MA Practical Corpus Linguistics for ELT, Lexicography, and Translation

This Masters course will give you a completely new insight into how language really works and the way people use words to create meaning.

If you would like to learn how to explore language using innovative techniques and computer tools, then our course will offer you cutting-edge, research-led training of the highest quality, taught by leading researchers in the fields of linguistics and computer science.

YOU WILL HAVE OPTIONS ENABLING YOU TO STUDY:

» How people use words to make meanings;

» How to analyse real language usage;

» The role of phraseology, metaphor, and idioms;

» Creative and poetic uses of language;

» New approaches to language teaching;

» Translation tools such as translation memory systems;

» Creating dictionaries using new kinds of evidence;

» Using computer tools for teaching and translation.

You will be given freedom and flexibility to tailor the course content to your needs and research interests as we offer a unique selection of general and specialized elective modules from which to choose.

Our teaching staff will provide you with support and guidance in selecting the most suitable combination for your research topic.

WHAT HAPPENS ON THE COURSE?

This course will introduce you to the use of corpora – large electronic collections of written and/or spoken text that serve as a reliable source of evidence in linguistic analysis. ('Corpora' is the plural of 'corpus'.)

You will learn how to design, analyse, and exploit corpora in language teaching, dictionary writing, and translation for English or any other language.

Semester 1

You will focus on developing general linguistic knowledge and research skills, which you will be able to apply to your chosen area of expertise in Semester II.

You will learn about words, meanings, and linguistic creativity, broaden your knowledge of grammar, and acquire basic research and professional skills.
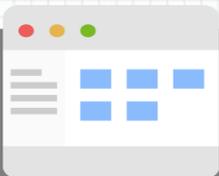
You will also have an opportunity to learn the essentials of computer programming by attending our elective module in Python.

Semester 2

You will be introduced to corpus linguistic methods and their application to three areas of research:

- language teaching,
- lexicography, and
- translation.

You will start planning your dissertation and engage in one-on-one consultations with your supervisor.

You will become proficient in the use of sophisticated corpus tools such as the Sketch Engine (https://www.sketchengine.co.uk), as well as state-of-the-art specialist software for professional translators and lexicographers.

Want to find out more about our modules?
Visit our webpage: http://rgcl.wlv.ac.uk/macorling/modules/

As a Masters student on this course, you will be part of our Research Institute of Information and Language Processing (RIILP), an independent, research-driven University unit specializing in linguistics and natural language processing.

Join our team of international researchers and start exploring language now!

WHY CHOOSE THIS COURSE?

BE EMPLOYABLE

The course will enable you to develop interdisciplinary knowledge and practical, transferrable skills, enabling you to meet the most recent and relevant demands of the field.

BE COMPETITIVE

If you are interested in technological aspects of language study, you will also have an option to learn basic computer programming – a skill that is increasingly sought after by companies seeking to employ language professionals.

LEARN FROM THE BEST

You will be taught by leading researchers in the field: our teaching staff at the Research Institute of Information and Language Processing (RIILP) are engaged in high-quality research, as evidenced by the latest RAE 2008 and REF 2014 results.

FIGURES SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS:

The University of Wolverhampton boasts an outstanding graduate employability rate – 96 % of students are in work or further training six months after graduation!

WHY STUDY AT WOLVERHAMPTON?

The course will be run on the newly renovated City Campus, which is situated in the heart of the city centre and features:

- The Harrison Learning Centre: four floors of electronic, online, hardcopy and audio-visual materials;
- The Technology Centre with 500 PCs;
- A 'Social Learning Space', integrating a sandwich bar and PC islands;
- On-campus food court, shops, and outlets such as Starbucks;
- Sports facilities including a gym and a sports hall;
- Three Halls of Residence accommodating 1000+ students;
- City centre location, close to all amenities (restaurants, shops etc.);
- Excellent train connections to all major cities.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

The entry requirement is a good undergraduate degree in Linguistics, English, Foreign Languages, Translation, Language Teaching/TESOL, Creative Writing, or Computer Science. We will consider applications with an overall grade of 2:1 and above.
Exceptionally, a 2:2 will be considered upon a successful interview.

For non-native English speakers, a language certificate showing a level of IELTS 6.5 or above will also be required.

CAREER PATH

Graduates will be able to pursue a career path in language teaching, translation, lexicography, editing, and human language technology, working either as freelancers or in a variety of industry locations, including publishing houses, translation agencies and IT companies that specialize in the development of language resources and tools (e.g. language learning applications, CAT tools).

English language teachers will benefit greatly from the course, as they will develop knowledge and practical skills in using modern lexical resources, corpus data and tools in the preparation of teaching material and in the classroom, which will significantly improve their chances of securing a job in the ELT sector.

The course will also provide a sound intellectual platform for students to progress onto doctorate level study and a career in higher education. As the teaching on the course is based on research carried out within the Research Institute of Information and Language Processing (RIILP), graduates will be well-placed to continue their academic careers by applying for PhD positions within our institute or at other leading centres specializing in Corpus Linguistics, ELT/TESOL, Lexicography, Translation Studies, or Natural Language Processing.

RGCL
Research Group in Computational Linguistics