APPL7020

Designing and Conducting Language-related Research

Session 2, Special circumstance 2020

Department of Linguistics

Contents

Notice

As part of Phase 3 of our return to campus plan, most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group learning activities on campus for the second half-year, while keeping an online version available for those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face and online activities for your unit, please go to timetable viewer. To check detailed information on unit assessments visit your unit's iLearn space or consult your unit convenor.

General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff
Mehdi Riazi
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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://www.mq.edu.au/study/calendar-of-dates

Learning Outcomes

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

ULO1: Identify and 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 or a replication study to answer your research

questions

General Assessment Information

Late Assignment Submission

- If assignments are submitted after the due date without an approved extension, they are deemed late. Late submissions will receive a 5% per day penalty and will not be marked if more than 2 weeks late.

- All 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.

- 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

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
Active Participation	25%	No	All through the semester
Group Oral Presentation	10%	No	Weeks 3, 5, 6, 8, 9
Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography	20%	No	Sunday, August 30
Research Proposal	20%	No	Sunday, September 27
Research Report	25%	No	Sunday, November 8

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 online Zoom meetings, discussion in iLearn, and completion of the exercises and learning activities in the interactive 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 or a replication study to answer your research questions

Group Oral Presentation

Assessment Type [1]: Presentation
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 5 hours
Due: **Weeks 3, 5, 6, 8, 9**
Weighting: **10%**

Students will prepare and present two group oral presentations on the sample studies.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and 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

Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography

Assessment Type [1]: Annotated bibliography
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 10 hours
Due: **Sunday, August 30**
Weighting: **20%**

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

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and 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 Proposal

Assessment Type [1]: Professional writing
Indicative Time on Task [2]: 10 hours
Due: **Sunday, September 27**
Weighting: **20%**

Based on the 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 and 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: **Sunday, November 8**
Weighting: **25%**

Students will conduct and report a small-scale or a 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 or a replication study to answer your research questions

[1] If you need help with your assignment, please contact:

- the academic teaching staff in your unit for guidance in understanding or completing this type of assessment
- the Writing Centre for academic skills support.

[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, online lectures, and Discussion Forums. Weekly lectures include a two-hour lecture and discussion and a one-hour group 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 through communication with your teacher in iLearn or at mehdi.riazi@mq.edu.au

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

Required Textbook:

The following text is the "required" text for this unit.

Riazi, M. (2018). *Research methods in language studies: An interactive text.* Top Hat.

The following books are "optional" and good to consult.

Riazi. A.M. (2016). *The Routledge Encyclopedia of Research Methods in Applied Linguistics*. London: Routledge.

Paltridge, B., & Phakiti, A. (Eds.)(2015). *Research methods in applied linguistics.* NY: Bloomsbury Publications.

Riazi, A.M. (2017). *Mixed methods research in language teaching and learning*. London: Equinox.

Unit Schedule

Week	Topic	Presenter	Required reading(s)	Recommended readings	Tasks & Assignments

1	Introduction to Research Methods: Overview of the unit and assignments Primary vs. Secondary research	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 1	--	Read about the first assignment (Annotated Bibliography) in Chapter 1 Identify your area of interest (topic)
2	Conducting Secondary Research: Knowing about and searching databases	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 2	--	Read Chapter 2 carefully and complete the learning activities Prepare a list of articles for your AB (First Assignment)
3	Writing Academically: Writing up research	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 3	--	Presentation of research topics Internal students (ISs) present in class External students (ESs) present in online "Forum" Read Chapter 3 carefully and prepare Assignment 1
4	Conducting Primary Research: Overview of three research paradigms: quantitative, qualitative, and mixed-methods research	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 4	Cumming (1994)	**Assignment 1 is due on Sunday, August 30 at 23:55 Sydney time** Read Chapter 4 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 4
5	Conducting Quantitative Research: Surveys and correlational studies	Group Oral Presentation (GOP)	Riazi (2018) Chapter 5	Surveys (Wagner, 2013)-Accessible from MQ Online Library	Read Chapter 5 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 5
6	Conducting Quantitative Research: Experimental designs	Group Oral Presentation (GOP)	Riazi (2018) Chapter 6	--	Read Chapter 6 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 6
7	Collecting and Analysing Quantitative Data	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 7	Brown, J.D. (1991)	Read Chapter 7 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 7

Recess (Sept. 14-27)

Assignment 2 is due on Sunday, September 27 at 23:55 Sydney Time

8	Conducting Qualitative Research: Case study and ethnography	Group Oral Presentation (GOP)	Riazi (2018) Chapter 8	Case study (Duff, 2013)- Accessible from MQ Online Library Richards (2009)	Read Chapter 8 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 8
9	Conducting Qualitative Research: Discourse analysis and narrative inquiry	Group Oral Presentation (GOP)	Riazi (2018) Chapter 9	Narrative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition (Pomerantz, 2013)- Accessible from MQ Online Library	Read Chapter 9 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 9
10	Preparing for Assignment 3: Elaboration & data collection	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 4	--	Decide on the method and start data collection
11	Analysing Qualitative Data	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 10	Maguire & Delahunt (2017)	Read Chapter 10 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 10
12	Mixed-methods research	Mehdi Riazi	Riazi (2018) Chapter 11	Riazi (2017) Riazi & Candlin (2014) Teddlie & Tashakkori (2006)	Read Chapter 11 carefully and complete "Learning Activity" of Chapter 11
13	Ethical issues in research*	Peter Roger	Riazi (2018) Chapter 13	Thomas (2009) Rieschild (2003)	**Assignment 3 due on Sunday, November 8 at 23:55 Sydney Time**

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.)*

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 (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 help you improve your marks and take control of your study.

- Getting help with your assignment
- Workshops
- StudyWise
- Academic Integrity Module

The Library provides online and face to face support to help you find and use relevant information resources.

- Subject and Research Guides
- Ask a Librarian

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.