

# MA Applied Linguistics and TESOL (DL)

## Course Pathway Guide

### Introduction

The course consists of core and optional units. All units are worth 30 credits, except for the *Dissertation*, which is worth 60. The core units are *Theory and Practice of Applied Linguistics*, *Theory and Practice of TESOL* and *Dissertation*. You must also choose two optional units to study over your programme. We recommend that you aim to gain 60 credits per year, although we recognize that some students may wish to progress quicker than this. The maximum registration period allowed by the University of Portsmouth for a postgraduate course is 5 years, including any breaks in study.

### Exit Levels

The credit system creates a flexible framework in which you can graduate with the following awards depending on the number of credits gained. These are:

- MA in Applied Linguistics and TESOL – 180 credits, including the dissertation, both core units and two optional units.
- Post graduate diploma in Applied Linguistics and TESOL – 120 credits, including both core units
- Post graduate certificate in Applied Linguistics and TESOL – 60 credits, including one core unit.

### Delivery of units

The units are offered at the following points:

September to January	Credits	January to May	Credits
Theory and Practice of Applied Linguistics (core)	30	Theory and Practice of TESOL (core)	30
Using Technology and Corpora in Learning, Teaching and Research (option)	30	Analysing, Evaluating and Writing Material (option)	30
World Englishes (option)	30		
September to August (for September entrants) January to January (for January entrants)			
Independent Learning (option)			30
Dissertation (core)			60

(Units are offered subject to minimum numbers.)

### Notes

- We expect students to study core units first, with the exception of the dissertation, which will normally be the last unit taken.
- The dissertation can only be taken after 120 credits have been gained, or if there is a reasonable expectation that any outstanding credits will be gained in the near future (for example, if assessments have been submitted but results are awaiting confirmation).
- The summer period can be spent preparing (largely through reading) for upcoming units or towards the end of your study, working on your dissertation.

- The University works on the assumption that one credit equates to 10 hours of study (so 300 hours for a 30 credit unit). Of course, this is essentially a guideline as there will be individual variation within this framework.

### **Unit choice dates and unit fees**

Units are chosen at the beginning of the year, September or January depending on your start date, so you will need to plan how many units you want to do across the first year initially.

### **September 2012 entry onwards:**

Fee information for 2012 entry and more detailed information can be found on our website at: <http://www.port.ac.uk/tuitionfees/>

Distance learning course fees are charged per 30-credit unit effectively and the rates from September 2012 are:

Home/EU students	£750
International students	£1750

Most students take the course over 3 academic years, taking 60 credits per year. The fee for 60 credits is £1500 per year (Home/EU) or £3500 (International). The rate is likely to increase with inflation each year you study with us.

The fees are payable at the beginning of the year when you choose your units. Please note that it is easy to add extra units if you want to increase your study pace. We strongly recommend that you be realistic when choosing your units. Your fees will be adjusted accordingly.

Payment by instalments is available – see our current fee leaflet for further details.

### **Application dates**

There are two entry points, in September and January. Please see the website for the deadlines for applications for each intakes - <http://www.port.ac.uk/maalandtesold/>

If you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the Faculty Admissions Centre at [humanities.admissions@port.ac.uk](mailto:humanities.admissions@port.ac.uk).

## Outlines of units

### Core Units

#### ***Theory and Practice of Applied Linguistics***

This unit aims to give students a critical perspective on their classroom experience by introducing them to how language works and how languages are learned.

#### ***Theory and Practice of TESOL***

Students consider the theory and practice that informs communicative language teaching and how individual and contextual factors impact on classroom practices and decision making. In so doing, they reflect on their own teaching and learning experiences.

#### ***Dissertation***

Students undertake a piece of significant research, reported and analysed in an appropriate manner in an area of professional relevance. A research proposal will be produced in the first instance and supervision from a tutor will be available throughout the process.

### Optional Units

#### ***Using Technology and Corpora in Learning, Teaching and Research***

Students are introduced to the ways in which they can make use of technology as both language teachers and language researchers. In particular, the unit focuses on the technological affordances of the internet and language corpora.

#### ***World Englishes***

The English language has always been characterised by dynamic change. This unit considers the political, ideological and pedagogical aspects of English being used as a global lingua franca.

#### ***Analysing, Evaluating and Writing Material***

This unit develops students' abilities to analyse teaching materials, with particular emphasis on the perspectives of discourse, pragmatics and theories of second language acquisition. Students will focus on evaluating and writing material with particular teaching contexts in mind.

#### ***Independent Learning***

This unit offers students the opportunity to profile their degree to their own professional and/or personal interests, allowing students the chance to study areas not covered elsewhere in the curriculum. Students negotiate an area for study and then pursue this with the support of a supervisor.