



APPL8240

Language Testing and Evaluation

Session 2, Online-flexible 2022

Department of Linguistics

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General Information

Unit convenor and teaching staff

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Credit points

10

Prerequisites

Admission to MAppLing or MAppLingTESOL or MTransInterMAppLingTESOL or MEd

Corequisites

Co-badged status

Unit description

This unit covers key concepts and issues in language testing and provides students with principles and techniques for designing and evaluating language tests and assessment tasks. Functions of language tests, models of language proficiency, assessment of language skills and components, and frame of reference for interpreting test scores are among the topics discussed in this unit. The unit also focuses on other issues such as test usefulness framework and language tests in social contexts. Overall, the aim of the unit is to develop assessment literacy in current or future teachers.

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: Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment

ULO2: Critically evaluate issues and challenges in assessing language skills and components

ULO3: Identify and communicate key features of quality assessment to a professional audience

ULO4: Apply quality assessment features to a language tests and assessment tasks to evaluate their usefulness

ULO5: Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the main concepts, purposes, and procedures in language testing

Assessment Tasks

Name	Weighting	Hurdle	Due
<u>Assessment Task 1: Annotated bibliography</u>	25%	No	Week 4
<u>Review paper</u>	30%	No	18 Sept
<u>Group oral presentation</u>	15%	No	Weeks 10-13 as scheduled
<u>Final test</u>	25%	No	Week 13
<u>Active participation</u>	5%	No	Week 13

Assessment Task 1: Annotated bibliography

Assessment Type ¹: Annotated bibliography

Indicative Time on Task ²: 15 hours

Due: **Week 4**

Weighting: **25%**

Choose an issue or challenge related to a module in a language test; search the databases and prepare an annotated bibliography

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment
- Critically evaluate issues and challenges in assessing language skills and components
- Apply quality assessment features to a language tests and assessment tasks to evaluate their usefulness

Review paper

Assessment Type ¹: Essay

Indicative Time on Task ²: 20 hours

Due: **18 Sept**

Weighting: **30%**

Students will change their first assessment task (annotated bibliography) into an essay.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment
- Critically evaluate issues and challenges in assessing language skills and components
- Identify and communicate key features of quality assessment to a professional audience
- Apply quality assessment features to a language tests and assessment tasks to evaluate their usefulness
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the main concepts, purposes, and procedures in language testing

Group oral presentation

Assessment Type **1**: Presentation

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 5 hours

Due: **Weeks 10-13 as scheduled**

Weighting: **15%**

Students will prepare and present a group oral presentation on their chosen topics for the first assessment task

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment
- Critically evaluate issues and challenges in assessing language skills and components
- Identify and communicate key features of quality assessment to a professional audience
- Apply quality assessment features to a language tests and assessment tasks to evaluate their usefulness

Final test

Assessment Type **1**: Examination

Indicative Time on Task **2**: 15 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **25%**

Students will be assessed on the content of the unit to make sure they have read the unit materials and have mastered key concepts and procedures.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the main concepts, purposes, and procedures in language testing

Active participation

Assessment Type ¹: Participatory task

Indicative Time on Task ²: 8 hours

Due: **Week 13**

Weighting: **5%**

Students will take part in online activities to consolidate their learning.

On successful completion you will be able to:

- Explain key terms and concepts in language testing and assessment including a range of purposes for assessment
- Identify and communicate key features of quality assessment to a professional audience
- Demonstrate an in-depth understanding of the main concepts, purposes, and procedures in language testing

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

Students who are enrolled in the online delivery are required to engage with unit readings and lecture tasks each week. Students are also expected to do independent research using the library resources, and to search, select and analyse texts used in ESL contexts. Face-to-face seminar recordings are available after the scheduled seminar via Echo360 and/or online students can join the scheduled seminar via a Zoom link.

Resources are available through the iLearn website for this unit. Technologies used include video, Echo360 and other online resources.

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](#)
- [Assessment Procedure](#)
- [Complaints Resolution 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

Academic Integrity

At Macquarie, we believe [academic integrity](#) – honesty, respect, trust, responsibility, fairness and courage – is at the core of learning, teaching and research. We recognise that meeting the expectations required to complete your assessments can be challenging. So, we offer you a range of resources and services to help you reach your potential, including free [online writing and maths support](#), [academic skills development](#) and [wellbeing consultations](#).

Requesting an extension to assignment due date

On occasion, you may be in a situation when you aren't able to submit an assessment task on time. Extensions are only given in special circumstances, by completing a Special Consideration request. For more information on Special Consideration, see <https://students.mq.edu.au/study/my-study-program/special-consideration>

Late submission of assignments

If you haven't been approved for an extension and you submit your assessment task late, penalties are applied. You should consult your unit convenor if you are in this position. Late submissions will receive a 5% per day penalty. If you submit the assessment task 10 days or more beyond the due date, without an approved extension, you will be awarded a maximum of 50% of the overall assessment marks. Weekends and public holidays are included.

Student Support

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

The Writing Centre

[The Writing Centre](#) provides resources to develop your English language proficiency, academic writing, and communication skills.

- [Workshops](#)
- [Chat with a WriteWISE peer writing leader](#)
- [Access StudyWISE](#)
- [Upload an assignment to Studiosity](#)
- [Complete the 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

Macquarie University offers a range of [Student Support Services](#) including:

- [IT Support](#)
- [Accessibility and disability support](#) with study
- Mental health [support](#)
- [Safety support](#) to respond to bullying, harassment, sexual harassment and sexual assault
- [Social support including information about finances, tenancy and legal issues](#)

Student Enquiries

Got a question? Ask us via [AskMQ](#), or contact [Service Connect](#).

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.