Languages and Diversity
14. Literature, Interpretation and the Colonial/Post-Colonial
15. The postcolonial short story
16. The novel and postcoloniality

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, Discussions with class participation, workshops and Assignments

Assessment Methods:

Homework, Projects, Submission of a questionnaire or interview schedule, an APA bibliography review (at least 10 items with 30-50 word summary of each item), Research Proposal (approx 1000 words), Classroom Presentation

Required Textbooks/Reading:

| Authors | Title | Publisher | Year | ISBN |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Nunan, D | <i>Research Methods in Language Learning</i> | Cambridge | 1992 | 0321065069 |
| Baker, N. and N. Huling | <i>A Research Guide for Undergraduate Students: English and American Literature.</i> | MLA | 2006 | 9780873529242 |

Recommended Textbooks/Reading:

| Authors | Title | Publisher | Year | ISBN |
|------------------|--|------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| Dawson Catherine | <i>A practical guide to research methods</i> | Howtobooks | 2007 | 978-1-84528-230-1 |