English Language Teaching

Degree Programmes

Postgraduate Diploma: English Language Teaching

M.Litt.: English Language Teaching

Programme Requirements

English Language Teaching

Postgraduate Diploma: 60 credits from ET5101 - ET5106 (taught in Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU)) and

60 credits from ET5121 - ET5124

M.Litt.: 120 credits as for the Graduate Diploma plus ET5199

English Language Teaching

The aim of this one-year full-time course is to provide postgraduate training in the theory but also the practice of English Language Teaching, particularly as it relates to the university context.

Graduates from the course will have gained an in-depth understanding of the theory of second language acquisition, current thinking on teacher education and teaching methodology and will have had an opportunity to reflect on their own teaching practices and on the cultural and practical differences between teaching in universities in China and in the UK.

The course is organised jointly by the University of St Andrews and the Beijing Foreign Studies University. The foundations of Applied Linguistics are laid in the first semester in BFSU, and are developed during the second semester at the University of St Andrews. During the summer months, students will complete a dissertation for assessment in September.

Modules

ET5101 - TEFL501 Foreign Language Education: Concepts, Theories and Issues

Credits: 13.0 = 2 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course aims to develop students' critical thinking, moral understanding and openmindedness through lectures, case studies, presentations and group discussion. It consists of two parts: a) theoretical foundations of foreign language education; b) practical issues in English language teaching. The course starts with discussions on issues such as critical thinking, moral judgment, caring, humanism and rational thinking, which are followed by an overview of English language education in china within the framework of Social Constructivist approach. Four main factors, namely teachers, students, tasks and context, will be examined respectively to reveal their influence on the effect of language teaching. The course is designed to enhance students' awareness and competence in their critical understanding and evaluation of ELT in China.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

English Language Teaching - 5000 Level Modules 2006/07 - August 2006

ET5102 - TEFL502a Description and Analysis of English I: Phonetics

Credits: 6.0 = 1 (BFSU) Semester:

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: In this course students are first introduced to the pronunciations of British English and American English, which is followed by the anatomy of speech organs, the IPA cardinal vowels, the correct articulation of English vowels and consonants, liaison, elision, assimilation and stress levels. Finally, basic tune-types are introduced and practiced. Through this course the students are expected to acquire the basic knowledge of English phonetics necessary for a teacher of English and to correct the students' obvious mispronunciations of English phonemes.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 50%, Examination = 50%

ET5103 - TEFL502b Description and Analysis of English I: Word Formation and Pedagogical Grammar

Credits: 13.0 = 2 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course acquaints the students with the major types of English word-formation, compares the grammatical systems in the course books with those widely used in China, helps the students clear up their confusion about some basic categories of English grammar, and explores better ways to teach English grammar to Chinese students. As the course progresses, the students undertake a comprehensive review of their knowledge of English grammar, learn to do literature search and review concerning a particular grammatical issue and present their findings and views in the correct format and style.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 60%, Examination = 40%

ET5104 - TEFL503 Description and Analysis of English II: Pragmatics and Discourse Analysis

Credits: 13.0 = 2 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course relates the contributions of pragmatics and discourse analysis to other areas of linguistics such as semantics, lexico-grammar and to related disciplines such as philosophy, sociology and psychology. The course also touches on applied linguistic domains such as language education, cross-cultural communication and professional-client interaction. On completion of this course, students will be able to: a) Summarize the relatively short history of the discipline of pragmatics and discourse analysis; b) identify key theories and issues related to pragmatics and discourse analysis; c) review and appraise recent contributions in the area of pragmatics and discourse analysis; d) attempt mini-tasks on pragmatics and discourse analysis.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Two-and-a-half hour Examination = 100%

ET5105 - TEFL504a Teaching and Research Practice I: Academic Reading and Evaluation

Credits: 7.5 = 1.3 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: Teaching and Research Practice is a series of three task-based courses designed to provide the students with opportunities to perform a series of well-selected tasks under the teacher's guidance in order to foster the students' abilities in literature search and review, empirical research, teaching and evaluation. Part I - Academic Reading and Evaluation - will enable the students to read research papers in international journals critically and give a clear and well-organised oral presentation of their understanding and views of the papers.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

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ET5106 - TEFL504b Teaching and Research Practice II: Teaching Practice and Evaluation

Credits: 7.5 = 1.3 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course teaches students how to a) construct a good lesson plan; b) communicate with their students successfully; c) manage their class effectively; d) use a variety of methods flexibly to achieve their teaching objectives; e) make critical comments on their own lessons and those of others.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5107 - TEFL538a Computer Assisted Language Learning I: Computer Basics for EFL Teachers

Credits: 6.0 = 1 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Prerequisites: Undergraduate IT literacy course or equivalent computer skills

Programme(s): Optional supplementary module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course offers students the opportunity to explore the use of general-purpose computer software in foreign language learning and instruction. They are encouraged to take an innovative stance and learn how to use such software to enhance classroom interactions, optimize learning materials and improve the learning environment. The course covers (but is not limited to) word-processing, spreadsheets, databases, animation, multimedia and HTML.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5108 - TEFL538b Computer Assisted Language Learning II: Web-enhanced Language Learning

Credits: 6.0 = 1 (BFSU) Semester: 1

Prerequisites: ET5107 or equivalent computer skills

Programme(s): Optional supplementary module for English Language Teaching

Description: This course guides the students in exploring the Web environment and its resources for language learning. In the process students learn how to access and evaluate Web-based learning resources, especially authentic resources in both the audio and visual media. By participating in computer-mediated communication activities, such as the email, BBS, online chat, and Web-publishing, they develop a new understanding of the interactivity of online communication and its potentials for language development.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: Lectures at BFSU in China

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5121 Teaching and Language

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisites: Passes in ET5101-ET5106

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This module focuses on and critiques theories of second language acquisition, considering the range of research which examines the factors which influence or relate to SLA, from a variety of theoretical perspectives. It looks at learner language, taking into account learner variables and strategies, the influence of learning styles and personality, the relevance of age, the role of intelligence and aptitude, and links these factors to teaching approaches and methodologies and considers how they might inform the use of particular resources, materials and activities for different teaching contexts.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One lecture and one practical
Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

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ET5122 Teaching and Learning

Credits: 20.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisites: Passes in ET5101-ET5106

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This module focuses on the development of ELT from the traditional Grammar Translation Method to Communicative Language Teaching including Content-based Teaching and Task-based Learning. Particular attention will be given to CLT and the role it plays in the teaching of receptive and productive skills, grammar and vocabulary, syllabus design and testing and evaluation. Individual learning styles, as well as a crosscultural view of learning styles will also be focused upon. Finally - there will be input on research methods as well as a small-scale research project.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One-and-a-half hour lecture and one-and-a-half hour seminar.

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100%

ET5123 Teacher Education

Credits: 10.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisites: Passes in ET5101-ET5106

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This module focuses on different approaches to teacher education for the teaching of English to learners, but specifically related to the Chinese context. The module will examine the aims of pre-service and inservice teacher education courses, as well as the methods that individual teachers use to continue development outwith a formalized course. Different approaches to improving knowledge of theory and practice, including on-line development, will be analysed, and observation instruments and ways of giving feedback will be discussed. In addition, participants will have the opportunity to devise observation tasks and evaluate them in classroom situations and give feedback afterwards. The importance of reflection, teaching journals, peer observation and mentoring will all be considered.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One two hour lecture and one seminar each week for 6 weeks

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100% ET5124 English for Academic Purposes

Credits: 10.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisites: Passes in ET5101-ET5106

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: This module will look at the context of Chinese universities and colleges where English is used as the main medium of instruction. It will examine the use of Content-Based Teaching. In addition, the course will examine the needs of students enrolled on Arts, Science and Social Science programmes in China and survey textbooks and authentic material from these fields. The course will also consider the needs of Chinese students going to study abroad at postgraduate level – at the entrance tests they need to complete, such as IELTS, and the study skills necessary to succeed in a UK or American university.

Class Hour: To be arranged.

Teaching: One two hour lecture and one seminar each week for 5 weeks

Assessment: Continuous Assessment = 100% **ET5199 Dissertation for M.Litt. Programme**

Credits: 60.0 Semester: 2

Prerequisites: Grade average of 14 for course work

Programme(s): Compulsory module for English Language Teaching

Description: Student dissertations will be supervised by members of the teaching staff, who will advise on the choice of subject and provide guidance throughout the research process. The completed dissertation of not more than 15000 words must be submitted by the end of August.

Class Hour: At times arranged with the supervisor

Teaching: Individual Supervision
Assessment: Dissertation = 100%