

Course Title	Research Methods in Applied Linguistics
Course Code	DES503
Recommended Study Term	Term 1
No. of Credits	3
Mode of Tuition	Sectional
Class Contact Hours	3 hours per week
Category	Required
Prerequisite	Nil
Co-requisite	Nil
Exclusion	Nil
Exemption Requirement	Nil

Brief Course Description

The course will introduce students to the common quantitative and qualitative research methods in applied linguistics. The quantitative section of the course will explain the use of surveys, questionnaires, experiments and basic statistics in applied linguistics research. The qualitative section will introduce action research design, interviews, observations and critical inquiry in applied language studies. Students will be trained through a variety of activities including lectures, in-class discussions and exercises, online learning activities and multiple assignments.

Aims

The course aims to (1) introduce the main quantitative and qualitative research methods in applied linguistics and (2) cultivate students' ability of developing clear, feasible and valuable applied linguistics research proposals.

Learning Outcomes (LOs)

On completion of the course, students will be able to

1. Explain key theories and practices in major research approaches (including qualitative and quantitative research methods) in applied linguistics;
2. Identify valuable research problems and develop well-focused research questions;
3. Synthesise relevant literature, make inferences and use insights when developing research plans;
4. Demonstrate ability to develop and refine appropriate research instruments and generate a viable research proposal;
5. Communicate their research proposal clearly, concisely and convincingly.