English Language Teaching

Degree Programmes

M.Litt.: English Language Teaching

For all Masters degrees there are exit awards available that allow suitably-qualified candidates to receive a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma.

Programme Requirements

English Language Teaching
Taught Element:

(Full-time local mode): 80 credits from ET5100 – ET5109 and 40 credits from ET5121 – ET5150

(Collaborative mode): 60 credits from ET5970 – ET5990 (taught in Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), 20 credits from ET5105, 40 credits from ET5121 – ET5150

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Taught Element plus ET5199

English Language Teaching

The aim of this one-year full-time postgraduate programme is to provide a solid foundation in, and critical understanding of, the theory and practice of English Language Teaching.

Graduates from the programme will have gained an in-depth understanding of the theory of second language acquisition, as well as current thinking on teaching second language methodology, and will have had an opportunity to observe different language classes and reflect on their own teaching/learning contexts.

There are two parallel programmes: one taught fully in St Andrews and one organised jointly by the University of St Andrews and the Beijing Foreign Studies University. The foundations of Applied Linguistics are laid in the first semester either in St Andrews or in BFSU, and are developed and applied to practice during the second semester at the University of St Andrews.

Successful completion of the first two semesters on either programme allows students to proceed to the dissertation stage and undertake a piece of classroom research.
Modules

ET5101 Teaching & Language
Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching (local mode)
Description: This module focuses on how languages are learned and how learners learn. Theories of language learning will be analysed and acquisition order, individual learning styles, error analysis, pragmatics, the context of learning and aspects of classroom research will be explored. Students will undertake a small second language analysis project.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 11 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100% (Error Correction Project = 60%, 2,500 Word Take-away Paper = 40%)

ET5103 Linguistics for Language Teachers
Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Anti-requisites: ET5301, LI5001, ET5977
Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching (local mode)
Description: This module explores and analyses the structure and sound system of the English Language and leads to the development of an in-depth understanding of the language systems and the language-related issues which are commonly taught on beginner to advanced level syllabuses in the English Language teaching classroom, as well as exploring the theoretical issues of the written and spoken language and their relevance to the practical implementation of English phonology.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 11 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, 3-hour Examination = 50%

ET5105 Teaching & Learning
Credits: 20  Semester: 2
Prerequisites: (local mode) 60 credits from ET5100 - ET5109
(collaborative mode) 60 credits from ET5970 - ET5990
Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching (both modes)
Description: This module provides an overview of the practical development of ELT methodology from traditional Grammar-Translation Method to post-CLT methodology, and includes PPP and its alternatives, Task-based Learning and Content-based Instruction. Particular attention is given to the teaching of language skills, grammar and vocabulary, as well as materials evaluation.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 11 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5107 The Context of English Language Teaching
Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching (local mode)
Description: Students are provided with a detailed history of English Language Teaching which places ELT within the broader field of education and globalisation, and how it is consequently influenced by developments in philosophy and international politics. It places ELT in the context of second language curriculum which includes learner needs, goals, syllabus, methodology, assessment and evaluation. It investigates individual learning styles, cultural backgrounds and learning context.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 11 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 40%, 3 Hour Examination = 60%
ET5124 English for Academic Purposes
Credits: 10 Semester: 2
Prerequisites: (local mode) 60 credits from ET5100 - ET5109
(collaborative mode) 60 credits from ET5970 - ET5990
Programme(s): Optional module for English Language Teaching (both modes)
Description: This module examines the difference between English for General Purposes, English for General Academic Purposes and English for Specific Academic Purposes and takes as its starting point the different contexts in which English is used as a medium of study and how courses in EAP can support that study. Materials and methods which aim to develop the language skills of students are evaluated. Throughout the module, the specific needs of overseas students intending to study in an English-medium university at postgraduate level will be explored. This will include language proficiency tests such as IELTS, required for university entrance, and the study skills necessary to succeed in a UK or American university.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 5 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5125 Teaching Young Learners
Credits: 10 Semester: 2
Prerequisites: (local mode) 60 credits from ET5100 - ET5109
(collaborative mode) 60 credits from ET5970 - ET5990
Programme(s): Optional module for English Language Teaching (both modes)
Description: This module will examine the difference in approach between teaching adults and teaching children, as well as the differences between teaching young learners below the age of 12 and teenagers, taking into consideration their social and cognitive development. The importance of story-, content-, and task-based learning will be considered, as well as factors such as age, creativity, motivation and discipline. A selection of YL teaching and testing materials will be critically analysed.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 6 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5126 Testing & Evaluation
Credits: 10 Semester: 2
Prerequisites: (local mode) 60 credits from ET5100 - ET5109
(collaborative mode) 60 credits from ET5970 - ET5990
Programme(s): Optional module for English Language Teaching (both modes)
Description: This module critically evaluates the different approaches to teaching and evaluation, taking into consideration the different theoretical concepts, formal and informal testing, validity and reliability, backwash and alternative assessment, such as portfolios. A selection of EFL testing materials such as the Cambridge Main Suite and the Trinity College London Spoken Examinations (GESE) and Integrated Skills (ISE) will be critically analysed, and students will be expected to plan and design tests for specific learning contexts.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 2-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 5 weeks.
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%
ET5127 Teaching & Researching

Credits: 10  Semester: 2
Prerequisites: (local mode) 60 credits from ET5100 - ET5109
        (collaborative mode) 60 credits from ET5970 - ET5990
Programme(s): Optional module for English Language Teaching (both modes)
Description: This module introduces classroom-based research methods for English language teachers. The student taking the module will learn reflective practice skills as well as what is required from a dissertation project and how to carry one out. Module content covers research questions, project design, how to collect, analyse and report data as well as giving particular attention to action research and reflective writing.
Class Hour: To be arranged.
Teaching: 1-hour lecture and 1-hour seminar each week for 6 weeks.
Assessment: 2-hour Examination = 100%

ET5199 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme

Credits: 60  Semester: 2
Prerequisites: Grade average of 13.5 for course work
Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching
Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff, who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15,000 words must be submitted by the end of August.
Class Hour: At times arranged with the supervisor
Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%

ET5977 Study Abroad - Descriptions & Analysis of English

Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Description: This module, together with ET5979 and ET5989, cover the foundations of Applied Linguistics and are taught in Semester One at Beijing Foreign Studies University by their staff.

ET5979 Study Abroad - Foreign Language Education

Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Description: This module, together with ET5977 and ET5989, cover the foundations of Applied Linguistics and are taught in Semester One at Beijing Foreign Studies University by their staff.

ET5989 Study Abroad - Beijing - Schools of Linguistics & Academic Reading

Credits: 20  Semester: 1
Description: This module, together with ET5977 and ET5979, cover the foundations of Applied Linguistics and are taught in Semester One at Beijing Foreign Studies University by their staff.