Description: Dissertation (Honours)

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<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Cat-Nbr</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Mode</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<td>LIN</td>
<td>9010</td>
<td>24051</td>
<td>2, 2003</td>
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Academic Group: OPACS
Academic Org: OPACSP
HECS Band: 1
ASCED Code: 070115

STAFFING
Examiner: Francis Mangubhai
Moderator: Ann Dashwood
Team Members: Jeong-Bae Son, Aniko Hatoss.

PRE-REQUISITES
Pre-requisite: LIN5000 and LIN5002 and LIN8001 and FET8801 plus 2 electives

RATIONALE
The Master of Applied Linguistics (Honours) course is viewed generally as a preparatory program for leaders in the field of second language education. The expectation exists that graduates of such a course would be competent in reading and critically analysing research reports as well as capable of conducting their own research.

SYNOPSIS
This course is available only to students enrolled in the Master of Applied Linguistics (Hons) (US 12). The dissertation is a major piece of original and independent research related to the student's area of specialisation in Master of Applied Linguistics (Hons). Research is interpreted here in its broadest sense and can involve quantitative or qualitative methodologies or other investigatory strategies aimed at addressing significant language education problems or needs, and/or gaps in knowledge or understanding of applied linguistics issues. In all cases, the dissertation must involve a depth of treatment, analysis, discussion and reporting worthy of submission and consideration for publication as a monograph or in a major national or international professional journal. While the research study itself may be focused and quite specific in its coverage, it is expected in the course of preparing for conducting and reporting the study, the student will demonstrate a high level of understanding of the theoretical and practical aspects of the wider language education context in which the specific research topic is embedded. Such an understanding would be demonstrated in the student's review of the literature, the interpretation, analysis, and
discussion of findings, in the implications drawn from the findings about the topic and recommendations for future research on the topic and/or related topics. Specific details and procedures pertaining to the dissertation are contained in the document, 33 Self-Directed and Thesis Units: A Study Guide, and in the University's document, {Guidelines and Advice for Higher Education Research Candidates.}

OBJECTIVES
On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

- demonstrate the ability to plan a research project
- conduct and report upon a major research project which is self-initiated and indicative of a high level of original thought and analytical ability

TOPICS

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<td>1. The topic for the dissertation will be developed in collaboration with an</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>academic supervisor and approved by the Dean of the Faculty of Education,</td>
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<td>and the USQ Committee for Research and Higher Degrees</td>
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TEXT and MATERIALS required to be PURCHASED or ACCESSED:

Books can be ordered by fax or telephone. For costs and further details use the 'Book Search' facility at http://bookshop.usq.edu.au by entering the author or title of the text.

Students will be required to obtain a broad selection of library resources relevant to their research topic.

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.

These will be dependent on and related to the topics selected by students.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Marks Out of</th>
<th>Wtg(%)</th>
<th>Required</th>
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<tr>
<td>DISSERTATION</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>100.00</td>
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<td>22 Jul 2003</td>
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NOTES:

- Students should make contact with the course Examiner at the start of the semester to discuss the assessment due date.
OTHER REQUIREMENTS

1. If human subjects are used in a study, an ethical clearance will need to be obtained. Forms for such clearance are at http://www.usq.edu.au/research/psycholo.htm

2. Student Workload Requirements are as required for the completion of the dissertation and as negotiated between student and supervisor.

3. Assessment Details - The M.App.Ling (Hons) Dissertation is examined by two recognised authorities, one of whom is ordinarily external to the University of Southern Queensland. The dissertation is assessed as PASS or FAIL only, but the examiners may commend a dissertation as showing distinction.