

# Programme Specification

---

## Academic Year 2017-18 MA ELT/TESOL Studies

**Programme Code: 6062**

**This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.**

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of study	Full time or Part time is permitted
Duration in years	1 year (full time) or 2 years (part time)
Accreditation details	N/A
Final award	MA
Name of award	ELT/TESOL Studies
Interim Exit awards	Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma
FHEQ level of final award	7
UCAS code	N/A
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	
Programme Lead	Alasdair Archibald
Date specification was written	August, 2013
Date specification was last updated	September 2015

### Programme Overview

---

#### Brief outline of the programme

This programme provides a focused route for new English language professionals who wish to develop advanced knowledge and skills in the English language curriculum, pedagogy and assessment. You will study contemporary approaches to curriculum, assessment and pedagogy, with opportunities to follow specialist interests, such as learner autonomy and English as an international language. You will develop a deeper understanding of the theory and practice of English language teaching and gain the skills required to challenge current professional practice, to innovate, and to undertake a range of leadership roles in English language teaching.

#### Learning and teaching

The programme will consist of 8 x 15 credit modules plus the dissertation (60 credits). These will be delivered through lectures, seminars, small scale research projects and independent study. This programme will consist of a new 'pathway' through existing modules delivered on the current MA Applied Linguistics/ELT programmes, together with one new programme specific module which will also be offered as an option to other programmes.

#### Assessment

There will be ongoing assessment and feedback via lecture and seminar activities. Formal assessment will be by written assignments, oral presentations and the dissertation.

**Please note:** As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration, however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our [Disclaimer](#) to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

## **Educational Aims of the Programme**

---

The aims of the programme are to:

- Provide you with training in English language teaching relevant to all aspects of ELT/TESOL within education;
- Equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to participate in the major areas of English language teaching within the education system;
- Enable you to begin to develop a critical and analytical perspective on the theory and practice of language in education;
- Enable you to begin to reflect on your experience as a language learner and/or teacher and relate that reflection to theory, practice and research evidence;
- Enable you to conduct independent research in an area of direct relevance to the teaching of English.

## **Programme Learning Outcomes**

---

### **Knowledge and Understanding**

---

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

- A1 the principles underlying the analysis and description of language;
- A2 the relationship between the language curriculum and language pedagogy;
- A3 the principles of current language teaching practice, and the strengths and weaknesses of current approaches;
- A4 how to challenge current professional practice in your country and internationally, and undertake improvement-orientated enquiry and innovation.

### ***Teaching and Learning Methods***

You will develop your knowledge and understanding through lectures, tutor-led and student-led seminars, tutorials, and workshops giving hands-on experience of e.g.: the description and critique of curriculum documents; analysis of linguistic data; work with learner language; analysis of policy statements, textbooks and assessment procedures. You will develop your autonomous capability as a professional through a range of group and individual projects and investigations, supported by programme tutors; you will have opportunities to present your individual work, to organise and lead workshop activities, and provide peer feedback and support.

### ***Assessment methods***

Formative assessment of your written and practical work is a substantial element of the learning and teaching process, and you will have regular tutorials with module tutors to plan coursework and receive feedback. You will be allocated a personal tutor (and later a dissertation supervisor), and will have timetabled meetings with them to review progress and set learning targets.

All modules will contribute to summative assessment of the programme. You will write some extended essays, but most modules will be assessed through a module portfolio containing a range of evidence demonstrating achievement of the module learning outcomes. This may take the form of: shorter essays; annotated bibliography; critical research review; reports on design/ trialling of research instruments; reports on workshop

tasks (see above); records of oral presentations; data analysis tasks. At the end of the course you will submit a 15–17,000 word dissertation which will demonstrate your ability to design and implement an independent research investigation. Coursework and dissertation will be marked on a percentage scale against explicit grade-related criteria.

### **Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills**

---

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- B1 comment critically on current approaches to curriculum design, pedagogy and assessment in the ELT field internationally;
- B2 make use of the relationship between academic, professional, public and user conceptions of language to clarify local and international educational policy and practice;
- B3 apply analytical procedures to English and other language data;
- B4 participate in the design and evaluation of language learning/ teaching programmes and materials, using appropriate technology;
- B5 assess the implications of theoretical and practical developments in English language teaching and applied linguistics for the teaching profession in your own country and internationally.
- B6 make use of academic, professional, and public perspectives on language to explore local and international educational policy and practice;

#### ***Teaching and Learning Methods***

See the section on “Knowledge and Understanding” above

#### ***Assessment methods***

See the section on “Knowledge and Understanding” above

### **Transferable and Generic Skills**

---

Having successfully completed this programme you will be able to:

- C1 communicate language teaching, applied linguistic and educational work in a variety of written formats;
- C2 communicate your response to applied linguistic and educational work orally, in discussion and in formal presentations;
- C3 identify and use a wide range of reference resources, printed and electronic;
- C4 develop and maintain a personal bibliography;
- C5 use information technology appropriately when presenting your work and in your teaching;
- C6 demonstrate interpersonal and collaborative skills whilst working with others in the investigation of problems, and in the presentation of arguments and evidence.
- C7 Demonstrate interpersonal and collaborative skills in the presentation of work, tutorial and workshop discussions, planning and development of group projects, and peer support;
- C8 understand ethical and legal issues involved in applied linguistics research.

#### ***Teaching and Learning Methods***

See the section on “Knowledge and Understanding” above

#### ***Assessment methods***

See the section on “Knowledge and Understanding” above

## Programme Structure

---

### Typical course content

This postgraduate programme is normally studied over one year full-time (48 weeks). It comprises eight M level study modules (four Core 15 credit modules, a 60 credit core dissertation and four Options), plus additional visiting speaker seminars and other extension activities, taught over two semesters (30 weeks). The independent research dissertation is completed over a further period of 18 weeks. Part time students are also accepted, and complete the taught programme over 4 semesters, followed by the dissertation.

### Programme details

Each study module has a value of 15 credit points, making 120 points altogether for the taught component. The dissertation has a value of 60 credit points, giving the degree an overall credit rating of 180 points.

#### Availability of Modules

The information contained in programme specification is correct at the time it was published. Typically, around a quarter of optional modules do not run due to low interest or unanticipated changes in staff availability. If we do have insufficient numbers of students interested in an optional module, this may not be offered. If an optional module will not be run, we will advise you as soon as possible and help you choose an alternative module.

Core Modules		Credits
LING6022	Principles of Communicative Language Teaching	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6041	Developing Approaches to Language Teaching	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6017	Research Skills for the Dissertation	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6016	Dissertation	60 CATS (30 ECTS)
Subject Specific Option modules		
LING6004	Description of Language	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6005	Second Language Learning	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6014	English as a World Language	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6028	Intercultural Communication	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6007	Assessment of Language Proficiency	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6009	Discourse Analysis	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6006	Language in Society	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6008	Autonomy and Individualisation in Language Learning	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6011	Writing and Written Language	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6040	E-Learning and English Language Teaching	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6042	English as a Medium of Instruction	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6043	Language Ideologies in a Globalising World	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)
LING6044	Teaching Foreign Languages to Younger Learners	15 CATS (7.5 ECTS)

### Additional Costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. Costs that students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for are included in Appendix 2.

## Progression Requirements

The programme follows the University's regulations for [Progression, Determination and Classification of Results : Standalone Masters Programmes](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs.html) as set out in the University Calendar:  
<http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs.html>

## Intermediate exit points (where available)

You will be eligible for an interim exit award if you complete part of the programme but not all of it, as follows:

Qualification	Minimum overall credit in ECTS credits	Minimum ECTS credits required at level of award
Postgraduate Diploma	at least 60	45
Postgraduate Certificate	at least 30	20

## Support for student learning

---

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:

- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Student Services Centre
- Enabling Services offering assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, dyslexia, mental health issue or specific learning difficulties
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career Destinations, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- a range of personal support services : mentoring, counselling, residence support service, chaplaincy, health service
- a Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides

- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; and provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:

- The tutorial system – you will have a personal tutor assigned by the programme convenor
- Study skills support in the form of online resources through the Study Skills Toolkit and the EAP toolkit.
- Language support in the form of in-sessional EAP support classes
- For your dissertation, you will be assigned a research supervisor according to the focus of your dissertation. The dissertation module will help you to develop your research ideas.

## Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

---

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

- Completing student evaluation questionnaires for each module of the programme
- Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feed back on your behalf.
- Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation
- Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group
- National Student Survey

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

- Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
- Programme validation, normally every five years.
- External examiners, who produce an annual report
- A national Research Assessment Exercise (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
- Institutional Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

## Criteria for admission

---

### University Commitment

The University will at all times seek to operate admissions regulations that are fair and are in accordance with the law of the United Kingdom, and the University's Charter, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.

This includes specific compliance with legislation relating to discrimination (e.g. Equality Act 2010) and the University's Equal Opportunities Policy Statement. This includes a commitment that the University will:

- actively assist groups that experience disadvantage in education and employment to benefit from belonging to the University
- actively seek to widen participation to enable students that do not traditionally participate in Higher Education to do so;

- ensure that admission procedures select students fairly and appropriately according to their academic ability and that the procedure is monitored and regularly reviewed.

### Entry Requirements

The University's Admissions Policy applies equally to all programmes of study. The following are the typical entry criteria to be used for selecting candidates for admission. The University's approved equivalencies for the requirements listed below will also be acceptable.

Qualification	Grade/GPA	Subjects requirements	Specific requirements
Honours degree or equivalent	First- or upper second-class	A language or other relevant discipline.	

### Mature applicants

Studying for a degree later in life can be extremely rewarding and mature students are often among our most successful.

If you are over 21 and feel you would benefit from degree-level studies, we can be more flexible about our entry requirements. For full-time courses, selectors will expect you to demonstrate your commitment by means of some recent serious study, for example, one or two A level passes, successful completion of an Open University foundation course or an appropriate Access course. Your application will be considered on individual merit and you may be asked to attend an interview.

More information on the entry requirements for MA ELT/TESOL Studies can be found on the Modern Languages webpage here:

[http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught\\_courses/taught\\_courses/modern\\_languages/r900\\_ma\\_elt\\_tesol\\_studies.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/taught_courses/modern_languages/r900_ma_elt_tesol_studies.page)

For further information, please contact our Admissions Team: [pgafh@southampton.ac.uk](mailto:pgafh@southampton.ac.uk)

The University's Admission policy is available at

<http://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentadmin/admissions/admissionspolicies/policy/>

### Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

The University has a [Recognition of Prior Learning Policy](#)

Students are accepted under the University's recognition of prior learning policy; however, each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

### English Language Proficiency

Overall	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Listening
6.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0

## Career Opportunities

Career destinations for students on this programme will be as new English language teachers in state and private institutions internationally, or in Education Ministries or the publishing industry.

## External Examiners(s) for the programme

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their personal tutor in the first instance.

---

**Please note:** This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook (or other appropriate guide) or online at

[http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught\\_courses/taught\\_courses/modern\\_languages/r900\\_ma\\_elt\\_tesol\\_studies.page](http://www.southampton.ac.uk/humanities/postgraduate/taught_courses/taught_courses/modern_languages/r900_ma_elt_tesol_studies.page)

# Appendix:

## Learning outcomes and Assessment Mapping document template

		Knowledge and Understanding				Subject Specific Intellectual Skills						Transferable/Key Skills							
Module Code	Module Title	A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	B 5	B 6	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4	C 5	C 6	C 7	C 8
LING6016	Dissertation		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LING6022	Principles of Communicative Language Teaching		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LING6041	Developing Approaches to Language Teaching		x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
LING6017	Research Skills (Dissertation)				x			x				x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Module Code	Module Title	Assessment		
LING6016	Dissertation	15,000 – 20,000 word dissertation 100%		
LING6022	Principles of Communicative Language Teaching	Essay (2,000 words), 50%	Practical task (e.g. empirical study/data analysis of classroom methods/materials in communicative language teaching) (2,500 words), 50%	
LING6041	Developing Approaches to Language Teaching	Classroom focused study (e.g. analysis of classroom practice/teaching options) (2,500 words), 50%	Essay (2,000 words), 50%	
LING6017	Research Skills (Dissertation)	Annotated bibliography (2000 words), 50%	Dissertation proposal (1500 words), 40%	Reflective blog, 10%

## Appendix 2:

### Additional Costs

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme typically also have to pay for: [insert relevant bullet points from the following list]:

- Books and Stationery Equipment (such as Lab equipment, Field Equipment, Art equipment, Recording Equipment, stethoscopes, fob watch, Excavation equipment, Approved Calculators)
- Materials (such as laboratory materials, textbooks, drawing paper, fabric, thread, computer disks, Sheet Music)
- Software Licenses
- Clothing (such as Protective Clothing, Lab Coats, specific shoes and trousers)
- Printing and Photocopying Costs (such as Printing coursework for submission, Printing and binding dissertations or theses, Academic Poster (A1) printing).
- Typing Costs
- Field Trips (including accommodation costs for the field trips)
- Work Experience and Placements (including accommodation costs near the placement, additional insurance costs)
- Travel Costs for placements, field trips and to and from the University and various campus locations (including travel insurance).
- Paying for immunisation and vaccination costs before being allowed to attend placements.
- Obtaining Disclosure and Barring Certificates or Clearance Subsistence Costs
- Paying for a Music accompanist
- Translation of birth certificates (for programmes abroad)
- Conference expenses
- Professional exams
- Parking costs (including on placements at hospitals)
- Replacing lost student ID cards
- Other activities (e.g. visiting specialist marine stations and other institutions)
- Costs of attending a graduation ceremony (e.g. hiring a gown for graduation).

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at [www.calendar.soton.ac.uk](http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk).