

**City University of Hong Kong
Information on a Course**

**offered by Department of English
with effect from Semester B in 2014 / 2015**

Part I

Course Title:	Dissertation
Course Code:	EN6941
Course Duration:	The normal duration is 1 semester, and the maximum duration is 1 semester. This is a dissertation-type course with supervision only.
Credit Units:	6
Level:	P6
Medium of Instruction:	English
Prerequisites: (Course Code and Title)	EN6471 Research Methods in English Studies
Precursors: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Equivalent Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil
Exclusive Courses: (Course Code and Title)	Nil

Part II

Course Aims

This course aims to develop academic skills and expertise to carry out independent research in a chosen area of language studies through the application of theory and techniques provided in the programme.

Course Intended Learning Outcomes (CILOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students should be able to:

No.	CILOs
1.	design, conduct, manage and report (on) a substantial piece of individual research and development work
2.	search, select and critically evaluate literature and other materials relevant to the chosen area
3.	apply suitable research methods and sound scholarly principles to investigate the chosen topic
4.	communicate the results of the research effectively in a logical, precise and coherent manner in the form of a dissertation

Teaching and Learning Activities (TLAs)

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to facilitate students' achievement of the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	TLAs
CILOs 1 - 4	The student works with a designated supervisor. The student, through independent study, writes the literature review, collects & analyses data, and then writes up the dissertation. The length should be 10,000 to 15,000 words, not including references or appendices.

Assessment Tasks/Activities

(Indicative of likely activities and tasks designed to assess how well the students achieve the CILOs. Final details will be provided to students in their first week of attendance in this course)

CILO No.	Type of Assessment Tasks/Activities	Weighting
CILOs 1 - 4	A dissertation - length between 10,000 to 15,000 words, not including references or appendices.	100%

Grading of Student Achievement:

Grading pattern: Standard (A+, A, A-....F). Grading is based on student performance in the assessment task.

Students are not permitted to repeat this course.

Assessment form: Dissertation

Grade A+, A, or A-	Grade B+, B, or B-	Grade C+, C, or C-	Grade D	Grade F
<input type="checkbox"/> Shows full understanding of main concepts and their application	<input type="checkbox"/> The main concepts are competently discussed and applied	<input type="checkbox"/> The concepts selected for analysis are sufficient, and partially applied	<input type="checkbox"/> The concepts selected for analysis are sketchy and inadequate	<input type="checkbox"/> The concepts selected for analysis are highly inadequate
<input type="checkbox"/> All relevant information is included in discussion and analysis	<input type="checkbox"/> The information included in discussion and analysis of concepts is sufficient	<input type="checkbox"/> Only partial information is included in discussion and analysis of concepts	<input type="checkbox"/> Incomplete information is included in discussion and analysis of concepts	<input type="checkbox"/> Very limited or inaccurate information is incorporated in conceptual analysis
<input type="checkbox"/> The topic is comprehensively analysed and explained	<input type="checkbox"/> The topic is sufficiently analysed and explained	<input type="checkbox"/> Only partial analysis is provided	<input type="checkbox"/> The analysis is not informative or comprehensive	<input type="checkbox"/> The analysis is not at all comprehensible
<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the analysis of concepts is completely achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the conceptual analysis is achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the conceptual analysis is partially achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the conceptual analysis is not adequately achieved	<input type="checkbox"/> The purpose of the conceptual analysis is not achieved in any way
<input type="checkbox"/> Style and tone are highly appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Style and tone are appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Style and tone are somewhat appropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Style and tone are inappropriate	<input type="checkbox"/> Style and tone are completely inappropriate

Part III

Keyword Syllabus

Independent work, student-directed topic, individual research, consultations with supervisor

Recommended Reading

Bitchener, J. (2010). *Writing an applied linguistics thesis or dissertation: A guide to presenting empirical research*. NY: Palgrave Macmillan

Cooley, L. & Lewkowicz, J. (2003). *Dissertation writing in practice: Turning ideas into text*. Hong Kong: Hong Kong University Press.

Paltridge, B. (2007). *Thesis and dissertation writing in a second language: A handbook for supervisors*. NY: Routledge.

Ridley, D. (2012). *The literature review: A step-by-step guide for students* (2nd ed.). London: Sage

Online Resources

There are a number of materials, such as sample dissertations, readings, marking criteria and FAQs on the EN site for MAES students. Students are sent messages via this system as well.