

Qualitative and Quantitative Research Methods

Code: 42297
ECTS Credits: 9

Degree	Type	Year	Semester
4313157 Advanced English Studies	OT	0	A

Contact

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Use of Languages

Principal working language: english (eng)

Teachers

María José Solé Sabater

Prerequisites

There are no prerequisites

Objectives and Contextualisation

The objectives of this course are

- (a) To provide students with the methodological tools needed to carry out linguistic research at a graduate level.
- (b) To introduce students to research using qualitative methods.
- (c) To introduce students to research using quantitative methods.
- (d) Familiarise students with data analysis instruments and the use of statistical packages.

Competences

- Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
- Analyse the relationship between factors, processes or phenomena in the acquisition of English as a second language, its learning and teaching methods, and its literature, history and culture.
- Apply methodological knowledge of statistical analysis and data generation, treatment and codification of multilingual databases, analysis of literary texts, etc. to research.
- Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
- Critically argue, issue judgements and present ideas on the basis of the analysis of information originating from scientific production in these areas.
- Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
- Distinguish and contrast between the different methodological and theoretical models applied to the academic study of the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.
- Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.

- Use new technologies for capturing and organising information relevant to lifelong learning and problem-solving in professional activities.
- Use the English language for academic and professional purposes related to research into the acquisition, teaching and use of English as a second language in multilingual and multicultural contexts, literary studies and cultural studies.
- Work effectively in teams in multilingual, multicultural and interdisciplinary professional and/or academic environments.

Learning Outcomes

1. Analyse and interpret linguistic data in a coherent and structured manner.
2. Analyse and synthesise information at an advanced level.
3. Apply statistical analysis methods as well as different techniques for the treatment, transcription and coding of oral and written data of a multilingual nature.
4. Communicate the knowledge acquired and the contributions of ones research correctly, accurately and clearly both orally and in writing.
5. Critically analyse and evaluate academic texts that discuss research conducted within qualitative and quantitative paradigms.
6. Design research studies from a quantitative and a qualitative perspective while correctly identifying the factors at stake and anticipating the complexities of data generation and its contexts.
7. Develop autonomous learning skills applicable to the research process.
8. Distinguish the ontological and epistemological principles of linguistic research of a quantitative-experimental and of a qualitative nature and explain their differences.
9. Orally present the methodological design, data, analysis and results of quantitative and qualitative pieces of research in an organised, clear and understandable manner.
10. Present the methodological design, data, analysis and results of quantitative and qualitative pieces of research in writing while observing the conventions of academic articles in English.
11. Show respect towards the opinions, values, behaviours and/or practices of others.
12. Use new technologies for capturing and organising information relevant to lifelong learning and problem-solving in professional activities.
13. Work effectively in teams in multilingual, multicultural and interdisciplinary professional and/or academic environments.

Content

Qualitative Methods

1. Concepts of language in qualitative research. Ontological and epistemological considerations. What quality research is N
2. Designing ethnographic research to answer qualitative research questions. Posit
3. Choosing the site for fieldwork and how to access it. Ethical and political conside
4. Language data types. Interaction, speech, language system, conversation, code:
5. Methods for collecting data 1: Writing fieldnotes. Compilation of texts and docum
6. Methods of data collection 2: Interviews, life stories and narratives.
7. The transcription of oral data and how to present qualitative data for the analysis
8. The validity of knowledge generated in qualitative and ethnographic research. Le

Quantitative Methods

1. Introduction to quantitative research methods. The road to research. Experimental research methods in different are
2. Basic notions in experimental research and research design. Dependent and independent variables. Hypothesis for and population. Subject/material/task selection. Types of experimental designs and further issues in experimental re
3. Descriptive statistics. Measures of centrality and dispersion. Data organization and presentation of results.
4. Basic inferential statistics. Probability theory. Main effects and interactions. T-tests. ANOVAs. Chi-square tests. Cor

Methodology

Lectures at the beginning of each topic to introduce basic concepts

In-class discussion of assigned readings.

Problem-solving activities.

Correction and discussion of exercises.

Data gathering, transcription and analysis

Activities

Title	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Type: Directed			
Assigned readings	25	1	5
Discussion of assigned readings	20	0.8	8
Practical exercises	30	1.2	1, 3, 6, 8, 13, 12
Type: Supervised			
Preparation work for assignments	25	1	9, 10
Type: Autonomous			
Exercises	50	2	5, 2, 7

Assessment

The course mark will be obtained by averaging out the mark for quantitative methods (50%) and for qualitative methods (50%). Reassessment of all the course content will be accomplished by a written exercise.

Quantitative methods

Assignments: 45%

Exam: 40%

Weekly homework and participation: 15%

Qualitative methods

Assignments 1, 2 and 3: 70%

Weekly homework and participation: 30%

VERY IMPORTANT: Partial or total plagiarising will immediately result in a FAIL (0) for the WHOLE SUBJECT. PLAGIARISING consists of copying text from unacknowledged sources -whether this is part of a sentence or whole text- with the intention of passing it off as the student's own production. It includes cutting and pasting from internet sources, presented unmodified in the student's own text. Plagiarising is a SERIOUS OFFENCE. Students must respect authors' intellectual property, always identifying the sources they may use; they must also be responsible for the originality and authenticity of their own text

Students are required to employ non-sexist language in their written and oral productions. For guidelines on how to do this, they are advised to check the website of the Linguistic Society of America (LSA): <https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/lisa-guidelines-nonsexist-usage>. Appropriate use of language will be part of the assessment criteria.

Procedure for reviewing grades awarded

On carrying out each evaluation activity, lecturers will inform students (on Moodle) of the procedures to be followed for reviewing all grades awarded, and the date on which such a review will take place.

Evaluation activities excluded from reassessment

The following activities are not eligible for reassessment

Weekly homework and participation

Assessment Activities

Title	Weighting	Hours	ECTS	Learning Outcomes
Assignments	40	35	1.4	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 12
Exam or Final paper	45	35	1.4	5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 7, 6, 8, 9, 10, 13
Participation in class and practical exercises	30	5	0.2	1, 2, 4, 11, 7, 9, 13

Bibliography

Qualitative Methods

An updated version will be provided.

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