

Kanda University of International Studies

TESOL Program

MA Project Description

The MA Project is an argument for pedagogical action and a culmination of participation in the MA TESOL Program. In completing their MA Project, MA TESOL students demonstrate their ability to reflectively examine their pedagogical context; identify and define a teaching/learning issue in that context; to access, summarize, and synthesize current literature relevant to the issue; and develop a justified pedagogical approach to the issue, including how to evaluate the success of their approach.

The MA Project will be no less than 20 and no more than 25 pages in length (typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, with standard margins), excluding references, following APA formatting rules.

The MA Project should be organized in three sections:

The first section (Issue in Context; 3-5 pages) should present an issue arising from the student's experience as a teacher, making clear how the issue is related to the context of the student's work.

The second section (Selective Review of Literature; 10-12 pages) should be a review of relevant, contemporary literature (no less than 15 but no more than 25 sources in total) that show how this issue has been approached theoretically or practically in other contexts. This review should support the importance of examining this issue in greater depth in the writer's context and provide a basis for the pedagogical action to be proposed in the third section.

The third section (Pedagogical Action and Evaluation; 5-8 pages) should present possible pedagogical actions in response to the issue, with evaluation of these in relation to the student's knowledge of their own context. This section should also include some prospective reflection on the part of the student about how they plan to evaluate the success of their pedagogical plan.

The MA Project will be evaluated according to the rubric provided:

MA Project Evaluation Rubric

The MA Project is evaluated in terms of the criteria listed below. For each criterion, marks of Pass (P) and Revision (R) are available. For acceptance of the MA Project, students are required to receive a mark of Pass in all categories.

Criterion	P	R	Comments
Section 1: Issue in Context			
1. The pedagogical issue is clearly identified and defined.			
2. The teaching context is clearly and sufficiently described.			
Section 2: Selective Review of Literature			
3. The literature selected is relevant to the pedagogical issue.			
4. The literature selected is sufficiently contemporary.			
5. The literature review is properly synthesized.			
Section 3: Pedagogical Action and Evaluation			
6. The proposed pedagogical actions derive clearly from the literature review.			
7. The proposed pedagogical actions are relevant to the pedagogical issue and context presented in Section 1.			
8. The Project includes discussion of how the student will evaluate the success of any pedagogical action undertaken.			
Academic Genre Requirements			
9. The language of the Project is appropriate to its genre.			
10. The formatting and mechanics (grammar, spelling, and punctuation) of the Project are appropriate.			
11. The reference list is properly formatted.			

Date: _____

Name: _____ Sign

April 2020 MA Research Project schedule (September 2020 graduation)

Date	Details	Note
April 1 st (Wed.)	Submission deadline for proposal forms from students	Proposal forms are to be sent by email to Chiho Takayama. (Note that a new proposal form will need to be submitted in the event that the title or supervisor of the project is changed.)
April 8 th (Wed.)	Assignment of MA Research Project Supervisors	Students will be notified of the supervisor assigned to their project.
July 31 st (Fri.)	Submission deadline for MA Research Projects	MA Research Projects must be approved by supervisors prior to submission (supervisors are to complete the MA Research Project Evaluation Report Form and send it to Chiho Takayama). MA Research Projects are to be sent by students to Chiho Takayama in PDF format by 23:59, on July 31 st .
August 30 th (Sun.)	Submission deadline for Second Readers	Second Readers are to complete the MA Research Project Evaluation Report Form and send it to Chiho Takayama.
September 2 nd (Wed.)	Final approval by TESOL board members.	
September 9 th (Wed.)	Graduation decision at faculty meeting	No more revisions allowed