



Course Syllabus

Course Code	Course Title	ECTS Credits
PHD-700	Research Methods	15
Prerequisites	Department	Semester
None	Languages and Literature	Fall/Spring
Type of Course	Field	Language of Instruction
Core	TESOL	English
Level of Course	Lecturer	Year of Study
3 rd Cycle	Dr Maria Economidou-Kogetsidis	1 st
Mode of Delivery	Work Placement	Corequisites
Conventional	N/A	None

Course Objectives:

This course aims to develop a knowledge and understanding of research techniques relevant to the language teaching and learning context. More specifically, the course will:

- Provide insight in the role of methodology in a professional doctorate and review the approaches, tools and techniques by which researchers can generate and apply knowledge.
- Illustrate considerations on ontology, epistemology and methodology.
- Enhance students' ability to acquire and demonstrate understanding of the methodological schools and critically review them to assess their proper applicability in different research settings.
- Demonstrate a variety of methods for collecting, analysing and using data in developing a systematic understanding of a field of study in TESOL.
- Familiarise students with descriptive and field-based interpretative methods of analysis including the analysis of verbal data, case study and ethnographic inquiry.

Learning Outcomes:

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

1. demonstrate an understanding of the principles of research;
2. demonstrate a systematic understanding of research methodology and methods appropriate to their particular field of study and research topic;
3. develop skills in conducting a systematic literature review;

4. demonstrate an understanding of the principles of qualitative and quantitative research methods;
5. become aware of issues of interpretation, representation and trustworthiness in qualitative research.

Course Content:

- What is research – What makes good research;
- Epistemological foundations: the nature of knowledge; propositional knowledge, Platonic views (truth, belief, knowledge); normative and naturalistic; scepticism; empiricism, pragmatism, rationalism, constructivism, positivism, interpretivism;
- Constructing research questions and construing research problems;
- Data and choice of methods of inquiry; primary and secondary data;
- Collection of Qualitative data;
- Collection of Quantitative data;
- Literature review;
- Quality criteria and research ethics;
- Mixed research methods;
- Writing up the research proposal;
- Reporting research results;
- Choice of subjects;
- Questionnaires;
- Interviewing;
- Classroom Research;
- Narrative inquiry

Learning Activities and Teaching Methods:

Lectures, cooperative learning sessions, self-directed reading, conducting a systematic literature review, initial research proposal on student's own scholarship.

Assessment Methods:

Assignment, Initial Research Proposal

Required Textbooks / Readings:

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
Demystify your thesis	Adams, Ron	Victoria University	2013	N/A
Research Methods in Applied Linguistics: Quantitative, Qualitative and Mixed methodologies	Dornyei, Zoltan	Oxford University Press	2007	978-0194422581
Research Methods in Education	Cohen Louis and Manion Lawrence	Routledge	2017	978-1138209886

Recommended Textbooks / Readings:

Additional book(s)/reading material that would support the course (but not a requirement).

Title	Author(s)	Publisher	Year	ISBN
The Craft of Research	Booth Wayne, Greg Colomb and Joseph Williams	The University of Chicago press.	2016	978-0226239736
The Unwritten rules of PhD Research	Petre Marian and Gordon Rugg	Open University Press	2004	B01F9GH1D8
How to write a better thesis	Gruba Paul and David Evans	Springer	2011	978-3-319-04285-5 (Print) 978-3-319-04286-2 (Online)
Qualitative research Methods for Second Language Education, A Coursebook.	Nugrahenny, Z.	Cambridge Scholars.	2012	978-1443835510
How to Write a Thesis	Murray, R.	Maidenhead: Open University Press	2011	978-0335244287

Quantitative Methods in Educational and Social Research Using SPSS	Tolmie A., McAteer E., Muijs D	Open University Press	2011	978- 0335233779
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