

## Research Methods (Príprava a prezentácia výskumu) Syllabus, Fall 2011

<b>Instructors:</b>	Lectures: TBA, seminar: Mgr. Diana Židová
<b>Time/place:</b>	Lecture: Th, 16,30 – 18,00, Room 127 Seminar: Monday, 16,30-18,00 Monday, 18,15-19,45
<b>Contact person:</b>	Mgr. Štefan Beňuš, MA., PhD., sbenus@ukf.sk
<b>Office hours:</b>	Th, 10,00 – 11,00 and by appointment, Rm 235

### Course description

This course enables students to acquire core skills and understanding in research methodologies used in three core areas in the department of English and American studies: linguistics, literature and L2 teaching. We will cover the basics of formulating research questions, designing experiments for answering them, ways of processing and analyzing data, and ways of presenting them primarily in the written form. Students will be encouraged to work on a term project in which they collect their own data and analyze them, which may or may not lead to a diploma thesis.

### Tentative outline of lectures

- 29.9. Linguistic analyses of texts: Approaches and methods (Mgr. Martin Mačura, PhD.)
- 13.10. Analyzing speech: Approaches and methods (Mgr. Štefan Beňuš, PhD.)
- 27.10. Methods in Literature research (doc. PhDr. Anoton Pokrivčák, PhD.)
- 10.11. Approaches to the study of literature (doc. PhDr. Anoton Pokrivčák, PhD.)
- 24.11. Research methods in quantitative TEFL research (PhDr. Jana Hart'anská, PhD./ Prof. PaedDr. Zdenka Gadušová, CSc.)
- 8.12. Qualitative TEFL research and its methods (Mgr. Andrea Billíková, PhD./ Prof. PaedDr. Zdenka Gadušová, CSc.)

Supplemental handouts and lecture notes might be provided by the instructors in class and/or may be also available on-line and are not for circulation.

### Tentative outline of seminars

#### Text

- Nunan, D. 1992. *Research Methods in Language Learning*.
  - Wallwork, Adrian. 2011. *English for Writing Research Papers*.
  - Walwork, Adrian. 2010. *English for Presentations at International Conferences*.
  - Ellison, Carol. 2010. *McGraw-Hill's Concise Guide to Writing Research Papers*.
- [www.aresearchguide.com](http://www.aresearchguide.com)

<b>Session 1</b>	<b>Introduction to the course</b>
<b>Session 2</b>	Choose a topic & state your thesis
<b>Session 3</b>	Collecting data
<b>Session 4</b>	Outline, organization, structure
<b>Session 5</b>	Working with sources
<b>Session 6</b>	Reporting, quoting, bibliography, ISO, Harvard referencing, plagiarism
<b>Session 7</b>	Data collection and analysis
<b>Session 8</b>	Polishing your writing
<b>Session 9</b>	Writing up, using useful phrases
<b>Session 10</b>	Refocusing. Rehearsal. Fine-tuning. Handing-in
<b>Session 11</b>	Presenting the term projects
<b>Session 12</b>	Presenting the term projects

### Requirements

- 40% (Bi)weekly assignments + class participation
- 20% Dictionary of key terms in research – at least 30 entries
- 40% Term project (slides + write up)

### Plagiarism

Cheating will not be tolerated and may cost you your grade (i.e. you will fail the course) and have repercussions for your future academic career. The following is a non-exhaustive list of examples of what counts as cheating in this course: (i) signing on the attendance sheet without attending the class (e.g., signing and leaving, signing for somebody else, signing for a future class); (ii) copying the homework from another student, with or without the student's knowledge, or collaborating on the homework with another student; or copy/paste materials from the internet or printed sources without proper acknowledgement; (iii) copying a test from another student, with or without the student's knowledge.