



The University of Southern Queensland

Course specification

The current and official versions of the course specifications are available on the web at
<<http://www.usq.edu.au/coursespecification/current>>.
Please consult the web for updates that may occur during the year.

Description: Dissertation A

Subject	Cat-nbr	Class	Term	Mode	Units	Campus
LIN	9012	75431	1, 2008	EXT	2.00	Toowoomba

Academic group:	FOEDU
Academic org:	FOE002
Student contribution band:	National Priority Teaching
ASCED code:	070115

STAFFING

Examiner: Jeong-Bae Son
Moderator: Ann Dashwood

REQUISITES

Pre-requisite: LIN5000 and LIN5002 and LIN8001 and FET8801 plus 4 electives

OTHER REQUISITES

State law in Queensland (Australia) requires that all adults working/undertaking professional experience/researching with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland are required to possess a current suitability card (Blue Card). (See "Other Requirements" for further information.) Also see: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html>.

RATIONALE

This dissertation course is designed to provide students with opportunities to undertake an in-depth study of a topic of their own choosing in the area of applied linguistics.

SYNOPSIS

This is the first of the two dissertation courses. In this course, students will define their research proposal, submit it, refine it (if necessary), begin their literature review and begin their data collection.

TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED

ALL textbooks and materials are available for purchase from USQ BOOKSHOP (unless otherwise stated). Orders may be placed via secure internet, free fax 1800642453, phone 07 46312742 (within Australia), or mail. Overseas students should fax +61 7 46311743, or phone +61 7 46312742. For costs, further details, and internet ordering, use the 'Textbook Search' facility at <http://bookshop.usq.edu.au> click 'Semester', then enter your 'Course Code' (no spaces).

LINSG Dissertation Courses: Study Guide available from:
<http://www.usq.edu.au/education/current/resource/linguistics>

REFERENCE MATERIALS

Reference materials are materials that, if accessed by students, may improve their knowledge and understanding of the material in the course and enrich their learning experience.

American Psychological Association 2001, *Publication manual of the American Psychological Society*, 5th edn, APA, Washington, DC.

Anderson, J & Poole, M 2001, *Assignment and thesis writing*, 4th edn, Wiley, Milton, Qld.

Beach, D 1996, *The responsible conduct of research*, VCH, New York.

Berry, R 2000, *The research project: how to write it*, 4th edn, Routledge, New York.

Betts, K & Stez, A 2005, *Writing essays and research reports on the social sciences*, 3rd edn, Thomas Nelson, Melbourne.

Bouma, GD 2000, *The research process*, 4th edn, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Bryman, A & Burgess, RG (eds) 1994, *Analyzing qualitative data*, Routledge, London.

Denzin, NK & Lincoln, YS (eds.) 2000, *Handbook of qualitative research*, 2nd edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Dowdy, S & Wearden, S 1991, *Statistics for research*, 2nd edn, Wiley, New York.

Foddy, W 1993, *Constructing questions for interviews and questionnaires: theory and practice in social research*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Glaser, BG (ed.) 1994, *More grounded theory methodology: a reader*, Sociology Press, Mill Valley.

Hiess, HO 1996, *Statistical concepts for the behavioural sciences*, 2nd edn, Allyn & Bacon, Boston, MA.

Hult, CA 1996, *Researching and writing in the social sciences*, Allyn & Bacon, Boston, MA.

Leedy, PD 2004, *Practical research: planning and design*, 8th edn, Merrill, Upper Saddle River, NJ.

Lockie, LF, Spirduso, WW & Silverman, SJ 2000, *Proposals that work: a guide for planning dissertations and grant proposals*, 4th edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Marshall, C & Rossman, GB 1999, *Designing qualitative research*, 3rd edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Miller, SI & Fredericks, M 1994, *Qualitative research methods: social epistemological and practical inquiry*, Peter Lang, New York.

Moustakas, C 1994, *Phenomenological research methods*, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

OECD 1995, *Educational research and development: trends, issues and challenges*, OECD, Paris.

Pedhazur, L & Pedhazur Schmelkin, L 1991, *Measurement, design and analysis*, Lawrence Erlbaum, Hillsdale, NJ.

Rudestam, KE & Newton, RR 2001, *Surviving your dissertation*, 2nd edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Stake, RE 1995, *The art of case study research*, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

Turabian, KL 1996, *A manual for writers of term papers, thesis, and dissertations*, 6th edn, University of Chicago, Chicago.

Yin, RK 2003, *Case study research: design and methods*, 3rd edn, Sage, Thousand Oaks, CA.

STUDENT WORKLOAD REQUIREMENTS

ACTIVITY	HOURS
Directed Study	340.00

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

Description	Marks out of	Wtg (%)	Due date
STUDY PROPOSAL	1.00	100.00	02 Nov 2007 (see note 1)

NOTES

1. A mark of one (1) indicates you have passed the Study Proposal component. A mark of zero (0) indicates you have not passed the Study Proposal component.

IMPORTANT ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

- 1 Attendance requirements:
There are no attendance requirements for this course. However, it is the students' responsibility to study all material provided to them or required to be accessed by them to maximise their chance of meeting the objectives of the course and to be informed of course-related activities and administration.
- 2 Requirements for students to complete each assessment item satisfactorily:
To satisfactorily complete an individual assessment item a student must achieve at least 50% of the marks (Depending upon the requirements in Statement 4 below, students may not have to satisfactorily complete each assessment item to receive a passing grade in this course.)
- 3 Penalties for late submission of required work:
If students submit required assignments late without the approval of the Examiner, they can expect to be given a Fail grade for the course.
- 4 Requirements for student to be awarded a passing grade in the course:
To be assured of receiving a passing grade a student must complete and submit all summative assessment items and achieve at least 50% of the total weighted marks available for the course.
- 5 Method used to combine assessment results to attain final grade:
As P is the only passing grade available for this course, all students who are qualified for a passing grade will be given a grade of P. Other students will be given either a Failing grade or an Incomplete grade.
- 6 Examination information:
There is no examination in this course.
- 7 Examination period when Deferred/Supplementary examinations will be held:
As there are no examinations in this course, there will be no deferred or supplementary examinations.

- 8 University Regulations:
Students should read USQ Regulations 5.1 Definitions, 5.6. Assessment, and 5.10 Academic Misconduct for further information and to avoid actions which might contravene University Regulations. These regulations can be found at the URL <http://www.usq.edu.au/corporateservices/calendar/part5.htm>.

ASSESSMENT NOTES

- 1 The due date for an assignment is the date by which a student must despatch the assignment to the USQ. The onus is on the student to provide proof of the despatch date, if requested by the Examiner.
- 2 In accordance with University Policy, the Examiner may grant an extension of the due date of an assignment in extenuating circumstances.
- 3 The Faculty will normally only accept assessments that have been written, typed or printed on paper-based media.
- 4 The Faculty will NOT accept submission of assignments by facsimile.
- 5 Students who do not have regular access to postal services or who are otherwise disadvantaged by these regulations may be given special consideration. They should contact the examiner of the course to negotiate such special arrangements.
- 6 In the event that a due date for an assignment falls on a local public holiday in their area, the due date for the assignment will be the next day. Students are to note on the assignment cover the date of the public holiday for the Examiner's convenience.
- 7 Students who, for medical, family/personal, or employment-related reasons, are unable to complete an assignment or to sit for an examination at the scheduled time may apply to defer an assessment in a course. Such a request must be accompanied by appropriate supporting documentation. One of the following temporary grades may be awarded IDS (Incomplete - Deferred Examination); IDM (Incomplete Deferred Make-up); IDB (Incomplete - Both Deferred Examination and Deferred Make-up).
- 8 Students may be required to provide a copy of assignments submitted for assessment purposes. Such copies should be dispatched to the USQ within 24 hours of receipt of a request to do so.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- 1 Ungraded summative assessment will be given either Satisfactory, Unsatisfactory, or Incomplete.
- 2 **IMPORTANT NOTE: Working with Children:** State law in Queensland requires that all adults (including university students, pre-service educators, trainers, vocational teachers, industry educators) working with children under the age of 18, in the state of Queensland*, obtain approval before commencing such work. Many education courses include a practical component (professional experience, project work, research, assessment etc.) that may require engagement with children under the age of 18. It is your responsibility to ensure that you possess a current suitability card (Blue Card) before commencing any practical components of this course. **DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN ANY PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE WITH CHILDREN UNDER 18 UNLESS YOU POSSESS A CURRENT 'BLUE CARD'**. For further information: <http://www.childcomm.qld.gov.au/employment/bluecard/informationSheets.html>. *If you are undertaking practical experience outside the state of Queensland, Australia you should check local requirements.