



MOHAMED KHEIDER
University of Biskra

Master One

Research Methodology

Syllabus

Section of English, Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages

Dr. HOADJLI Ahmed Chaouki

2020/2021



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University of Biskra

**Department of Foreign Languages Section
of English, Master One Syllabus 2020/2021**

Instructor

Instructor: Dr. Ahmed Chaouki, HOADJLI.
Rank: Lecturer.
Office: Room 21: Faculty of Letters and Foreign Languages.
Office Hours: Monday: 9.00 – 12.00
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Lecture Class (Credit hours 1h.)

Course Title: Research Methodology
Level: Master One
Time: Thursday, 10.20-11.20 a.m. (90 mins)
Location: Amphi B

Tutorial Class (TD) (credit hours 4hrs.)

Tuesday: 10.20-11:20 a.m. | BC 06 | G2
Thursday: 8.00-9.00 a.m. | BC 10 | G1
Thursday: 9.10-10.10 a.m. | BC 11 | G3

Course Description

This course examines the methods relating to research in sociolinguistics field. Students consider how to select the appropriate quantitative and/or qualitative methodologies for use in a study to be performed. These methodologies include, but are not limited to, experimental, survey and content analysis, case studies, in-depth interviews and focus groups. Additionally, they learn to identify and critique articles based on different research methods, construct a questionnaire relying on several types of questions, and write an effect research proposal that spells out a project they may conduct in the future.

General Course Objectives

This course aims to guide Master One students at the Section of English in Biskra University towards achieving competence and proficiency in the theory of and practice to research. This fundamental objective can be realised through helping these students to develop the subject of their research, encourage the formation of higher level of trained intellectual ability, critical analysis, rigour, and independence of thought, foster individual judgement, and skill in the application of research theory and methods, and develop skills required in writing research proposals, reports, and dissertation; and

In more specific practical aims, the present course aims to:

- Enable Master One students understand what research is and what is not.
- Raise awareness of crucial aspect of the nature of knowledge and the value of scientific method. Introduce the concept at the heart of every research project –the research problem- and to discuss what a researchable problem is.
- Evaluate literature, form a variety of sources, pertinent to the research objectives.
- Identify and justify the basic components of the research framework, relevant to the tackled research problem.
- Explain and justify how researchers will collect research data.
- Discuss how to cite sources, using the American Psychological Association (APA, mainly the 6th edition), and justify this choice.
- Consider the kind of language to use in an academic written work.
- Put forward a credible research proposal, and
- Finally, warn the common mistakes in the field of research methodology.

Course Structure

The structure of the course is based on two approaches. The first is a cumulative approach which introduces, step-by-step, the contents of the academic subject of research theory and practice. the second is concerned with the involvement of Master One students in the practical work in order to develop the skills needed to produce a good quality of final product.

There are thirteen themes in this course, which are designed to be taught consecutively. The first eight themes are to be tackled in the lectures; whereas, the remaining five other themes are going to be dealt with in the tutorial sessions. Each theme contains sections that discuss the relevant core idea of the subject studied. These sections are regularly interpreted with tasks for the students to consolidate and asses their understanding of the subjects presented.

Course Contents (Lectures)

THEME ONE:

Research Methodology: A Review of the Fundamentals

1. Meaning of Research
2. Definitions of Research
3. Objectives of Research
4. Motivation in Research
5. General Characteristics of research
6. Types of Research
7. Criteria of a Good Researcher

THEME THREE:

The Review of literature

1. Meaning of Review of Literature
2. Need of Review of Literature
3. Objectives of Review of Literature
4. Sources of literature
5. The Functions of Literature
6. How to Conduct the Review of Literature
7. Some Hints for the Review of Literature
8. Precautions in Library use
9. Reporting the Review of Literature

THEME FIVE:

The Research Approach

1. The Philosophical Background
2. The Qualitative Approach
3. The Quantitative Approach
4. The Mixed-Methods Approach
5. Criteria for Selecting a Research Approach

THEME SEVEN:

Data Collection Methods

1. Questionnaires
2. Interviews
3. Focus Groups
4. Observation
5. Documents

THEME TWO:

The Research Problem

1. Scientific Thinking
2. What is a Research Problem
3. Selecting the problem
4. Sources of the Problem
5. Defining a Problem
6. Statement of a Problem
7. Delimiting a Problem
8. Evaluation a Problem

THEME FOUR:

The Research hypotheses

1. Meaning of Hypothesis
2. Definitions of Hypothesis
3. Nature of Hypothesis
4. Functions of Hypothesis
5. Importance of Hypothesis
6. Kinds of Hypothesis
7. Characteristics of a Good Hypothesis
8. Variables in a Hypothesis
9. Formulating a Hypothesis
10. Testing the Hypothesis

THEME SIX:

The Research Strategies

1. What are the Research Strategies?
2. Which Strategy to Choose?
3. Case Studies
4. Experiments
5. Ethnography
6. Phenomenology
7. Ground Theory (GT)
8. Action Research
9. Mixed-methods
10. Longitudinal

THEME EIGHT:***Sampling***

1. Meaning and Definition of Sampling
2. Functions of Population and Sampling
3. Methods of Sampling
4. Characteristics of a Good Sample
5. Size of a Sample
6. The Sample Cycle
7. Identifying a Representative Sample

Recommended references

1. *Research Methods in Education* (2000) 5th ed., by Louis Cohen, Lawrence Manion, and Keith Morison.
2. *Succeeding with your Master's Dissertation* (2008), by John Biggan.
3. *Your Research Project* (2001), by Nicholas Walliman.
4. *Research Methods in Applied Linguistics* (2001), by Zoltan Dornye.
5. *The Good Research Guide: For Small-Scale Social Research projects* (2010), by Martyn Descombe.
6. *Research methodology: Methods and Techniques* (2004), by C.R Cothari.

About the Lecturer

Ahmed Chaouki HOADJLI holds a PhD in Applied Linguistics. His research interests are: ELT, Sociolinguistics, Psycholinguistics and Language Evaluation and Assessment.

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Course Continuity

In case of absence, and/or travel of the instructor, it will be announced to students the day(s) and lecture (s) in question. In such an event, we are prepared to assign students a "Plan B", where lectures will be compensated, and their dates will be announced.

Ground Rules and Policies

1. **Attendance:** This course deals with some difficult issues. So, attendance is essential for good performance. Students will be allowed a **maximum of 10 minutes to present**, any longer delay will result a ban from the lecture. Besides, no more than **three absences** are allowed. After the third absence, we will deduct grades for each additional absence. You need to contact the instructor in advance if you are going to miss a class. All tests must be taken during their scheduled time unless you have made prior arrangements.
2. **Discipline Policy:** All students are expected to follow the general academic and moral behaviour that reflect the higher level of respect and cooperation between students and the lecturer. In the event, these expectations are not followed; the consequences will keep to the department's discipline procedures.
3. **Students with Disabilities:** Please notify the instructor of any modification/adaptation you may require to accommodate a disability-related need. You will be requested to provide documentation to the Head of Foreign Languages Department in order that the most appropriate accommodations can be determined.
4. **Policy on Academic Dishonesty:** We define academic dishonesty as cheating, plagiarism, unauthorized collaboration, falsifying academic records, and any act designed to avoid participating honestly in the learning process. Academic dishonesty also includes, but is not limited to, providing false or misleading information to receive a postponement or an extension on a test, writing, or other assignment. By accepting this syllabus, you have agreed to these guidelines and must adhere to them. Academic dishonesty damages both students' learning experience and readiness for the future demands of a work career. The

students who violate these rules are subject to disciplinary penalties, including the possibility of failure in the course and/or dismissal from the University.

5. ***Electronic Devices Usage Policy:*** All electronic devices, including but not limited to iPads, computers, **cell phones**, tablets, net books, laptops and other texting devices, must be completely **turned off** during the lectures. Upon request, you must comply and hand your device, turned off, to the instructor, or put it inside your backpack.

6. ***In-achievement Test Rules:*** Any use of external assistance during the achievement test shall be considered cheating. The following are considered unacceptable the test behaviours: communication with fellow students during a test, copying materials from another student's test sheet, allowing another student to copy from a test, **the use of electronic devices** to communicate to others during the test, possession or use of unauthorized notes, electronic or other dictionaries during tests. Students cannot achieve grades that they have not legitimately earned. Part of our mission is to remind students of the value systems that will regulate their academic lives, and breaching ethical standards cannot be condoned.

7. ***Plagiarism Policy:*** We seek to maintain an optimal learning environment. While students are encouraged to ask others to help them with their assignments, general principles of academic honesty must be respected. This includes the concept of respect for the intellectual property of others, the expectation that individual work will be submitted unless otherwise allowed by the instructor, and the obligations both to protect one's own academic work from misuse by others as well as to avoid using another's work as one's own. All students are expected to understand and abide by these principles, and any work turned in that is not their own, this includes, but is not limited to: a peer's work, work copied from the internet without reference, aiding someone else in plagiarism and using any materials not authorized by the instructor, will result in a zero, with no option for revision, and a referral to disciplinary actions by the instructor.

Copyright notice

No student may record any lecture, class discussion or meeting with the instructor without his prior express written permission. The word “record” or the act of recording includes, but is not limited to, any and all means by which sound or visual images can be stored, duplicated or retransmitted whether by an electro-mechanical, analog, digital, wire, electronic or other device or any other means of signal encoding. **I reserve all rights**, including copyright to my lectures, course syllabi and related materials, including summaries, PowerPoint’s™, prior tests, key answers, and all supplementary course materials available to the students enrolled in my class whether posted on Blackboard or otherwise. They may not be reproduced, distributed, copied, or disseminated in any media or in any form, including but not limited to all course note-sharing websites. ***Exceptions are made for students who have made prior arrangements with me.***