

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

Date created: 28/02/2023 Last amended: 25/09/2023 Version no. 1 Date approved by EQED:

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2024/25

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1. Programme title(s) and code(s):

MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL
Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics and TESOL
Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics and TESOL

a) HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
Applied Linguistics 100970	50%
Teaching English as a Foreign Language:	50%
100513	

- 2. Awarding body or institution: University of Leicester
- 3. a) Mode of study: Full-time or Part-time
- b) Type of study Campus-based
- 4. Registration periods:
- A) Full-time

MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL (180 credits)

The normal period of registration is 1 years The maximum period of registration 2 years

Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (120 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 9 months. The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 18 months.

Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (60 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 4 months The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 8 months

Single module (15 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Single module (15 credits) is 2 months The maximum period of registration for the Single module (15 credits) is 4 months

Single module (30 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Single module (30 credits) is 4 months. The maximum period of registration for the Single module (30 credits) is 8 months.

Students can apply for entry to the MA, PGDip or PGCert; it is possible for students to switch between programmes during the course of their studies. It is also possible to register for a single module, for which students will receive the award of credit.

B) Part-time

MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL (180 credits)

The normal period of registration is 2 years The maximum period of registration 3 years

Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (120 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 18 months. The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 36 months.

Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics and TESOL (60 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 15 months The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 18 months

5. Typical entry requirements

Candidates should normally be teachers or others working in the TESOL field who have at least a second class honours degree or its equivalent from a non-UK university (GPA 3.0 or above) plus one year teaching experience. Degrees in English language, linguistics or education preferred. Serving teachers who have equivalent qualifications or qualified teacher status and significant experience can be considered. Candidates who are not native speakers of English need to have a proficiency level equivalent to candidates who are not native speakers of English need to have a proficiency level equivalent to GCSE Grade 5 IELTS 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each sub-skill; TOEFL 575 (paper) plus TWE 4.0, 90 (IBT); Cambridge Proficiency Grade C or above.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Holders of the Cambridge DELTA (Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages), or equivalent qualification, are considered for exemption from 30 credits corresponding to one of our core 30-credit courses: EN7xxxx Teaching and Learning a Second Language.

Holders of the University of Leicester PG Certificate in Teaching English for Academic Purposes are exempted from 30 credits corresponding to two of our optional 15-credit courses: EN7512 English for Specific/Academic Purposes, and EN7509 Course & Syllabus Design.

Requests for exemptions, on the basis of prior learning, may be made for a maximum of 60 credits. Detailed evidence of the prior learning with copies of programme outlines and transcripts should be submitted with the request.

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to:

- Enhance the understanding and enrich the expertise of participating professionals involved in language teaching
- Provide participants with the opportunity to expand their knowledge in Applied Linguistics and TESOL sub-disciplines such as grammar awareness, phonology, second language teaching and learning, and sociolinguistics
- Develop participants' ability to apply theoretical foundations to professional contexts and reflect critically on professional practice.

- Provide an opportunity for participants to personalize and enrich their study programme through a wide choice of options
- Provide students with opportunities to extend their range of transferable skills including study and research skills
- Prepare students for further academic research in applied linguistics, TESOL and related fields
- enhance participants' knowledge of the sub-disciplines of Applied Linguistics and apply this to TESOL practice;
- develop participants' ability to critically assess a range of perspectives on the theory, policy and practice of TESOL in different contexts
- enable participants to extend their range of transferable skills including study, research skills and pedagogic skills
- Prepare students for further academic research in applied linguistics, TESOL and related fields
- Enable participants to pursue a personalised study programme through a wide choice of options

On successful completion of the MA Applied Linquistics and TESOL all our graduates should be able to

- Relate knowledge of theory and research in Applied Linguistics to the principles and practices of TESOL
- Describe and analyse the formal systems and features of English grammar and phonology;
- Analyse and critically evaluate language use in different social contexts
- Apply a range of research methods to investigate aspects of English language and pedagogic practices in different contexts;
- Plan and conduct a research study in the field of TESOL or Applied Linguistics.
- Demonstrate a range of personal transferable skills relevant for career enhancement within the professional sector.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- University Education Strategy
- University Assessment Strategy [Login required]
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data



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9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of TESOL, drawing on theory and research in Applied Linguistics	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Discussion board activities Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Assignment writing 	Criterion in all assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)
Apply their knowledge and understanding to teaching and learning in their own educational setting	 Seminar discussions in small groups Discussion board activities Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Assignment writing 	All assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)
Demonstrate knowledge of the description of the structures of English, especially grammar and phonology	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Discussion board activities Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Assignment writing 	All assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)

ii) Concepts

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type

Understand and apply key concepts theories and debates in applied linguistics and TESOL	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Discussion board activities Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Assignment writing 	Criterion in all assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)
Understand and apply key concepts in the description of language	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading 	All assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)

iii) Techniques

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Understand and apply a range of qualitative and quantitative research approaches in applied linguistics/TESOL	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Discussions with dissertation supervisor Assignment writing 	All assessments (Coursework essays, projects, individual and group presentations, dissertation)

iv) Critical Analysis

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to critically analyse data relating to language and applied linguistics/TESOL, using a range of qualitative and quantitative approaches	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Tutorials and supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Class pre-reading and follow-up reading Preparation of oral and written course assessments 	 Formative assessment opportunities via formative assignment, and tutor feedback on performance in seminar tasks Criterion in all summative assessments, whether oral or written

Ability to critically analyse theories	•	Interactive lectures	•	Seminar activities involving	•	Formative tutor feedback on
and issues in applied	•	Seminar discussions in small		interaction with peers and tutors		performance in seminar tasks
linguistics/TESOL, including the role		groups	•	Class pre-reading and follow-up	•	All summative assessments,
and use of English in different	•	Tutorials and supervisions		reading		whether oral or written
contexts			•	Preparation of oral and written		
				course assessments		

v) Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to present their ideas relating to applied linguistics and TESOL in a clear, concise and professional manner	 Seminar discussions in small groups Formative assignment tutorial; feedback on all course assignments; assignment seminars in all modules; dissertation supervisions 	 Seminar activities involving interaction with peers and tutors Assignment writing 	Criterion in all assessments but especially oral presentations
Produce articulate, coherent and well-structured assignments	 Course Study guide and induction programme; formative assignment tutorial; feedback on all course assignments; assignment seminars in all modules Tutorials and supervisions 	Participation in formative assignment tutorial, and in assignment seminars held for all course modules	 Formative tutor feedback on performance in seminar tasks All summative assessments, whether oral or written.
Demonstrate accurate and appropriate handling of references and sources	 Study guides and induction to support development of academic literacy. Formative feedback on a referencing task in Semester 1. Formative feedback on all assignments. 	Participation in formative assignment tutorial, and in assignment seminars held for all course modules	Criterion in all assessments.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to assess and evaluate the quality of data and research claims in domain-specific literature.	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Reading Groups in Term 3 Dissertation supervisions 	 Discussion of research papers in all modules but especially Research Methods Writing of critical literature reviews in coursework assignments and dissertation Discussions with dissertation supervisor 	Coursework assignments and dissertation

b) Transferable Skills

i) Research Skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
 Demonstrate ability to conduct systematic, trustworthy research, e.g.: Develop researchable questions Construct a realistic and robust research design Plan a timetable for fieldwork and working out the feasibility of an intended study in particular contexts Gain access to participants Carry out research ethically 	 Research Methods training Supervisor guidance for Dissertation 	Seminar activities and discussions, including critical review of research design in selected research papers.	Criterion in all assignments requiring data collection, including dissertation

Ability to design and collect data suitable for different types of research enquiry	 Addressed in all modules, with a particular focus in the Research Methods & Dissertation module Dissertation supervisions 	 Discussion with peers and module tutor in assignment tutorials Engagement with data collection methods in Research Methods & Dissertation module Implementation in dissertation, and all assignments requiring data collection Discussions with dissertation supervisor 	 All assignments requiring data collection Research proposal for Research Methods & Dissertation Dissertation
Ability to identify and analyse limitations in existing research	 Formative assignment Addressed in seminars in all modules, especially Research Methods & Dissertation module, and Term 3 Reading Groups Dissertation supervision 	 Engagement with data collection methods in Research Methods & Dissertation module Discussions with dissertation supervisor Reviewing literature in writing assignments and dissertation 	 Formative assignment Research proposal for Research Methods & Dissertation Dissertation

ii) Communication skills

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to communicate effectively and fluently in spoken and written academic English	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Tutorials and supervisions Formative assignment Sharing exemplar assignments Support for and feedback on oral and written assessments 	 Seminar activities inviting Interaction with peers and tutors Discussion board posts on VLE 	 All assessments, but especially: Coursework essays and projects Oral presentations Dissertation

iii) Data Presentation

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to use appropriate methods of quantitative and qualitative analysis to present data effectively	 Research Methods module Seminars in other modules that emphasize data collection and analysis Supplementary resources on Blackboard 	 Participation in Research Methods sessions and Reading Groups. Participation in relevant modules, including assignment work which requires data presentation and commentary Writing of dissertation 	 Formative feedback in seminars Formative tutor assessment by dissertation supervisors. Summative assessment in the dissertation, and relevant module assignments

iv) Information Technology

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Ability to make effective use of software relevant to their data preparation, analysis and research needs	 Introduction to SPSS/Excel for basic quantitative analysis in the Research Methods module. Introduction to RefWorks in Induction week 	 Short exercises using SPSS/Excel in the Research Methods module Hands-on activities in the Corpus Linguistics module workshops 	 Formative assessment in dissertation supervisions where students choose to use analytical software. Formative feedback and
Use IT effectively for information searching, collecting and recording	 Use of phonetic font software in the Phonology part of Exploring Grammar and Pronunciation: From Theory to Practice. Workshops to introduce particular software tools (e.g. in the Corpus Linguistics option module) 		summative assessment of use of relevant tools in Corpus Linguistics option module

v) Problem Solving

Intended learning Outcome Teaching methods Learning Activities Assessment Type	Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
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Ability to identify and reflect on common teaching and learning challenges in TESOL, including issues relating to culture and diversity.	 Interactive lectures Seminar discussions in small groups Tutorials and supervisions 	Numerous assignments require students to address implications of their work, i.e. to reflect on teaching and learning issues and solutions, in a context of their choice.	 Formative assessment opportunities via formative assignment, and tutor feedback on performance in seminar tasks Summative assessments that focus on teaching and learning challenges and issues
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vi) Working relationships

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Be able to collaborate effectively with course peers and professionals from diverse backgrounds	 Groupwork tasks in seminars and workshops Blackboard group discussion tasks in the TLSL module 	 Preparation of and participation in seminar and workshop tasks with classmates from diverse backgrounds Student-initiated informal study groups 	 Formative tutor feedback on classroom performance Formative tutor feedback on Blackboard discussion tasks

vii) Managing learning

Intended learning Outcome	Teaching methods	Learning Activities	Assessment Type
Be able to work independently, or in groups, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and effective time management	 Induction Week (programme leader introduction) Course Study Guide Discussions with personal tutor Discussions with dissertation supervisor 	 Reflection and discussion with personal tutor Reflection and discussion with dissertation supervisor 	

viii) Career Management

Intended learning Outcome Teaching methods		Learning Activities	Assessment Type	
Display understanding of the range of	Delivery of the Professional Lives	Reflection activities on key	Formative assessment	
teaching and other professional	in ELT session, introducing	transferrable skills (e.g. in CPD	opportunities on key	

options available on graduation from	students to professional	module and Professional Lives in	transferrable skills at the
the programme	opportunities and activities	ELT session)	Professional Lives in ELT session.
	 following graduation Links on Blackboard VLE to TESOL-related professional organisations, e.g. IATEFL and the British Council 	Encouragement of attendance of high-profile conferences, e.g. the annual International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL)	Summative assessment on CPD option module
	 CPD for English Language Teachers option module; Careers counselling from personal tutors 		



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10. Progression points

This programme follows the standard Scheme of Progression set out in <u>Senate Regulations</u> – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing postgraduate programmes* relevant to the year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

a) Course transfers

n/a

b) Year in Industry

11. n/aCriteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of postgraduate award and classification set out in <u>Senate Regulations</u> – see the version of <u>Senate Regulation governing postgraduate programmes</u> relevant to the year of entry.

[delete as required] The following additional award requirements for this programme have been approved by the Quality and Standards Sub Committee on Click or tap to enter a date.:

• ...

12. Special features

[Insert details or state n/a]

13. Indications of programme quality

The external examiners for the MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL programme have routinely expressed their satisfaction and complimented the team on a number of points, including the quality of written feedback on students' assignments and the quality of dissertation projects undertaken by students.

14. External Examiner(s) reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at exampapers@Leicester [log-in required].



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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	60 credits	60 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	30 credits

180 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7731	Teaching and Learning a Second Language	30 credits
Semester 1	ED7732	Exploring Grammar and Pronunciation: From Theory to Practice	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7733	Analysing Language in Social Contexts	30 credits
Year long	ED7735	Research Methods and Dissertation	60 credits

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	ED7716	Psychological Issues in Language Learning ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7703	Materials Design and Development ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7705	Continuing Professional Development for English Language Teachers ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7704	Technology Enhanced Language Learning ^b	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7706	Corpus Linguistics and Language Learning/Teaching ^b	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7717	Migration, Superdiversity and Language ^b	15 credits

Notes

- 1. One module to be taken from those labelled as **a**, and one module to be taken from those labelled as **b**
- 2. This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Part Time Structure

Credit breakdown - INDICATIVE

Status	Year 1 Year long	Year 1 Semester 1	Year 1 Semester 2	Year 2 Year long	Year 2 Semester 1	Year 2 Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits	60 credits	30 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	30 credits

180 credits in total

Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics & TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	30 credits

120 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7731	Teaching and Learning a Second Language	30 credits
Semester 1	ED7732	Exploring Grammar and Pronunciation: From Theory to Practice	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7733	Analysing Language in Social Contexts	30 credits

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	ED7716	Psychological Issues in Language Learning ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7703	Materials Design and Development ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7705	Continuing Professional Development for English Language Teachers ^a	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7704	Technology Enhanced Language Learning ^b	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7706	Corpus Linguistics and Language Learning/Teaching b	15 credits
Semester 2	ED7717	Migration, Superdiversity and Language ^b	15 credits

Notes

1. One module to be taken from those labelled as **a**, and one module to be taken from those labelled as **b**

2. This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics & TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Part Time Structure

Credit breakdown - INDICATIVE

Status	Year 1 Year long	Year 1 Semester 1	Year 1 Semester 2	Year 2 Year long	Year 2 Semester 1	Year 2 Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits	n/a	30 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	30 credits

120 credits in total

Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics & TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Full Time Structure

Credit breakdown

EITHER:

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

60 credits in total

OR:

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2
Core	n/a	60 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a

60 credits in total

Core modules: STUDENTS CHOOSE TWO MODULES FROM THREE:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7731	Teaching and Learning a Second Language	30 credits
Semester 1	ED7732	Exploring Grammar and Pronunciation: From Theory to Practice	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7733	Analysing Language in Social Contexts	30 credits

Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics & TESOL (Campus-based)

Intake Month September Mode of Study Part Time Structure

Credit breakdown

INDICATIVE:

Status	Year long	Year 1 Semester 1	Year 1 Semester 2	Year 2 Semester 1	Year 2 Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	n/a	30 credits	n/a
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

60 credits in total

OR:

Status	Year long	Year 1 Semester 1	Year 1 Semester 2	Year 2 Semester 1	Year 2 Semester 2
Core	n/a	30 credits	n/a	n/a	30 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

60 credits in total

Core modules: (PART-TIME ROUTE) STUDENTS CHOOSE TWO MODULES FROM THREE:

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7731	Teaching and Learning a Second Language	30 credits
Semester 1	ED7732	Exploring Grammar and Pronunciation: From Theory to Practice	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7733	Analysing Language in Social Contexts	30 credits

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See postgraduate module specification database [Login required] (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery)