

## Course Specification

Course Summary Information		
1	<b>Course Title</b>	MA English Linguistics
2	<b>BCU Course Code</b>	PT0926
3	<b>Awarding Institution</b>	Birmingham City University
4	<b>Teaching Institution(s)</b> (if different from point 3)	
5	<b>Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation</b> (if applicable)	

6	Course Description
	<p>The MA in English Linguistics is a flexible distance-learning postgraduate course. You can work at your own pace fitting your study around work and other commitments.</p> <p>The course is well established, having been introduced in 1992, but it continues to evolve. It's now delivered via the Moodle virtual learning environment with interactive content being developed exclusively for MA students.</p> <p><b>What's covered in the course?</b></p> <p>This postgraduate linguistics course will enable you to develop advanced analytical skills and in-depth linguistic knowledge, and to gain experience as an independent researcher.</p> <p>It begins with the Language Description module, designed to give you confidence in working with the essential building blocks of linguistic analysis: grammar, morphology, and phonology. You'll then study Data, Theory and Method, covering topics such as hypothesis testing, the role of linguistic theory, data collection, academic referencing and research ethics. There are optional modules too, covering topics such as sociolinguistics, second language acquisition, spoken discourse analysis, and the history of the English language. In choosing three of these modules you can tailor your studies to your individual interests and career aspirations. The final dissertation is a piece of original research on a topic of your choice.</p> <p>One of our key strengths is that the course is taught by leading authorities on the subjects covered. Our teaching staff are active researchers who, according to the 2014 Research Excellence Framework, publish world-leading journal articles, chapters and books. This research feeds directly into the MA learning materials.</p> <p>You'll be fully supported by a tutor assigned to you when you begin each module who can be contacted by email or telephone. There's no requirement for you ever to attend the University, but there are ample opportunities for you to do so if you wish.</p> <p>This is a staged qualification, meaning you can choose to exit with either a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma or you can continue to the MA stage.</p>

<b>7</b>	<b>Course Awards</b>		
<b>7a</b>	<b>Name of Final Award</b>	<b>Level</b>	<b>Credits Awarded</b>
	Master of Arts English Linguistics	7	180
<b>7b</b>	<b>Exit Awards and Credits Awarded</b>		
	Postgraduate Certificate English Linguistics	7	60
	Postgraduate Diploma English Linguistics	7	120

<b>8</b>	<b>Derogation from the University Regulations</b>		
	Not applicable		

<b>9</b>	<b>Delivery Patterns</b>		
	<b>Mode(s) of Study</b>	<b>Location(s) of Study</b>	<b>Duration of Study</b>
	Distance Learning	This course is offered via distance learning	Up to five years (for students starting after 2018)
			PT0926

<b>10</b>	<b>Entry Requirements</b>		
<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at <a href="https://www.bcu.ac.uk/">https://www.bcu.ac.uk/</a>.</p>			

<b>11 Course Learning Outcomes</b>	
<b>1</b>	Significant knowledge of the fundamental analytical concepts and methods of inquiry associated with a range of sub-fields of linguistics worldwide.
<b>2</b>	The ability to critically evaluate alternative theories, drawing on an understanding of the nature of linguistic theory and of what constitutes an explanation within the scope of linguistics.
<b>3</b>	The ability to take a systematic approach to the identification, description and analysis of language phenomena.
<b>4</b>	The ability to appreciate the cross-disciplinary nature of linguistic study, and to consider approaches from other disciplines where appropriate (e.g. psychology, philosophy, sociology, anthropology, and neuroscience).
<b>5</b>	The ability to ask theoretically and empirically motivated questions about language structure and use.
<b>6</b>	The ability to formulate linguistic generalisations and to construct and test hypotheses using appropriate evidence.
<b>7</b>	The ability to apply analytical concepts to appropriate linguistic data sets.
<b>8</b>	The ability to design and carry out a piece of independent research on an appropriate topic, making a novel contribution to a sub-field of linguistics.
<b>9</b>	The ability to apply techniques for collecting and transcribing data specific to the various sub-disciplines of linguistics, e.g. the use of language corpora, elicitation tasks, questionnaires, interviews and other types of fieldwork.
<b>10</b>	An understanding of the practicalities of organising and carrying out fieldwork, and of the ethical and legal issues involved in the collection and use of data from speakers of a language
<b>11</b>	The ability to present linguistic data and analysis using the appropriate formalisms and conventions specific to each sub-discipline of linguistics.
<b>12</b>	The ability to apply an understanding of how language works to one or more 'real world' scenarios internationally, e.g. the principles of learning and teaching English as a second or foreign language.
<b>13</b>	Communicating in writing in a fluent, concise and precise manner; constructing substantial pieces of prose using appropriate register and style.
<b>14</b>	Abstracting and synthesising information; collecting, analysing and manipulating data of diverse kinds.
<b>15</b>	Recognising problems and developing problem-solving strategies, and evaluating their effectiveness.
<b>16</b>	Working independently; demonstrating initiative and self-motivation; having effective organisational skills and time management.

<b>12</b>	<b>Course Requirements</b>																			
<b>12a</b>	<b>Level 7:</b>  <i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):</i>																			
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Code</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Module Name</th> <th style="background-color: #ffff00;">Credit Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>EGL7223</td> <td>Language Description</td> <td>40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EGL7216</td> <td>Data, Theory and Method in Linguistics</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>EGL7232</td> <td>Major Project: English Linguistics</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value	EGL7223	Language Description	40	EGL7216	Data, Theory and Method in Linguistics	20	EGL7232	Major Project: English Linguistics	60							
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	<i>In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete at least 60 credits from the following indicative list of OPTIONAL modules.</i>																			
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**12b Structure Diagram**

*Please note list of optional modules is indicative only. Students' choice will not be guaranteed for optional modules but a fair and transparent process will be adopted and shared with students.*

<b>Stage One: Postgraduate Certificate</b>
Language Description - 40 credits Data, Theory and Method in Linguistics - 20 credits
<b>Stage Two: Postgraduate Diploma</b>
Choice of three from the following modules:  Analysis of Spoken Discourse – 20 credits Second Language Acquisition – 20 credits Sociolinguistics – 20 credits Corpus Linguistics –20 credits
<b>Stage Three: Masters</b>
Major Project – 60 credits

### 13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

#### Level 7

##### Workload

##### % time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	6
Directed Learning	1234
Private Study	560
<b>Total Hours</b>	1800

##### Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	
In-Person	