



APPL8020

Research Methods in Language Study

Session 1, Special circumstances 2021

Department of Linguistics

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Notice

As part of [Phase 3 of our return to campus plan](#), most units will now run tutorials, seminars and other small group activities on campus, and most will keep an online version available to those students unable to return or those who choose to continue their studies online.

To check the availability of face-to-face 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

Convenor

Peter Roger

peter.roger@mq.edu.au

Contact via +61 2 9850 9650

12 Second Way, Room 505

Flexible - e-mail to arrange

Lecturer

Cassi Liardet

cassi.liardet@mq.edu.au

Contact via e-mail

Lecturer

Ingrid Piller

ingrid.piller@mq.edu.au

Contact via e-mail

Lecturer

Adam Smith

adam.smith@mq.edu.au

Contact via e-mail

Margaret Wood

margaret.wood@mq.edu.au

Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MAccComm or MAppLing or MAppLingTESOL or MTransInter or MConflnt or MAdvTransInterStud or MTransInterMAppLingTESOL

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit focuses on general principles of research and the use of research methods in language studies. It covers the whole process of research from choosing a topic, searching the related literature on the topic, and formulating research questions, to collecting and analysing data and writing up research reports. The exploration of quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods, discourse analysis and corpus linguistics methodologies develops students' research literacy to understand research reports and to design research projects. Research ethics and writing up a formal research proposal are two other components of this unit.

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:** Critically review and synthesise published literature related to the topic of your proposed research and communicate with a professional audience
- ULO3:** Explain the basic underlying principles of five broad research approaches in applied language studies: quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed-methods research, discourse analysis, and corpus linguistics
- ULO4:** Conceive, formulate and operationalise research questions/hypotheses relating to an area of language-related research
- ULO5:** Creatively design and present a formal written research proposal for an original small-scale study in an area of language study

General Assessment Information

1. All assessment due dates and times refer to local time in Sydney, Australia
2. Full instructions for each assignment, together with marking criteria and instructions for submission, will be available on iLearn
3. Extensions for assignments can be sought by applying for special consideration via ask.mq.edu.au - please advise the unit convenor as well if you have submitted a request for special consideration
4. Assignments submitted late without an extension may be penalised at 5% of the total marks available for the assignment per day late

Assessment Tasks

| Name | Weighting | Hurdle | Due |
|---|-----------|--------|---------------------------------------|
| Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography | 30% | No | Week 7 |
| Active Participation | 20% | No | Progressively throughout the semester |
| Research Topic Presentation | 10% | No | Week 10 |
| Research Proposal | 40% | No | Week 14 |

Assessment Task 1: Annotated Bibliography

Assessment Type ¹: Annotated bibliography

Indicative Time on Task ²: 25 hours

Due: **Week 7**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will choose a topic and search databases and library resources to select relevant published articles to write an annotated bibliography (1500 words)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and communicate a research topic to a professional audience
- Critically review and synthesise published literature related to the topic of your proposed research and communicate with a professional audience
- Explain the basic underlying principles of five broad research approaches in applied language studies: quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed-methods research, discourse analysis, and corpus linguistics

Active Participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Progressively throughout the semester**

Weighting: **20%**

Students are required to participate actively in online discussions as well as complete learning

activities progressively in the interactive text.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically review and synthesise published literature related to the topic of your proposed research and communicate with a professional audience
- Explain the basic underlying principles of five broad research approaches in applied language studies: quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed-methods research, discourse analysis, and corpus linguistics
- Creatively design and present a formal written research proposal for an original small-scale study in an area of language study

Research Topic Presentation

Assessment Type ¹: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task ²: 10 hours

Due: **Week 10**

Weighting: **10%**

Each student will prepare an 8-10 minute PowerPoint presentation on their chosen research topic and present it in class or online.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Identify and communicate a research topic to a professional audience
- Critically review and synthesise published literature related to the topic of your proposed research and communicate with a professional audience
- Conceive, formulate and operationalise research questions/hypotheses relating to an area of language-related research

Research Proposal

Assessment Type ¹: Plan

Indicative Time on Task ²: 30 hours

Due: **Week 14**

Weighting: **40%**

Students will write a formal written literature review and research proposal for a small-scale study in an area of language-related research (2500 words)

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Critically review and synthesise published literature related to the topic of your proposed research and communicate with a professional audience
- Explain the basic underlying principles of five broad research approaches in applied language studies: quantitative research, qualitative research, mixed-methods research, discourse analysis, and corpus linguistics
- Conceive, formulate and operationalise research questions/hypotheses relating to an area of language-related research
- Creatively design and present a formal written research proposal for an original small-scale study in an area of language study

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

Delivery

APPL8020 will be available both externally (online) and internally (on campus). A weekly on-campus lecture-seminar will be held in 01 Central Courtyard Room 205 on Mondays from 3 PM - 5 PM. These sessions will be live-streamed on Zoom, and will also be recorded for all students to access during the semester.

The iLearn site for APPL8020 will contain details of assessment tasks, weekly readings, discussion forums, lecture slides and additional resources.

Readings

The prescribed textbook is *Research Methods in Language Study: A Top Hat Interactive Text* designed specifically for this unit. Below are instructions for purchasing and accessing the book.

How do you get the book? 1. Click on this link: <https://app.tophat.com/e/172208> 2. Sign-up for a Top Hat online account (\$14.00) 3. Follow the prompts to access the textbook (\$50.00)

If you need any assistance with setting up your account or downloading your interactive text, please see these Support Articles to help:

- [Watch this video for a quick start guide](#)
- [Learn more about Top Hat's iOS App](#)
- [Learn more about Top Hat's Android App](#)
- [Managing your Account Settings](#)
- [Learn tips for success and how to use your textbook](#)

Your textbook will be applied at checkout for the total cost of \$64.00.

Weekly readings to accompany the lectures will also be provided through the Macquarie University Library (via Leganto on the APPL8020 iLearn site)

Policies and Procedures

Macquarie University policies and procedures are accessible from [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au). 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](#)

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

To find other policies relating to Teaching and Learning, visit [Policy Central \(https://policies.mq.edu.au\)](https://policies.mq.edu.au) and use the [search tool](#).

Student Code of Conduct

Macquarie University students have a responsibility to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct: <https://students.mq.edu.au/admin/other-resources/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.