Subject Code	ENGL3002
Subject Title	Research Methods for Language Studies
Credit Value	3
Level	3
Pre-requisite / Co-requisite/ Exclusion	None
Objectives	This subject aims to develop students' awareness of the nature of applied language research and provide them with an understanding of language research by familiarising them with different approaches to research design and execution as well as methods of data collection, analysis, presentation, interpretation, and reporting. The subject serves as a preparatory course for undertaking the Capstone Project for Language Studies (ENGL4003), but can also be studied as a stand-alone course for developing research skills.
Intended Learning Outcomes	Upon completion of the subject, students will be able to: **Category A: Professional/academic knowledge and skills** a. demonstrate a sound awareness of the nature of applied language research b. understand fundamental concepts and new developments in applied language research c. produce a research proposal in an appropriate format d. design quantitative, qualitative and multi-method research e. analyse research data manually and with the help of computer programmes (e.g. SPSS) **Category B: Attributes for all-roundedness** f. work critically and creatively g. demonstrate analytical and evaluative skills h. apply effective strategies for conducting academic research in both independent and team modes
Subject Synopsis/ Indicative Syllabus	1. Fundamental concepts of applied language research 2. Qualitative, quantitative and multi-method approaches to research 3. Stages of literature review 4. Establishing research problems and questions 5. Research design techniques 6. Data collection, analysis, triangulation and interpretation

| | | | 7. Statistical concepts and applications (e.g. descriptive statistics, correlations, *t*-tests, analysis of variance) |
| | 8. Research proposal development and evaluation |

Teaching/ Learning Methodology	Learning is primarily through interactive seminars. All assignments are designed to provide students with tasks that require the evaluation, synthesis and application of key concepts, approaches and techniques to designing and analysing studies in applied language research.

Assessment Methods in Alignment with Intended Learning Outcomes

Specific assessment methods/tasks	% weighting	Intended subject learning outcomes to be assessed							
		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
1. Literature Review	15%	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
2. Data Analysis	15%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
3. Presentation	15%	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓
4. Research Proposal	40%	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
5. Participation	15%	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Total	100 %								

The subject is assessed entirely through coursework. Students are assessed in terms of both subject knowledge and generic skills through a combination of an individually assessed group presentation, one or more in-class/take-home mini-projects (e.g. data analysis report, literature review, etc.), and a full research proposal intended for the compulsory Capstone Project for Language Studies (ENGL4003) in the final year.

All these assessment tasks, in an integrated manner, will contribute to the fulfilment of the subject's intended learning outcomes and to a long-term development of students' professional and academic knowledge and skills and their generic attributes, especially independent learning and critical analytic thinking abilities.

Student Study	Class contact:	

Effort Expected	▪ Lectures	39 hrs
	▪ Seminars	0 hrs
	Other student study effort:	
	▪ Private study	58 hrs
	▪ Take-home assignments	29 hrs
	Total student study effort	126 hrs
Reading List and References	Brown, J. D. (2001). *Using surveys in language programs.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Burns, R. B. (2000). *Introduction to research methods* (4th Ed.). London: SAGE. Creswell, J. W. (2010). *Qualitative inquiry and research design: Choosing among five approaches* (2nd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Creswell, J. W. (2008). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (3rd Ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. Dörnyei, Z. (2007). *Research methods in applied linguistics.* Oxford: Oxford University Press. Dörnyei, Z. (2010). *Questionnaires in second language research: Construction, administration and processing* (2nd Ed.). New York, NY: Routledge. Duff, P. A. (2008). *Case study research in applied linguistics.* New York, NY: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. Mackey, A., & Gass, S. (2005). *Second language research: Methodology and design.* Mahwah, NJ: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates. Marshall, C., & Rossman, G. B. (2006). *Designing qualitative research* (4th Ed). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage Publications. McEnery, T., Xiao, R., & Tono, Y. (2006). *Corpus-based language studies: An advanced resource book.* New York, NY: Routledge. Paltridge, B., & Phakti, A. (Eds.) (2010). *Continuum companion to research methods in applied linguistics.* London: Continuum International.

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