

MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL

Why study this programme?

This programme will appeal to students who want to explore:

- The most effective ways to teach / learn a second / foreign language.
- The most effective ways to manage second / foreign language classroom interaction.
- How ICT can help second / foreign language teaching / learning.
- How to develop other social and cognitive skills while learning a second / foreign language.
- How to develop and evaluate a second / foreign language curriculum.
- Different models of bilingual and second / foreign language education.
- Different styles of learning and communication.
- The role of language and language learning in cross-cultural communication.
- The role of English as a 'lingua franca'.
- How to develop as a teacher.

About Newcastle University

The University offers exceptional education experiences, providing students with a sound academic and personal grounding for whatever career they decide to pursue. The University has an excellent record for graduates going on to further study or research or in gaining employment.

- Newcastle University was ranked 7th in the world for international students satisfaction in the International Student Barometer 2007.
- The University is a member of the elite Russell Group, an association of the leading research-intensive universities in the UK.
- Newcastle University is currently ranked 20th in the UK, in the Times Good University Guide 2009.
- Our Careers Service has won seven prestigious national awards and provides excellent advice.
- Newcastle University has just completed an £8million renovation project and is investing a further £200 million in creating a superb campus for the 21st century.

- Newcastle University's Library is the only library in the UK to be awarded the Charter Mark for excellent customer service five times in a row.

The City and Region

Voted Britain's best student city in a survey by 'AccommodationForStudents.com', Newcastle is one of the most exciting, friendly and cosmopolitan cities in the UK. Newcastle has an international airport and is 3 hours by train from London. The university campus is located in the heart of the compact city centre. The stunning North East coastline is 30 minutes away from the campus via the efficient metro system. Newcastle is a fairly inexpensive place for students to live compared to many other places in the UK. Newcastle boasts an excellent array of museums, art gallery's and music venues and has a diverse range of restaurants, cafe's and bars to suit every taste. Extensive shopping facilities include the city centre boutiques, designer stores and markets and Europe's largest shopping and leisure complex, the MetroCentre.

MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL

Newcastle University has been offering Masters degrees in Applied Linguistics and TESOL for over twenty-five years. Building on that experience we now offer a wide range of specialist options on a single degree course which is open to both experienced teachers and to students with little or no teaching experience who would like to become teachers. The two groups will follow different routes through the programme, though most modules are open to all students. The programme can be studied in 12 months full time or over 24 months part time.

'The conditions for students at Newcastle are excellent; libraries, space for studying, resources, computers, everything is easily accessible'





Programme structure

This programme is uniquely structured to reflect the prior experience of students and compulsory modules exist for those with less than two years teaching experience.

Core Modules:

Students that have at least two years' teaching experience will study the following compulsory modules:

- TESOL Theory and Practice
- Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

Students that have less than two years' teaching experience will study the following compulsory modules:

- Introduction to TESOL
- Core Issues in Second Language Acquisition
- Research Methods in Applied Linguistics

Optional modules:

Students that have at least two years teaching experience can choose any modules (total 80 credits) from the list below.

Students that have less than two years teaching experience can choose any modules (total 60 credits) from the list below.

All modules listed below are worth 20 credits:

- Task Based Language Teaching and Assessment
- Language Testing and Assessment
- Research Methods in Applied Linguistics
- TESOL for Young Learners
- Developing Thinking through Language Learning
- Teacher Development for TESOL
- Core Issues in Second Language Acquisition
- Linguistic Profiling and Language Testing
- Psycholinguistics and Language Development
- Reconceptualising SLA Research: The Issues and Debates
- Bilingualism and Bilingual Education
- Understanding Second Language Classroom Interaction
- Discourse Analysis
- Computer Assisted Language Learning
- The English Writing System
- English in the world: Global & Cross-Cultural Issues Surrounding English as a 'Lingua Franca'
- Culture Interculturality and Identity
- Sociolinguistics
- Language and Cross Cultural Communication
- The Social Psychology of Language
- 'Students into schools' module: Students gain practical experience in a teaching environment- this can be 10 or 20 credits.

Students may substitute one module from another programme in Education or the School of English. Please note that occasionally we may not be able to offer all modules in a particular year.

DISSERTATION or SOFTWARE PORTFOLIO

All students must complete a Dissertation or Software Portfolio to the value of 60 credits.

Further study

Candidates who reach a high standard in their taught modules and dissertation or software portfolio may be able to progress to the Integrated PhD in Educational and Applied Linguistics subject to a successful interview. Candidates may transfer some credits to the IPhD.

Coursework and assessment

The programme offers a range of learning activities and approaches to study, from formal lectures and seminars to simulations and group participation in problem solving activities and tasks. Students are assessed on their work mostly in the forms of essays, practical assignments, presentations or the production and evaluation of teaching materials.

Learning Support

To ensure a smooth transition into the teaching and learning in Newcastle and a successful learning outcome, a range of support will be provided to you before you arrive in Newcastle and throughout the course.

- Pre-course reading list
- Induction week introduction to academic study and the programme
- Workshops on academic writing and dissertation
- Tutorials
- Individual personal tutors
- Reading groups
- Data analysis sessions
- A strong and support team of administrative staff
- Language improvement and study skills
- Open Access Centre
- Library facilities
- Computing facilities
- Student Wellbeing Service

Learning Facilities

Within the School you'll have access to some top quality facilities and a growing collection of online resources and wider University facilities. We can offer:

- A well-stocked Education Resource Centre
- A Multimedia language learning and teaching laboratory
- A Language Analysis Lab
- A Phonetics Lab
- An Audio-video Lab
- A Recording Studio
- CRILLS – the Centre for Research in Linguistics and Language Sciences

Staff Profiles

Prof. Vivian Cook, Professor of Applied Linguistics. He has worked in several areas of first and second language acquisition, language teaching methodology, linguistics and EFL and is currently concentrating on work with writing and cross-writing system acquisition, and on the multicompetence theory of second language acquisition.

Dr Alan Firth, Senior lecturer, His research areas are Conversation Analysis, Second Language Acquisition (SLA), and English as a 'Lingua Franca'. He has studied language and social interaction in workplaces including telephone helplines, export sales, micro-electronics factories and EFL classrooms. His work (with Johannes Wagner) on SLA has been instrumental in reconceptualising the field.

Dr Christopher Jenks, Lecturer. Before joining Newcastle University, he worked as an English teacher and teacher trainer at a number of different schools and institutions. His research is concerned with conversation analysis and interactional sociolinguistics. For 2007-2008, he will offer modules in Discourse Analysis and Task-based Language Teaching and Assessment.

Dr Mei Lin, Lecturer. Dr Mei Lin is Degree Programme Director of the MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL. She taught English as a foreign language at schools and universities in China. Her main research interests are teacher pedagogy, classroom interactions and classroom discourse, especially in teaching thinking or critical thinking in ELT classrooms and the potential impact on teaching and learning. Her other research interest includes bilingualism and bilingual education.

Prof. Manfred Pienemann, Professor of Applied Linguistics, He is on the editorial board of Second Language Research, Language Teaching Research, and Bilingualism: Language and Cognition and is author/editor of several books. He has also authored a number of computer programmes for language testing and profiling. Professor Pienemann's main areas of research are linguistic profiling, second language acquisition research and psycholinguistics.

Dr Katie Scott, Lecturer, previously taught English as a foreign language in schools and colleges in Mongolia, Romania and the Czech Republic. Her main research interests are language testing and assessment - especially the potential effects on teaching and learning - and language and literacy development in multilingual contexts.

Prof. Paul Seedhouse, Professor of Educational and Applied Linguistics and Postgraduate Research Director for the School of ECLS.

His main research interests are the analysis of institutional interaction using Conversation Analysis methodology. He has published in a number of journals, including the Journal of Pragmatics, International Review of Applied Linguistics, English Language Teaching Journal. His other publications include Applying Conversation Analysis, which he co-edited.

Dr Peter Sercombe, Lecturer, teaches the modules Language and Cross-Cultural Communication and Sociolinguistics. His academic interests include: the sociolinguistics of minority groups, as well as cultural and linguistic maintenance and change. He worked for long periods overseas, especially in Southeast Asia, and is also interested in Austronesian languages and cultures.

Dr Steve Walsh, Senior Lecturer, Most of his experience is in TESOL and, in particular, in TESOL teacher education. His main areas of research interest relate to the role of language in education and to ways of improving professional practice through a closer understanding of classroom communication. Other research interests focus on promoting an understanding of professional discourse in different contexts using conversation analysis and corpus linguistics approaches.

Mr Scott Windeatt, Senior Lecturer, is head of the Applied Linguistics and TESOL Section. He has given lectures and workshops in many countries, including Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, the Philippines, Qatar and Spain. His main research interests are Computer-Assisted Language Learning, the use of the internet and multimedia for language learning, teacher training - especially using technology to train teachers.

Dr Tony Young, Lecturer, has worked in Applied Linguistics and English language education in the UK, USA, Malaysia, Italy and Spain. His main research interests are cross and intercultural communication in language teaching, an area in which he has published widely, as well as cross-cultural communication in general, and social psychological approaches to individual learner differences.





Research opportunities

We have research PhDs and Integrated PhDs (taught doctoral programmes) in Educational and Applied Linguistics. We specialise in research supervision in the fields of language learning (first, second and bilingual), applied and educational linguistics and TESOL, and cross-cultural communication. Specific areas of supervision include:

- Autonomous learning and self-assessment (Mr S Windeatt)
- Bilingual education (Dr M Lin)
- Computer-assisted language learning (CALL) (Mr S Windeatt)
- Cross-cultural interaction (Dr T Young, Dr P Sercombe)
- Discourse analysis (Dr P Seedhouse, Dr C Jenks, Dr A Firth and Dr S Walsh)
- English as a lingua franca (Dr A Firth, Dr. C Jenks)
- Language and literacy development in multilingual contexts (Dr K Scott)
- Language testing and assessment (Mr S Windeatt; Dr K Scott)
- Psycholinguistics and second language acquisition (Professor V Cook and Professor M Pienemann)
- Socio-interactive approaches to language learning (Dr P Seedhouse, Dr S Walsh, Dr. C. Jenks and Dr A Firth)
- Thinking skills in language teaching and learning (Dr M Lin)
- Writing systems (Professor V Cook)

Career opportunities

Our Applied Linguistics and TESOL programmes provide a good preparation for a career in:

- University teaching and research
- Teaching in schools
- Teaching overseas
- Working for professional bodies and overseas agencies

Entry requirements

You should be a graduate (or have equivalent qualifications);

- Applicants whose first language is not English should have IELTS 6.5 with at least 6.0 in writing, TOEFL 90 (Internet-based) or equivalent.
- For some modules a minimum of two years' full-time teaching experience is required.

Fees and funding

The fees for the academic year 2009/10 are: £10,215 for the 12 month programme. Fees are subject to annual increases. Please check the current fee information on the university website: www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/

Newcastle university offers a large number of partial scholarships for students. For further information visit: www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/guide

Contact

This brochure is also available in a number of different languages. For further information or if you have any queries please visit our website or contact:

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