

MSc in Applied Multilingualism

Course outline

Programme Structure and Delivery Approach

The MSc in Applied Multilingualism is comprised of four core modules, two elective modules and a dissertation (see table below). Core modules focus on major theories, concepts and principles related to multilingualism as well as the combination of theoretical knowledge and its application to practical problems. Those modules explore multilingualism from the linguistic, social and cultural perspectives (Sociolinguistics of Multilingualism; Cultural, Linguistic & Social Diversity) as well as from the cognitive perspective (Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism). The purpose of the elective modules is to cater for the diverse perspectives of potential students. Although all electives are made available to all candidates, electives offered by the Discipline of Speech and Language Therapy are primarily aimed at students with a healthcare background while the electives offered by the School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures will primarily be aimed at students who wish to focus on second/foreign language acquisition and/or improve their existing language skills. Improving language skills is relevant for those intending to seek employment in the areas of language planning and policy, language teaching, cultural and heritage institutions, government and diplomacy. We envisage that both sets of electives will be interesting for students with a background in education. The year-long core module in Research Methodology is closely connected with the Dissertation with the aim to support students in the research process. This will range from applying for ethical approval to selecting methods, collecting and analysing data and writing the thesis.

Full-time option:

- **Semester 1** (35 ECTS): year-long core module Research Methods (5 ECTS per semester); two core modules Cultural, Linguistic & Social Diversity (10 ECTS) and Sociolinguistics of Multilingualism (10 ECTS); one elective* (10 ECTS); year-long Dissertation.
- **Semester 2** (25 ECTS): year-long core module Research Methods (5 ECTS per semester); one core module Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism (10 ECTS); year-long Dissertation
- **Semester 3:** year-long Dissertation (30 ECTS).

Part-time option:

- **Year 1** (ECTS 50): 3 core modules Sociolinguistics of Multilingualism (10 ECTS), Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism (10 ECTS), and Cultural, Linguistic & Social Diversity (10 ECTS); two electives* (10 ECTS each).

- **Year 2** (ECTS 40): one core module Research Methods (10 ECTS); year-long Dissertation (30 ECTS).

* Advanced Language Skills in Italian, French and Spanish consist of 2 linked modules with 10 ECTS each that run in Semester 1 and Semester 2. They have to be taken in conjunction with each other. The only stand-alone Advanced Language Skills module on offer is the year-long Teanga na Nua-Ghaeilge with 10 ECTS.

List of modules

Module	ECTS	Semester	Module Leader	School
Core modules				
Research Methods (existing HP832)	10	Year-long	Prof. Saoirse Nic Gabhainn	School of Health Sciences
Cultural, Linguistic & Social Diversity (new SL5011)	10	1	Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott	School of Health Sciences
Sociolinguistics of Multilingualism (NG6112)	10	1	Dr John Walsh	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism (SL5010)	10	2	Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott	School of Health Sciences
Electives (2 modules to be chosen; Advanced Language Skills modules 1 and 2 are linked)				
Narratives in Childhood (existing SL5101)	10	1	Dr Mary Pat O'Malley-Keighran	School of Health Sciences
Using Evidence to Inform Practice (existing SL5102)	10	1	Dr Rena Lyons	School of Health Sciences
Applied Multilingualism: Theoretical perspectives and practical approaches (IT6100)	10	2	Dr Laura McLaughlin	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Advanced Language Skills French 1 (existing FR562)	10	1	Dr Máire Áine Ní Mhainnín	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Advanced Language Skills French 2 (existing FR563)	10	2	Dr Máire Áine Ní Mhainnín	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Advanced Language Skills Italian 1 (existing IT562)	10	1	Dr Laura McLaughlin	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Advanced Language Skills Italian 2 (existing IT563)	10	2	Dr Laura McLaughlin	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Advanced Language Skills Spanish 1 (existing SH562)	10	1	Dr Mel Boland	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Advanced Language Skills Spanish 2 (existing SH563)	10	2	Dr Mel Boland	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Teanga na Nua-Ghaeilge (existing NG6110)	10	Year-long	Dr Liam Ó hAisibéil	School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures
Dissertation in Applied Multilingualism (new)	30	Year-long	Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott and Dr John Walsh	School of Health Sciences and School of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

Module descriptions

CORE MODULES

1. Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism (SL5010)

Lecturer:

Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott

Module description

The aim of the module is to advance understanding of most important aspects of the area of psycholinguistics of multilingualism: language acquisition, spoken and written language

processing, and the effects multilingualism has on cognition and the brain. The module will also provide overview of different theoretical approaches and methodologies used in the field. For the purpose of this module, multilingualism is defined as the use of more than one language at a communication level in everyday life.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials, discussion boards, online activities.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment including contribution to discussion boards and a group project related to planning education/intervention/language learning process while applying theoretical and practical knowledge gained in the module.

Core texts

Grosjean, F. & Li, P (2013). *The Psycholinguistics of Multilingualism*, Wiley & Sons.
Additional material to be provided online.

2. Cultural Linguistic and Social Diversity (SL5011)

Lecturers:

Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott; Dr Mary Pat O'Malley

Module description

The aim of the module is to advance understanding of cultural, linguistic and social diversity in modern society. For the purpose of this module, culture is defined as the lens through which one perceives and interprets the world. The module includes content related to culture and cultural beliefs about multilingual language acquisition, crosslinguistic and intercultural perspective on language and assessment in culturally, linguistically and socially diverse groups.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials and activities.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment: Essay.

Core texts

Armon-Lotem, S. de Jong, J. and Meir, N. (2015). Assessing multilingual children: Disentangling bilingualism from language impairment. Bristol : Multilingual Matters.

Barrera, I. and Corso, R. (2012). Skilled dialogue: strategies for responding to cultural diversity in early childhood. London: Paul Brookes.

Lipson, J and Rogers, J. (2000). Cultural aspects of disability. *Journal of Transcultural Nursing* 11 (3) : 212-219.

3. Research Methods (HP832)

Lecturers:

Prof. Saoirse Nic Gabhainn, Dr Stanislava Antonijevic-Elliott; Dr John Walsh

Module description

This module takes students through the research process from identifying their research questions, identifying the preferred method of testing the questions, applying for ethical approval, collecting and analysing data and interpreting the findings.

Teaching and learning methods

Face-to-face on campus lectures two hours per week throughout two semesters.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment: Research proposal.

4. Sociolinguistics of Multilingualism (NG6112)

Lecturers:

Dr John Walsh

Module description

Sociolinguistics analyses two of the most complex concepts of the social sciences, language and society, and attempts to understand the relationship between them. This module aims to give students and understanding of the sociolinguistics of multilingualism as a theoretical framework. Particular attention will be paid to language ideologies and language policy, two

issues that are intertwined with questions of power and conflict. The module also aims to empower students to apply sociolinguistics concepts to multilingual contexts with which they are acquainted, and to draw on their own experiences as speakers.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials, discussion boards, online activities.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment including reflective journal and an essay.

Core texts

Coulmas, F. (2018). *An Introduction to Multilingualism*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
Heller, M., Pietikainen, S. & Pujolar, J. (2018). *Critical Sociolinguistic Research Methods: Studying Language Issues that Matter*. New York: Routledge.

OPTIONAL MODULES

Using Evidence in Practice (SL5102)

Lecturers: Dr Stanislava Antonijevic Elliott & Dr Rena Lyons

Module description

The aim of the module is to introduce the principles of evidence-based practice (EBP) and to facilitate development of skills in relation to using evidence to inform their practice in the classroom, clinic and community. This module will equip students with the skills to design a question, locate and critique the external evidence, and come to decisions which will inform their practice. It will also facilitate students to learn about internal evidence which is gained in practice, as well as ways in which preferences of parents of parents and children themselves may inform practice.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment including reflective journal and an essay.

Core texts

Hoffman, T., Bennett, S., Del Mar, C. (2013). *Evidence-based practice across the health professions*. Sydney: Elsevier

Narratives in Childhood (SL5101)

Lecturers: Dr Mary Pat O'Malley

Module description: This module will facilitate students to elicit, analyse, and use narratives in practice with children. This module aims to explore the importance of narrative in the realisation of communicative, social, & literacy skills in childhood. Students will learn to distinguish different types of narratives, the developmental sequence of narratives, and features of narratives in a variety of clinical populations. Students will also learn a variety of narrative elicitation, scoring, and interpretation techniques.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials, reflective journal, online activities.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment: Essay and a series of journal entries. The journal entries are compulsory and all journal entries must be completed by the end of Semester 1. The Journal component is marked Pass/Fail.

Applied Multilingualism: Theoretical Perspectives and Practical Approaches (IT6100)

Lecturer: Dr Laura McLaughlin

Module description

This module introduces learners to principles of Multilingualism and Applied Linguistics, with particular emphasis on the second language acquisition principles, cognitive theory of multimedia learning and technology-mediated language learning.

Teaching and learning methods

Blended learning comprising of one face-to-face workshop, online classroom, online learning materials and discussion boards.

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment including contribution to discussion boards and a group project related to applying theoretical and practical knowledge gained in the module.

Optional modules in languages

Please note that the following optional modules in languages require regular attendance at NUI Galway during the semester. They are not available in a blended-learning format. Students wishing to take these modules must satisfy the entry requirements of the individual disciplines (French/Italian/Spanish/Irish).

Advanced Language Skills – French/Italian I and II FR562/IT562 and FR563/IT563

Lecturers

Prof. Philip Dine, Dr Coralline Dupuy, Dr Marie Blom (French)

Prof. Paolo Bartoloni, Dr Laura McLoughlin, Dr Anne O'Connor, Dr Lindsay Myers (Italian)

Module description

Students will attain a very high level of communication skills in French/Italian, both oral and written. These modules will consolidate the language skills already acquired at degree level. Competences in reading, aural, speaking and writing skills will be further developed. A programme of oral and written texts and translations encourages students to extend their command of grammar and vocabulary and their sensitivity to stylistic variation, nuance and register. This will further their fluency and accuracy, extend their manipulation of various genres and registers of text in the language being studied and enhance their vocabulary, syntax and idiom.

Teaching and learning methods

Language classes in small groups

Methods of assessment and examination

Continuous assessment and a two hour written examination.

Core texts

In-house handouts.

Advanced Language Skills I – Spanish SH562

Lecturer: Dr Pilar Alderete

Module description

This module (Habilidades lingüísticas avanzadas) has been designed as an open course where language and linguistic skills are further explored through textual and audiovisual analysis. It will consist of a two-hour seminar a week plus independent research. It will be conducted completely in Spanish. Classroom participation is essential and students are strongly encouraged to bring the research topics of their own interest into the seminar discussions. Further reading and independent research for this module is highly recommended.

Assessment and learning outcomes:

To be decided cooperatively by all the participants in the class.

Advanced Language Skills II - Spanish SH563

Lecturers: Ms Begoña Sangrador Vegas and Dr Lorna Shaughnessy

Course description

To develop translation skills (Spanish-English, English-Spanish) by appropriate written exercises, equivalent to level C1 (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages)

Teaching and learning methods

Language classes in small groups

Methods of assessment & examination

Two class tests.

Core texts

Handouts will be provided by lecturers through Blackboard.

Advance Language Skills - Irish NG6110

(please note that this module is delivered in Irish)

Léachtóirí: An tOllamh Tadhg Ó hIfearnáin, An Dr Jeannine Woods, An tOllamh Lillis Ó Laoire

Cur síos ar an modúl

Tá sé d'aidhm ag an modúl seo forbairt agus barr feabhais a chur ar scileanna Gaeilge an mhic léinn i dtaca le cruinneas, líofacht, léitheoireacht, scríbhneoireacht, éisteacht agus labhairt. Is ag leibhéal C1 den Fhráma Tagartha Comónta Eorpach d'Fhoghlaim Teangacha atá caighdeán an mhodúil. Forbróidh an mac léinn a c[h]umas sa scríbhneoireacht chriticiúil agus acadúil i dtaca le réimeanna cuí teanga, cruinneas, comhréir agus líofacht. Tógfaidh an mac léinn ar a t[h]uiscint ar chaighdeán na Gaeilge agus ar mhórchanúintí na teanga araon agus cuirfear lena c[h]umas agus scileanna labhartha agus láithreoireachta dá réir. Pléifear tréithe de chanúintí traidisiúnta agus comhaimseartha na Gaeilge agus díreofar ar cheisteanna teangeolaíochta.

Torthaí foghlama

- (i) Cruinneas teanga a léiriú i scríbhneoireacht agus i labhairt na Gaeilge, idir ghramadach, chomhréir, líofacht agus struchtúr
- (ii) Réimeanna teanga éagsúla na Gaeilge a thuiscint, a aithint agus a úsáid sa chomhthéacs cuí
- (iii) Gnéithe de mhórchanúintí na Gaeilge a aithint agus mórpointí a bhaineann le caighdeán vs canúintí na Gaeilge a láimhseáil sa scríbhneoireacht agus sa chaint
- (iv) Mórcheisteanna agus mórghnéithe den aistriúchán a thuiscint agus a léiriú
- (v) Scileanna Gaeilge a fhorbairt le plé, cur i láthair agus díospóireacht éifeachtach a dhéanamh ar ábhair acadúla.

Measúnacht

- (i) Measúnacht leanúnach: Aistriúcháin, tascanna teanga, tascanna scríbhneoireachta etc. Seimeastar 1: 10%. Seimeastar 2: 20%.
- (ii) Scrúdú scríofa sa chéad (20%) agus sa dara seimeastar (30%).
- (iii) Scrúdú cainte (20%)