Course Specification
— (Postgraduate)

Course Title:	Research Methods in Applied Linguistics
Course Code::	
Program:	Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics
Department:	Languages and Translation
College:	Humanities and Social Sciences
Institution:	Northern Border University
Version:	1
Last Revision Date:	May 14, 2024

Table of Contents

A. General information about the course:

1. Course Identification:

1. Credit hours: (3)

2. Course type

A.	☐ University	☐ College	x Department	☐ Track	
B.	☒ Required		☐ Elective		

3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 1/ 1st year

4. Course General Description:

Research Methods in Applied Linguistics" is a foundational course that equips Master's students with an array of research methodologies central to the discipline. The curriculum encompasses quantitative, qualitative, and mixed methods, fostering analytical skills for linguistic data interpretation. Students will engage with ethical research practices, enhance their academic writing, and gain proficiency in research reporting. The course is designed to prepare students for advanced studies and to navigate the research landscape of Applied Linguistics effectively.

5. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

NA

6. Pre-requirements for this course (if any):

NA

7. Course Main Objective(s):

Upon successful completion of this course, the students will be able to:

1. Master key research methodologies in applied linguistics.

2. Analyze linguistic data using advanced analytical techniques.

3. Utilize technology for research and presentation in linguistics.

4. Evaluate linguistic research for scholarly and ethical rigor.

5. Develop intercultural competence in linguistic research contexts.

2. Teaching Mode: (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	45	100%
2	E-learning		
3	Hybrid		

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
	● Traditional classroom ● E-learning		
4	Distance learning		

3. Contact Hours: (based on the academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1.	**Lectures**	45
2.	**Laboratory/Studio**	
3.	**Field**	
4.	**Tutorial**	
5.	**Others (specify)……**	
	Total	45

B. Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs), Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods:

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Code of CLOs aligned with program	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	**Knowledge and understanding**			
1.1	Define the distinctions between qualitative, quantitative, and mixed-methods research paradigms and discuss their application in applied linguistics.	K1	Class/Group discussion Problem-based learning Self-Learning Peer learning Concept Maps Summary	Peer evaluation Reports Self-assessment Oral exams Portfolio Written exam

2.0	**Skills**				
2.1	Analyze statistical and qualitative analysis techniques to interpret data and draw meaningful conclusions in applied linguistics research.	S1		Investigation Scientific research	Case study Reports Portfolio
2.2	Employ technological tools and software for data collection, analysis, and presentation of research findings.	S3		Investigation Scientific research	Reports Portfolio
2.3	Evaluate published research in applied linguistics, assessing the validity, reliability, and generalizability of studies.	S 1		Problem-based learning Collaborative learning Peer learning Model-based learning	Problem-based Assessment Peer Feedback Peer evaluation Discussion Simulation/Role playing
3.0	**Values, autonomy, and responsibility**				
3.1	Illustrate ethical standards in conducting research, including informed consent, confidentiality, and the responsible reporting of results.	V1		Self-learning Class/Group discussion Problem-based learning Collaborative learning	Self-assessment Peer evaluation Case study Debate

C. Course Content:

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	**Quantitative Research Methods**: o Introduction to statistical analysis o Experimental design o Surveys and questionnaires o Corpus linguistics o Quantitative data collection techniques	5
2	**Qualitative Research Methods**: o Ethnography o Case studies o Interviews (structured, semi-structured, and unstructured) o Observational research o Discourse analysis	5
3	**Mixed Methods Research:** o Combining quantitative and qualitative approaches o Triangulation o Sequential and concurrent designs	5
4	**Intercultural Communication and Research Ethics:** o Ethical considerations in cross-cultural research o Conducting research in multilingual settings o Cross-cultural research methodologies o Ethical reporting and plagiarism	5
5	**Data Collection Techniques**: o Audio and video recording o Transcription o Field notes o Diaries and journals	5
6	**Language Assessment and Testing**: o Validity and reliability o Test development o Item analysis	5

7	**Technology in Research**:
	
	  o Computer-assisted language learning (CALL)
	  o Mobile-assisted language learning (MALL)
	  o Corpus-based research
		5

8	**Teacher Research and Classroom-Based Research**:
	
	  o Action research
	  o Reflective practice
	  o Investigating classroom dynamics
		5

9	**Research Reporting and Academic Writing**:
	
	  o Writing research proposals
	  o Structuring research papers
	  o APA or other citation styles
		5

Total		**45**

D. Students Assessment Activities:

No	Assessment Activities *	Assessment timing (in week no)	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1.	Mid-term Exam	7	25%
2.	Assignments	Various (e.g., 4, 8, 12)	20%
3.	Research Projects/Practical Component	11	15%
4.	Class Participation and Engagement	Ongoing	10%
5.	Final Exam	16	30%
	Total		100%

*Assessment Activities (i.e., Written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Learning Resources and Facilities:

1. References and Learning Resources:

Essential References	The Routledge Handbook of Research Methods in Applied Linguistics by Jim McKinley and Heath Rose (2020) (Routledge).
Supportive References	Mixed-methods Research in Applied Linguistics: Charting the Progress through the Second Decade of the Twenty-First Century, (Volume 57 Issue, publication year not stated) (Cambridge Core). Ethics in Applied Linguistics Research: Language Researcher Narratives by Peter De Costa (2020) (Routledge).

	The Future of Language: How Technology, Politics and Utopianism are Transforming the Way we Communicate by Philip Seargeant (2020)

Schmitt, N., & Rodgers, M. (2019). An introduction to applied linguistics. London and New York: Routledge.

Simpson, J.)2011). The Routledge Handbook of Applied Linguistics. London and New York: Routledge. |
| **Electronic Materials** | KKU digital library (kku.edu.sa)

http://www.baal.org.uk/
http://www.appliedlinguistics.org/
https://www.tesol.org/
https://www.iatefl.org/
https://www.aaal.org/
https://alrjournal.com/ |
| **Other Learning Materials** | |

2. Educational and Research Facilities and Equipment Required:

Items	Resources
Accommodation
(Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Lecture room
Technology Resources
(AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	Computers, data show, AV
Other Resources
(Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	Access to online databases and journals for up-to-date research materials

F. Assessment of Course Quality:

Assessment Areas/Issues	Assessor	Assessment Methods
Effectiveness of Teaching	Program leader, Students	Direct
Effectiveness of students assessment	Program Leader, Students	Direct
Quality of learning resources	Faculty, Program Leaders	Indirect
The extend to which CLOs have been achieved	Program Leaders; Peer Reviewer	Indirect
Effectiveness of Teaching		

Evaluation Areas/Issues (e.g., Effectiveness of teaching and assessment, Extent of achievement of course learning outcomes, Quality of learning resources, etc.)

Evaluators (Students, Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer, Others (specify)

Assessment Methods (Direct, Indirect)

G. Specification Approval Data:

COUNCIL /COMMITTEE	DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGES AND TRANSLATION COUNCIL
REFERENCE NO.	
DATE	14 MAY 2024