Module Descriptor

Title	Language Dissertation		
Session	2025/26	Status	
Code	LING10006	SCQF Level	10
Credit Points	40	ECTS (European Credit Transfer Scheme)	20
School	Education and Social Sciences		
Module Co-ordinator	B Cross		

Summary of Module

In this module, students will learn to write a dissertation on a topic of their choice, related to the English language, cultures of English speaking countries, or intercultural topics. During the module, students will develop an understanding of the nature of academic research as based on empirical evidence and appropriate research methodology. They will learn to define adequate research aims, select appropriate methods, search for, identify and critically evaluate sources, summarise, analyse, synthesise, and interpret source materials accurately and critically, and develop evidence-based, sound and balanced conclusions based on prior analysis; if human participants are involved in their projects, students will develop an ability to employ appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative methods, including definition of adequate samples, development of appropriate research instruments, and application of adequate methods of data analysis. Linguistically, students will develop an ability to produce an extended written academic text, deliver an oral presentation, and conduct an oral discussion of their project, with due attention to communicative effectiveness, text structures, text clarity, stylistic appropriateness, and accuracy of linguistic forms. They will also develop an ability to work independently and under their own initiative, manage their workload and time, and reflect critically on their own knowledge and skills. In assessment of all components of the module, quality of subject content and level of language skills will be assessed separately and weighted equally.

Module Delivery Method	On-Campus[1]	Hybrid[2]	Online[3]	Work -Based Learning[4]
	☒	☐	☐	☐

[1] Where contact hours are synchronous/ live and take place fully on campus. Campus-based learning is focused on providing an interactive learning experience supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[2] The module includes a combination of synchronous/ live on-campus and online learning events. These will be supported by a range of digitally-enabled asynchronous learning opportunities including learning materials, resources, and opportunities provided via the virtual learning environment. On-campus and online contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[3] Where all learning is solely delivered by web-based or internet-based technologies and the participants can engage in all learning activities through these means. All required contact hours will be clearly articulated to students.

[4] Learning activities where the main location for the learning experience is in the workplace. All required contact hours, whether online or on campus, will be clearly articulated to students

Campuses for Module Delivery	☐ Ayr ☐ Dumfries	☐ Lanarkshire ☐ London ☒ Paisley	☐ Online / Distance Learning ☐ Other (specify)
Terms for Module Delivery	Term 1 ☐	Term 2 ☐	Term 3 ☐
Long-thin Delivery over more than one Term	Term 1 – Term 2 ☒	Term 2 – Term 3 ☐	Term 3 – Term 1 ☐

Learning Outcomes	
L1	Demonstrate an abililty to choose a suitable research topic, formulate adequate research aims , and decide on appropriate research methods.
L2	Demonstrate an ability to search for, identify, classify, evaluate and select sources as appropriate for their project aims; if human subjects are involved: demonstrate an ability to define appropriate samples, and design and administer appropriate research instruments.
L3	Demonstrate an ability to report, analyse and interpret sources accurately and critically, and to produce sound, balanced and evidence-based conclusions; if human subjects are involved: demonstrate an ability to analyse and interpret critically empirical data.
L4	Demonstrate an ability to produce an extended piece of written work, with due attention to text structure, clarity, conciseness, linguistic accuracy, academic style, and referencing techniques; deliver an oral presentation, and conduct a formal discussion of their project, with due attention to structure, clarity, conciseness, accuracy, style, and effective oral communication
L5	Demonstrate an ability to reflect critically on their own knowledge, understanding, and skills; work independently and under their own initiative, manage their workload and time, and appreciate diversity in terms of academic knowledge and methods.

Employability Skills and Personal Development Planning (PDP) Skills	
SCQF Headings	**During completion of this module, there will be an opportunity to achieve core skills in:**
Knowledge and Understanding (K and U)	**SCQF 10** Recognising, understanding and critically evaluating existing knowledge, theories and concepts in a specialist field Recognising, understanding and critically evaluating research methods in a specialist field
Practice: Applied Knowledge and Understanding	**SCQF 10** Applying research methods to derive evidence from relevant sources Critically evaluating evidence acquired through research Developing and testing conclusions drawn from evidence in relation to a specialised subject
Generic Cognitive skills	**SCQF 10** Critically evaluating existing knowledge in complex fields Understanding qualitative and/or quantitative research methods

	Deriving conclusions from complex and varied evidence
	Critically testing conclusions against a variety research methods and complex and varied types of evidence
Communication, ICT and Numeracy Skills	**SCQF 10** Presenting orally complex information about specialist subjects to specialist audiences Describing, explaining and defending research methods and conclusions relating to specialist subjects in discussion with specialists Producing an extended research paper setting out research design, evidence and conclusions concerning specialist subjects using a range of IT applications for oral presentations and written papers
Autonomy, Accountability and Working with Others	**SCQF 10** Identifying aims and methods of a research project in consultation with subject specialists Executing a research project in consultation with subject specialists Taking account of and adhering to timescales and deadlines Taking responsibility for methods and conclusions of a research project by defending them in discussion with subject specialists

Prerequisites	Module Code	Module Title
	Other CEFR B2/C1 or equivalent	
Co-requisites	Module Code	Module Title

Learning and Teaching
In line with current learning and teaching principles, a 20-credit module includes 200 learning hours, normally including a minimum of 36 contact hours and maximum of 48 contact hours.
Core information on research methods will be delivered in form of lectures. In tutorial sessions, students will have opportunities to discuss their projects and to practice academic writing, presentation and discussion skills. Support for individual projects will be provided by dissertation supervisors on an ongoing basis. At the end of trimester 1, students will deliver an oral presentation of their projects. At the end of trimester 2, students will present their completed project in form of a written dissertation of 5000 - 6000 words. Following submission of the dissertation, students will participate in a formal discussion of their project with their assessors. The module will be supported throughout by the VLE.

Learning Activities During completion of this module, the learning activities undertaken to achieve the module learning outcomes are stated below:	**Student Learning Hours** (Note: Learning hours include both contact hours and hours spent on other learning activities)
Lecture / Core Content Delivery	24
Tutorial / Synchronous Support Activity	48
Independent Study	328
n/a	

n/a	
n/a	
TOTAL	400

Indicative Resources
The following materials form essential underpinning for the module content and ultimately for the learning outcomes:

Bailey, S (2018) Book Academic Writing : a handbook for international students 5th ed. Abingdon, Oxon New York:Routledge

Bell, Judith,Waters, Stephen (2008) Doing your research project : a guide for first -time researchers, 7th ed.London :Open University Press

Boudah, Daniel J. (2020) Book Conducting educational research : guide to completing a thesis, dissertation, or action research project 2nd ed.Thousand Oaks, California :SAGE Publications

King, K A, Lai YJ, May S, (2020) Research Methods in Language Education, Third edition.Champaign, IL :Springer

(N.B. Although reading lists should include current publications, students are advised (particularly for material marked with an asterisk*) to wait until the start of session for confirmation of the most up-to-date material)

Attendance and Engagement Requirements
In line with the Student Attendance and Engagement Procedure, Students are academically engaged if they are regularly attending and participating in timetabled on-campus and online teaching sessions, asynchronous online learning activities, course-related learning resources, and complete assessments and submit these on time.

For the purposes of this module, academic engagement equates to the following:

 All fulltime students are required to attend all scheduled classes and participate with all delivered elements of the module as part of their engagement with their programme of study. Consideration will be given to students who have protection unter the appropriate equality las. Please refer to UWS Regulations, Chapter 1, 1.64 - 1.67

Equality and Diversity
The University's Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Procedure can be accessed at the following link: UWS Equality, Diversity and Human Rights Code.

This module forms part of the BA English Language degree. The cohort is a diverse, international group with various language repertoires. Students will be encouraged to share and respectfully respond to their various experiences of language diversity, relating this to critical discussions of social issues where appropriate. Equality and diversity are key tenets of the perspective adopted through the module.

(N.B. Every effort will be made by the University to accommodate any equality and diversity issues brought to the attention of the School)

Supplemental Information

Divisional Programme Board	Education

Overall Assessment Results	☐ **Pass / Fail** ☒ **Graded**
Module Eligible for Compensation	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No** **If this module is eligible for compensation, there may be cases where compensation is not permitted due to programme accreditation requirements. Please check the associated programme specification for details.**
School Assessment Board	Languages
Moderator	K Highet
External Examiner	V McDonagh
Accreditation Details	
Module Appears in CPD catalogue	☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**
Changes / Version Number	1

Assessment (also refer to Assessment Outcomes Grids below)
Assessment 1
Dissertation 60%
Assessment 2
Oral Presentation 15%
Assessment 3
Oral Exam 25%
(N.B. (i) Assessment Outcomes Grids for the module (one for each component) can be found below which clearly demonstrate how the learning outcomes of the module will be assessed.   (ii) An indicative schedule listing approximate times within the academic calendar when assessment is likely to feature will be provided within the Student Module Handbook.)

Component 1

Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Dissertation	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	60	

Component 2

Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Oral Presentation	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	15	3

Component 3

Assessment Type	LO1	LO2	LO3	LO4	LO5	Weighting of Assessment Element (%)	Timetabled Contact Hours
Oral Exam	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	25	1

Combined total for all components	100%	hours

Change Control

What	When	Who
Transferred to new template	Oct 24	B Cross