TRAN908

Research Methods in Translation and Interpreting Studies

S2 Day 2019

Dept of Linguistics

Contents

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General Information

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Credit points
4

Prerequisites
TRAN870 or (admission to MConfInt or MAccComm)

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit is designed to provide students with an overview of some of the most important research methodologies used in research on translation and interpreting. Students will be introduced to a range of areas and models in translation and interpreting research as well as different approaches to research. The formulation of research topics, questions, aims and hypotheses will be discussed with reference to examples, and students will get the opportunity to formulate research topics, motivate their choice of research topic, formulate research questions and explore appropriate methodologies for answering the research questions. They will also be introduced to library research in working on literature reviews and ultimately create a research plan in the form of a research proposal which they will have to present orally in their group. By planning individual research projects based on the theoretical knowledge and practical skills acquired in earlier units, and more systematic readings on research methodologies, the students will be guided to explore T&I related areas from multiple perspectives and to use their acquired expertise and knowledge to conduct systematic inquiry.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at https://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this unit, you will be able to:

Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.

Demonstrate a comprehensive, informed and systematic understanding of key historical and contemporary developments in translation and interpreting research methods.

Identify unfamiliar concrete and abstract translation and interpreting research problems by means of sophisticated theoretical reflection, and assess previous research.

Apply linguistic skills and knowledge to investigate, analyse and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories within the fields of T&I.

Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

General Assessment Information

How to apply for a late submission of an assignment

All requests for special consideration, including extensions, must be submitted via https://ask.mq.edu.au/ and provide suitable supporting documentation. Contact your unit convenor first for advice, especially in the case of an emergency or if you are unsure about the extension policy.

Late Assignment Submission

- Late submissions without an extension will receive a penalty of 5% of the total mark available for the assignment per day
- Late submission of an assignment without an extension will not be permitted after marks have been released to the rest of the class.
- Extensions will only be given in special circumstances, and can be requested by completing the Special Consideration request at ask.mq.edu.au and providing the requisite supporting documentation. For more information on Special Consideration, see the university website https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration
- Assignments submitted after the deadline, regardless of the reason, will be marked and returned at a date determined by the unit convenor.
- Extensions cannot continue beyond the start of the following semester except under exceptional circumstances, and students should be aware that long extensions may impact graduation dates.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Literature review	20%	No	Week 7
Research Methodology	20%	No	Week 10
Oral presentation of research	10%	No	Weeks 12 and 13
Research proposal	50%	No	Week 13

Literature review

Due: **Week 7**
Weighting: **20%**

Students present a critical literature review of studies that have dealt with their research topic and formulate the main research questions. (1500 words).

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.
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Research Methodology

Due: **Week 10**
Weighting: **20%**

Students provide a detailed research methodology for their proposed study, describing the material they will use in their study and their sample and the type of data.

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- Identify unfamiliar concrete and abstract translation and interpreting research problems by means of sophisticated theoretical reflection, and assess previous research.
- Apply linguistic skills and knowledge to investigate, analyse and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories within the fields of T&I.
- Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Oral presentation of research

Due: **Weeks 12 and 13**
Weighting: **10%**

The oral presentation is a summary of the research project and its contextualisation.

On successful completion you will be able to:
- Apply linguistic skills and knowledge to investigate, analyse and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories within the fields of T&I.

  - Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Research proposal

Due: **Week 13**
Weighting: **50%**

The research proposal is the framework of the research. It should be between 2000 and 2500 words and should include the literature review and methodology as revised and the schedule.

On successful completion you will be able to:

  - Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.
  - Apply linguistic skills and knowledge to investigate, analyse and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories within the fields of T&I.
  - Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Delivery and Resources

This subject requires full attendance at lectures and tutorials. Students are required to attend one lecture each week. The lectures will also be made available through Echo recordings and the iLearn site for TRAN908 for later reference.

To login to the website, go to https://ilearn.mq.edu.au/login/MQ/. You will have access to the TRAN 908 website from Monday July 30, 2018. You'll find it has a range of resources for the unit (links, discussion forums, postings etc).

For general information about iLearn and how it works, start by checking:

http://www.mq.edu.au/iLearn/studentinfo.htm

For specific student guides on accessing discussions, etc., go to:

http://www.mq.edu.au/iLearn/student_info/guides.htm

At the end of the first lecture students will be assigned to one of three tutorial groups. Each group will have a maximum of 10 to 15 students. The tutor will then be available every week to guide students through the different research methodologies, and for developing their own research proposal. Please note: Although the tutorial times are allocated for 2 hours it is not expected that students meet with their tutors for 2 hours each week. Students should expect to meet with their tutor for 1-2 hours, and the remaining hour students will be able to stay in the

tutorial room to discuss their work with other students if required.

Unit Schedule

1 Introduction. What is research?

2 Deciding on a research topic.

3 Asking the right questions. Research proposal.

4 Finding resources.

5 What has been done? Areas in translation research.

6 Contextualising your problem.

7 Literature review.

8 Finding the best way to answer your research questions.

9 Conducting surveys.

10 Studying the process: Case studies and think-aloud protocols.

11 Studying the process: Observational studies.

12 Studying the product: Comparative analysis and corpus studies.

13 Conclusion: The way forward.

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from Policy Central (https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central). Students should be aware of the following policies in particular with regard to Learning and Teaching:

- Academic Appeals Policy
- Academic Integrity Policy
- Academic Progression Policy
- Assessment Policy
- Fitness to Practice Procedure
- Grade Appeal Policy
- Complaint Management Procedure for Students and Members of the Public
- Special Consideration Policy *(**Note:** The Special Consideration Policy is effective from 4 December 2017 and replaces the Disruption to Studies Policy.)*

Undergraduate students seeking more policy resources can visit the Student Policy Gateway (https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/student-policy-gateway). It is your one-stop-shop for the key policies you need to know about throughout your undergraduate student journey.

If you would like to see all the policies relevant to Learning and Teaching visit Policy Central (http

s://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: https://students.mq.edu.au/study/getting-started/student-conduct

Results

Results published on platform other than eStudent, (eg. iLearn, Coursera etc.) or released directly by your Unit Convenor, are not confirmed as they are subject to final approval by the University. Once approved, final results will be sent to your student email address and will be made available in eStudent. For more information visit ask.mq.edu.au or if you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

Student Support

Macquarie University provides a range of support services for students. For details, visit http://students.mq.edu.au/support/

Learning Skills

Learning Skills (mq.edu.au/learningskills) provides academic writing resources and study strategies to improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module for Students
- Ask a Learning Adviser

Student Services and Support

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact the Disability Service who can provide appropriate help with any issues that arise during their studies.

Student Enquiries

For all student enquiries, visit Student Connect at ask.mq.edu.au

If you are a Global MBA student contact globalmba.support@mq.edu.au

IT Help

For help with University computer systems and technology, visit http://www.mq.edu.au/about_us/offices_and_units/information_technology/help/.

When using the University's IT, you must adhere to the Acceptable Use of IT Resources Policy. The policy applies to all who connect to the MQ network including students.

Graduate Capabilities

PG - Capable of Professional and Personal Judgment and Initiative

Our postgraduates will demonstrate a high standard of discernment and common sense in their professional and personal judgment. They will have the ability to make informed choices and decisions that reflect both the nature of their professional work and their personal perspectives.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Apply linguistic skills and knowledge to investigate, analyse and synthesize complex information, problems, concepts and theories within the fields of T&I.
- Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Assessment tasks

- Literature review
- Research Methodology
- Oral presentation of research
- Research proposal

PG - Discipline Knowledge and Skills

Our postgraduates will be able to demonstrate a significantly enhanced depth and breadth of knowledge, scholarly understanding, and specific subject content knowledge in their chosen fields.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.
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benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Assessment tasks

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- Research Methodology
- Oral presentation of research
- Research proposal

PG - Critical, Analytical and Integrative Thinking

Our postgraduates will be capable of utilising and reflecting on prior knowledge and experience, of applying higher level critical thinking skills, and of integrating and synthesising learning and knowledge from a range of sources and environments. A characteristic of this form of thinking is the generation of new, professionally oriented knowledge through personal or group-based critique of practice and theory.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.
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Assessment tasks

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PG - Research and Problem Solving Capability

Our postgraduates will be capable of systematic enquiry; able to use research skills to create new knowledge that can be applied to real world issues, or contribute to a field of study or practice to enhance society. They will be capable of creative questioning, problem finding and

problem solving.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcomes

- Select, apply and integrate principles, techniques and theoretical approaches within translation and interpreting studies in applications of theory to quantitative, qualitative and mixed-methods research practice.
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Assessment tasks

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PG - Effective Communication

Our postgraduates will be able to communicate effectively and convey their views to different social, cultural, and professional audiences. They will be able to use a variety of technologically supported media to communicate with empathy using a range of written, spoken or visual formats.

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Assessment tasks

- Research Methodology
- Oral presentation of research
- Research proposal

PG - Engaged and Responsible, Active and Ethical Citizens

Our postgraduates will be ethically aware and capable of confident transformative action in relation to their professional responsibilities and the wider community. They will have a sense of connectedness with others and country and have a sense of mutual obligation. They will be able to appreciate the impact of their professional roles for social justice and inclusion related to national and global issues

This graduate capability is supported by:

Learning outcome

- Communicate theoretical concepts relevant to translating and interpreting theory for the benefit of peers, clients and the general public.

Assessment tasks

- Research Methodology
- Oral presentation of research
- Research proposal

Unit description.

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