

**City University of Hong Kong**

**Information on a Course**  
**offered by Department of Linguistics and Translation**  
**with effect from Semester A in 2014 / 2015**

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**Part I**

**Course Title:** Research Methodology for Applied Linguistics

**Course Code:** LT5407

**Course Duration:** One Semester

**No. of Credit Units:** 3

**Level:** P5

**Medium of Instruction:** English

**Prerequisites:** NIL

**Precursors:** NIL

**Equivalent Courses:** CTL5407 Research Methodology for Applied Linguistics

**Exclusive Courses:** NIL

**Part II**

**1. Course Aims:**

The aim of this course is to familiarize students with the basic concepts, methodology and measurement techniques in applied linguistics and sociolinguistics.

**2. Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)**

*Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:*

No.	CILOs	Weighting (if applicable)
1.	Analyze research methods and interpret findings of experimental/ non-experimental studies	
2	Review critically the research design of published studies.	
3	Use SPSS system to do statistical analyses	
4	Construct a research proposal.	
5	Create research methods for the proposed study.	

**3. Teaching and learning Activities (TLAs)**

*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

CILO No.	TLAs	Hours/week (if applicable)
1-5	<b>Readings -</b> Reading book chapters and journal articles	
1-5	<b>Lectures, Workshops and Class activities-</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● The research principles, data collection methods and measurement techniques are taught.</li> <li>● SPSS workshops are arranged to do quantitative analyses.</li> <li>● The research papers which use various types of research methods are selected for critical analyses and presentation.</li> <li>● Group discussion and in-class activities are designed to train students to use scientific and creative research methods to do research.</li> </ul>	

1-5	<b>Blackboard-</b> Blackboard and email will be used as a forum to encourage students to carry on their study a bit further and help them communicate with the teacher and classmates concerning research methodology and the research proposal they create.	
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#### 4. Assessment Tasks/Activities

*(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)*

CILO No.	Type of assessment tasks/activities	Weighting (if applicable)	Remarks
1,2,4,5	Presentations and written critics on recent journal papers with the focus on a critical analysis of the research methods.	40%	
3	Quiz An open book quiz ( 1.5 -2 hours) is arranged at the end of the semester. Short questions will be set to assess students' their ability to use SPSS system to do statistical analyses for the purposes of analysing research results.	20%	
4-5	A mock proposal A mock proposal (1500-2000 words) that makes the students integrate what they have learnt and generate a feasible research project	30%	
1-5	Class participation Students have to discuss critically and participate actively in the tutorial activities	10%	

## 5. Grading of Student Achievement:

Refer to Grading of Courses in the Academic Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Degrees.

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-...F). Grading is based on student performance in assessment tasks/activities.

Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course.

### Grading of Student Achievement

Letter Grade	Grade Definitions	
A+ A A-	Excellent:	Strong evidence of original thinking and capacity to organise, analyse, synthesize, create and evaluate ; superior grasp of subject matter; evidence of extensive knowledge base.
B+ B B-	Good:	Some evidence of original thinking and capacity to organise, analyse, synthesize, create and evaluate; good grasp of subject matter; reasonable understanding of issues; evidence of familiarity with literature.
C+ C C-	Adequate:	Little evidence of original thinking and capacity to organise, analyse, synthesize, create and evaluate; Understanding of the subject; ability to develop solutions to simple problems in the material.
D	Marginal:	Sufficient familiarity with the subject matter to enable the student to progress without repeating the course.
F	Failure:	Little evidence of familiarity with the subject matter; weakness in critical and analytic skills; limited or irrelevant use of literature.

### Part III

Keyword Syllabus:

Planning a research project, Basic principles of research design, Creating a research proposal Data collection methods, Quantitative and qualitative research, Parametric statistics, Non-parametric statistics, Research report and Academic writing.

**Reading List / materials:**

- Alison, W. Trott, K. & Bloomer, A. (1998) *Projects in Linguistics: A Practical Guide to Researching Language*. London & New York: Arnold.
- Bell, J. (1999) *Doing Your Research Project: A guide for first time researchers in education and social science*. 3<sup>rd</sup>. edition. Bristol & Philadelphia: Open University Press.
- Brown, J. D. (1988) *Understanding Research in Second Language Learning*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Dörnyei, Z. (2007) *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics : Quantitative, Qualitative, and Mixed Methodologies*. Oxford : Oxford University Press.
- Giltrow, J. (1995) *Academic Writing*. 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition. New York: Broadview Press.
- Heigham, J & Croker, R.A. (Eds.) (2009) *Qualitative Research in Applied Linguistics: A Practical Introduction* [electronic resource]. Basingstoke : Palgrave Macmillan.
- Johnstone, B. (2000) *Qualitative Methods in Sociolinguistics*. New York : Oxford University Press,
- Macaulay, R. K. S. (2009) *Quantitative Methods in Sociolinguistics*. Houndmills, Basingstoke : Palgrave Macmillan.
- McDonough, J. & S. McDonough (1997) *Research Methods for English Language Teachers*. London, new York: Arnold.
- Milroy, L. (1987) *Observing and Analysing Natural Language*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
- Pavel, Z. & W. Bishop (ed.)(2004) *Research Writing Revisited: A Sourcebook for Teachers*. Portsmouth,N.Hh:Boynton/Cook.
- Rasinger, S. M. (2008) *Quantitative Research in Linguistics : An Introduction*. London ; New York : Continuum.
- Seliger, H. W. & Shohamy, E. (1989) *Second Language Research Methods*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Woods, A. Fletcher, P. & Hughes, A. (1986) *Statistics in Language Studies*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 桂詩春、寧春岩 (1997) <語言學方法論>北京：外語教學語研究出版社。

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