



APPL7020

Designing and Conducting Language-related Research

Session 1, Weekday attendance, North Ryde 2020

Dept of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MRes

Corequisites

Co-badged status

APPL8020

Unit description

Acquiring advanced research knowledge and developing research skills is integral to and a core element in master of research program. In this unit, students will be exposed to main research methodologies including quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods; they will also be involved with research activities through learning and assessment tasks. By completing this unit, it is anticipated that students master critical concepts in research and be able to apply different research methods by preparing research proposals on topics of their interest.

Important Academic Dates

Information about important academic dates including deadlines for withdrawing from units are available at <https://students.mq.edu.au/important-dates>

Learning Outcomes

ULO1: Identify & communicate a research topic to a professional audience

ULO2: Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research

ULO3: Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning

ULO4: Develop your research and writing skills to write a research proposal

ULO5: Conduct and report a small-scale replication study to answer your research questions

General Assessment Information

Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliograph

An annotated bibliography is a list of sources and annotations (summary and evaluation) on a selected topic arranged in alphabetical order. Each annotation should have three parts. The first part is the bibliographic information of the source which should strictly follow APA style. The second part of each annotation includes a concise summary of the content and methodology of the study (what problem was investigated using which methods and with what results?). The third part of the annotation should include your reflection (critical evaluation of the study) and its relevance to the theme of the AB (your chosen topic or area of interest). Roughly, the summary and the evaluation of each stud should have a 70% to 30% proportion.

Assessment Task 2: Research Proposal

Assignment 2 is **a proposal for a small-scale replication project**. Choose the article you suggested for replication in assignment 1 and write your proposal for a small-scale replication study. You may reduce the scope of the replication in terms of research questions, data collection instruments, sample, data collection and analysis procedures, etc. to cope with the time constraints you have.

Outline of assignment 2

1. **Introduction:** Introduce your topic (area) and its importance (theoretically and practically). You can use Assignment 1 to prepare this section, however, you need to tweak it to fit into the scope of this assignment. Then identify the article you have chosen for replication.
2. **Literature review:** Provide a brief and relevant literature review (use your review paper from Assignment 1 to write this part).
3. **Purpose and research questions:** State the general purpose of the proposed study, and formulate some (1-2) specific research questions and/or research hypotheses to be investigated.
4. **Methods:** Provide details of how the study will be conducted. Use the original article you are going to replicate, but change the design, sample, instruments, and procedures so that you can carry out a small-scale study within your time limit.
 - Research design and method (The design of your study and the specific research methods you will use to investigate the research problem and answer research questions)
 - Operationalization of key concepts/constructs & identification of variables (if relevant)
 - Participants (sampling procedure, numbers, characteristics)
 - Instruments of data collection, reliability and validity of the instruments (append examples if appropriate)

- Procedures for data collection and analysis
- Ethical issues to be considered in your study

A reference list must be provided at the end of the proposal in alphabetical order and according to APA writing style. There should be a one-to-one correspondence between the works cited in the body of your proposal and the ones in your reference list. Any appendix will be placed after references.

Assessment Task 3: Research Report

Assignment 3 is a **research report of a small-scale study** you'll complete. Follow the structure of Introduction (including selective Literature Review), Methods, Results, Discussion and Conclusion (IMRDC) (See Chapter 3 of your Interactive Text). Since you have already submitted a literature review (Assignment 2), only a selective part of it (significant sources and arguments) should be included in the Introduction.

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 required 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, and students should be aware that long extensions may impact graduation dates.

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Group Oral Presentation	10%	No	All through the semester
Research Proposal	20%	No	26/04/2020
Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography	20%	No	29/03/2020
Research Report	25%	No	14/06/2020

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Active Participation</u>	25%	No	All through the semester

Group Oral Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 5 hours

Due: **All through the semester**

Weighting: **10%**

Students will prepare individual presentations on the chosen topic to be presented as a group.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify & communicate a research topic to a professional audience
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research
- Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning

Research Proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Professional writing

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **26/04/2020**

Weighting: **20%**

Based on their first assessment task, students will prepare a research proposal to be communicated with a professional audience for a small-scale replication study.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify & communicate a research topic to a professional audience
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research
- Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning
- Develop your research and writing skills to write a research proposal

Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography

Assessment Type ¹: Annotated bibliography

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **29/03/2020**

Weighting: **20%**

Students will choose a research topic and will search the published literature to prepare an annotated bibliography on the chosen topic.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify & communicate a research topic to a professional audience
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research
- Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning
- Develop your research and writing skills to write a research proposal

Research Report

Assessment Type ¹: Report

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **14/06/2020**

Weighting: **25%**

Students will conduct and report a small-scale replication study.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research
- Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning
- Develop your research and writing skills to write a research proposal
- Conduct and report a small-scale replication study to answer your research questions

Active Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **All through the semester**

Weighting: **25%**

Students will show their active participation through class and online discussion as well as completion of the interactive learning activities of the assigned text.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of different approaches to research
- Conceive and formulate research questions/hypotheses relating to language study and language learning
- Conduct and report a small-scale replication study to answer your research questions

¹ If you need guidance or support to understand or complete this type of assessment, please contact the Learning Skills Team

² Indicative time-on-task is an estimate of the time required for completion of the assessment task and is subject to individual variation

Delivery and Resources

The learning and teaching strategies used in this Unit include individual study, in-class face to face lectures and in-class and online discussion Forums. Face-to-face weekly lectures include a two-hour lecture and a one-hour tutorial.

The unit convenor will be monitoring the online discussion. If you have any general questions, concerns, and comments these may be posted on the Forum in iLearn. However, should you have any personal issues (e.g. requests for extensions etc.) then these should be addressed directly to the unit convenor at mehdi.riazi@mq.edu.au

The online discussion provides students (especially external students) the opportunity to interact and exchange ideas with other classmates to consolidate their understanding of theoretical concepts. Both internal and external students are urged to take part in online discussions as relating to weekly topics.

For the recommended textbook and other resources refer to Unit Guide in iLearn.

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) (<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.*)

Students seeking more policy resources can visit the [Student Policy Gateway](https://students.mq.edu.au/support/study/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](https://staff.mq.edu.au/work/strategy-planning-and-governance/university-policies-and-procedures/policy-central) (<https://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 Enquiry Service

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

Equity 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.

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.