

Department of English Language & Literature
Faculty of Foreign Languages
University of Jordan

Course Title : Research Methods in Linguistics
Course Number : 2201734

IMPORTANT NOTE

My e-mail address is jihaddan@yahoo.com and my office phone number is 5355000, ext. 24777 in case you may wish to contact me on academic issues; however, under no circumstances can you phone me at home.

Course Description

The course provides a practical introduction to how empirical research is planned and executed with illustrations from studies in language development, language impairment and language description. Topics include the layout of a research report, hypothesis statement, sampling, data gathering and measurement. Students are expected to produce a short research paper applying the methods and techniques they were exposed to during the course.

Course Schedule

Week	Topic
1 & 2	Part I: Definition of Research; Epistemology; Empirical Research; Kinds of Research; Inter-Relationships Ref. No. 4. Module: Taming the Research Beast
3 & 4	Part II: Parameters; Kinds of Research: Qualitative, Descriptive, Experimental; Kinds of Experimental Research: True-Exp., Quasi-Exp., Pre-Exp.; Research Questions; Literature Review; Hypothesis and Focused Question; Variables; Data; Subjects; Instruments & Procedures; Validity; Analyzing Data Ref. No. 4. Module: Taming the Research Beast
5 & 6	Part III: Report Format: Introduction; Literature Review; Design & Method; Results; Conclusion Ref. No. 4. Module: Taming the Research Beast
6 & 7	1. Examination of a sample paper: Orientation 2. Discussion of a model for theses and research papers with direct reference to the sample paper A) Introduction B) Review of related literature C) Methods and materials D) Analysis of data E) Discussion F) Conclusion Ref. No. 2, whole monograph Ref. No. 8, whole monograph
8-9	Faculty members report on one of their research papers or projects
10-12	Students present and discuss sample papers and theses Each student should present one paper and one MA thesis. Papers and

theses should be selected in consultation with the course instructor.
Students report on the progress they made in preparing their papers.

Note: Students may read:

Ref. No. 3

Chapter 3: From first draft to final paper, pp. 57-75.

Chapter 4: Preparing the final paper, pp. 79-102.

They may also make use of References 1, 4 and 6.

- 13 Debriefing: Highlighting documentation, style, plagiarism, etc.
14-16 Students present their projects, i.e., research reports

Evaluation

Mid-Term Examination	30%	Week 6
Presentation	10%	
Assignments	20%	Week 13
Term Paper	40%	Weeks 14-16

References

1. Aijmer, K. and B. Altenberg. 1991. English Corpus Linguistics. London: Longman.
2. Ballou, S. 1970. A Model for Theses and Research Papers. Boston.
3. Baugh, Sue L. 1992. How to Write Term Papers and Reports. Lincolnwood: VGM Career Horizon.
4. Butler, C. 1985. Statistics in Linguistics. Oxford: Basil Blackwell.
5. Henrichsen, L., et al. (n.d.) Taming the Research Beast. Research Methods in TESL and Language Acquisition.
<http://linguistics.byu.edu/faculty/henrichsen1/ResearchMethods/index.html>
6. Leedy, P. 1985. Practical Research: Planning and Design. New York: Macmillan Publishing Company.
7. Lester, J. 1993. Writing Research Papers. New York: Harper Collins College Publishers.
8. Menasche, L. 1982. Writing the Research Paper: A Guide for Advanced Learners of English. Pittsburgh: English Language Institute.