



Course Specifications

Course Title:	Research Methods
Course Code:	ENG 411
Program:	Bachelor of Arts in English
Department:	English
College:	Faculty of Languages and Translation
Institution:	King Khalid University

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A. Course Identification

1. Credit hours: 3
2. Course type
a. University <input type="checkbox"/> College <input type="checkbox"/> Department <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
b. Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Elective <input type="checkbox"/>
3. Level/year at which this course is offered: Level 7/Year 4
4. Pre-requisites for this course (if any): N/A
5. Co-requisites for this course (if any): N/A

6. Mode of Instruction (mark all that apply)

No	Mode of Instruction	Contact Hours	Percentage
1	Traditional classroom	45	100%
2	Blended		
3	E-learning		
4	Distance learning		
5	Other		

7. Contact Hours (based on academic semester)

No	Activity	Contact Hours
1	Lecture	45
2	Laboratory/Studio	
3	Tutorial	
4	Others (specify) (Virtual advising)	
	Total	45

B. Course Objectives and Learning Outcomes

1. Course Description

Language Research Methods capitalizes on the knowledge and skills the students have acquired over their three years of BA studies. It introduces them to the principles, approaches, techniques, and ethics of conducting research and acquaints them with the salient traits that characterize research in Applied Linguistics, Literature, and Translation Studies. The course also guides students to benefit from the resources and applications information technology has made available for researchers. The course follows a cyclical pattern of progression; it echoes writers' non-linear thinking, reading, and writing processes.

2. Course Main Objective

Language Research Methods seeks to:

- introduce students to academic research,
- familiarize students with the basic skills to conduct research,

- initiate students to undertaking research.

3. Course Learning Outcomes

CLOs		Aligned PLOs
1	Knowledge and Understanding	
1.1	Describe clearly and accurately the essential stages of conducting research.	K3
1.2	Define the important technical terms and concepts related to research methodology.	K2
1.3	Select the research design and research sample.	K3
1.4	Consider ethical issues in research.	K3
2	Skills :	
2.1	Integrate and synthesize knowledge from different sources efficiently.	S6
2.2	Evaluate a language-related research paper for overall quality, cohesion, coherence, and persuasiveness.	S2
2.3	Write a preliminary language-related research proposal.	S3
2.4	Use databases efficiently to search for relevant online material.	S9
3	Values:	
3.1	Select relevant community problems as language research topics and critically reflect on them.	V1
3.2	Demonstrate professional teamwork skills while doing research tasks in groups or pairs.	V2
3.3	Defend their research methods and findings in ethically approved manner both individually and in a group.	V3

C. Course Content

No	List of Topics	Contact Hours
1	Research: A way of Thinking Application and types of research	6
2	The Research Process	6
3	Reviewing the Literature	4
4	Formulating a Research Problem	4
5	Identify Variables	6
6	Constructing Hypotheses	3
7	The Research Design	6
8	Selecting a Method of Data Collection	3
9	Selecting a Research Sample	3
10	Considering Ethical Issues in Research	2
11	Writing a Research Report	2
Total		45

D. Teaching and Assessment

1. Alignment of Course Learning Outcomes with Teaching Strategies and Assessment Methods

Code	Course Learning Outcomes	Teaching Strategies	Assessment Methods
1.0	Knowledge and Understanding		
1.1	Describe clearly and accurately the essential stages of conducting research.	Explanation	Quizzes/assignments
1.2	Define the important technical terms and concepts related to research methodology.	Discussion	Midterm test
1.3	Select the research design and research sample.	Practical Activities in class	Tests and quizzes
1.4	Consider ethical issues in research.	Practical Activities in class	Group assignments
2.0	Skills		
2.1	Integrate and synthesize knowledge from different sources efficiently.	Discussion	Annotated bibliography
2.2	Evaluate a language-related research paper for overall quality, cohesion, coherence, and persuasiveness.	Explanation Discussion	Critique essay
2.3	Write a preliminary language-related research proposal.	Report structure demo	Report
2.4	Use databases efficiently to search for relevant online material.	Group work	
3.0	Values		
3.1	Select relevant community problems as language research topics and critically reflect on them.	Classroom discussions	Topic selection assignment
3.2	Demonstrate professional teamwork skills while doing research tasks in groups or pairs.	Group discussion tasks	Group assignments
3.3	Defend their research methods and findings in ethically approved manner both individually and in a group.	Demo viva voice exam	Presentation

2. Assessment Tasks for Students

#	Assessment task*	Week Due	Percentage of Total Assessment Score
1	Assignments (chapters' practical tasks)	3, 4, 6, 8	10
2	Annotated bibliographies (Review of Literature)	9, 10	5
3	Reflective report (a detailed reflective report on the research tasks conducted throughout the semester)	12	10
4	Presentation	11	5
5	Midterm Test	13	20
6	Final Exam	14	50
7	Total		100

*Assessment task (i.e., written test, oral test, oral presentation, group project, essay, etc.)

E. Student Academic Counseling and Support

Arrangements for availability of faculty and teaching staff for individual student consultations and academic advice: 2 hour per week

F. Learning Resources and Facilities

1. Learning Resources

Required Textbooks	Recommendation: Kumar, R. (2018). <i>Research methodology: A step-by-step guide for beginners</i> . 5th Edition. Sage.
Essential References Materials	Griffiee, D. (2012), <i>An Introduction to Second Language Research Methods: Design and Data</i> , University of California: TESL-EJ Publications. https://www.coursera.org/learn/research-methods
Electronic Materials	Intro to Research Methods - YouTube Research Methods - Introduction - YouTube https://www.researchmethods.co.uk/
Other Learning Materials	N/A

2. Facilities Required

Item	Resources
Accommodation (Classrooms, laboratories, demonstration rooms/labs, etc.)	Properly furnished classroom
Technology Resources (AV, data show, Smart Board, software, etc.)	Data show, Smart Board, projector
Other Resources (Specify, e.g. if specific laboratory equipment is required, list requirements or attach a list)	N/A

G. Course Quality Evaluation

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Whole course specification	Course instructors	Course report
Course delivery	Students	Students' course survey
Describe the planning arrangements for periodically reviewing course effectiveness and planning for improvement.	Program Leaders	1. Regular meetings among teachers and the course coordinator 2. Regular meetings by the curriculum review committee 3. Departmental council meetings to discuss proposals for the curriculum

Evaluation Areas/Issues	Evaluators	Evaluation Methods
Processes for Verifying Standards of Student Achievement	Program Leaders	Mutual checking of random samples of examination papers by coordinators and other teachers of the same course and by the designated committees.
Processes for Improvement of Teaching	Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer	1. In-house workshop. 2. Working group meetings. 3. Training new instructors.
Other Strategies for Evaluation of Teaching by the Instructor or by the Department	Faculty Peer Reviewers	Occasional in-class observations by faculty peers.
Describe the planning arrangements for periodically reviewing course effectiveness and planning for improvement.	Program Leaders	1. Regular meetings among teachers and the course coordinator 2. Regular meetings by the curriculum review committee 3. Departmental council meetings to discuss proposals for the curriculum
Processes for Verifying Standards of Student Achievement	Program Leaders	Mutual checking of random samples of examination papers by coordinators and other teachers of the same course and by the designated committees.
Processes for Improvement of Teaching	Faculty, Program Leaders, Peer Reviewer	1. In-house workshop. 2. Working group meetings. 3. Training new instructors.

Evaluation areas (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)

H. Specification Approval Data

Council / Committee	Department of English
Reference No.	14
Date	May 2, 2021