

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2025-26: MSc in Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching



Course facts

Mode of study	Part Time Only
Expected length	2 years

About the course

The MSc Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching is a degree aimed at professionals of TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) or modern foreign languages. It is taught primarily via distance/online learning. This innovative two-year part-time course offers a cutting-edge introduction to the linguistic and pedagogic knowledge needed for teaching language.

While the concepts covered in the course can be applied to all languages in most contexts, there is a strong opportunity for students to specialise in the teaching of English language in university settings.

A low-residency course, it is characterised by intense online interaction and feedback, using a range of communication media. Its small-group teaching format pursues the Oxford tradition of demanding much of students and giving them much in return.

The course is taught over two academic years, preceded by a week's induction module in Oxford. Numbers on the course are kept low, to ensure quality of teaching and learning.

The course consists of six summatively assessed modules, two in term one and one in term two of each year, and a dissertation of between 15,000 and 20,000 words submitted at the end of the course.

You will take the following modules:

- Induction (one-week residential module during which your academic writing will be formatively assessed)
- Learning and teaching vocabulary
- Materials and assessment in language teaching
- Sociolinguistics and language teaching
- Individual and group differences in language teaching
- Listening and reading processes in language learning
- Developing second language speaking and writing

In addition to the six summatively assessed modules, you will take a formatively assessed module on Research Methods in term two of the first year, to help prepare you for your dissertation project.

Beginning in term three of the first year of the course, you will work on your dissertation project under the supervision of a member of the applied linguistics research group.

You will be expected to spend up to 20 hours per week on the course during term time, engaging in independent reading, online discussions, group work, listening to webinars, and writing review and reflection papers.

In addition, you will be given access to recorded lectures from the department's graduate modules on Research Methods in Education and Statistics. These are non-compulsory and non-assessed.

Research in the department is organised around three major themes:

- Language, Cognition and Development
- Policy, Economy and Society
- Learning: Pedagogy, Learning and Knowledge

Within each of these themes there are several research groups and centres. All staff and doctoral students belong to one or more of these research groups, each of which has its own seminar programme to which graduate students often contribute. In addition, the department sponsors regular seminars and public lectures which attract distinguished national and international speakers. These seminars are often provided online as well as in person, and recordings are made available for students unable to attend due, for example, to time differences.

Attendance

As a part-time student you will be required to participate in online weekly classes, seminars, and other academic tasks during term time. With the exception of the induction module, all coursework is delivered in an asynchronous format. Materials are

made available on the University's virtual learning environment two weeks in advance of the expected completion date for the associated activities. There is, therefore, flexibility in the dates and pattern of participation each week to fit into your work schedule. Attendance, either in-person or online, will be required for a one-week induction module, which is held prior to commencement of the course, usually in late August. Supervision meetings for the dissertation project are held in person or online, depending on circumstances.

Resources to support your study

As a graduate student, you will have access to the University's wide range of world-class resources including libraries, museums, galleries, digital resources and IT services.

The Bodleian Libraries is the largest library system in the UK. It includes the main Bodleian Library and libraries across Oxford, including major research libraries and faculty, department and institute libraries. Together, the Libraries hold more than 13 million printed items, provide access to e-journals, and contain outstanding special collections including rare books and manuscripts, classical papyri, maps, music, art and printed ephemera.

The University's IT Services is available to all students to support with core university IT systems and tools, as well as many other services and facilities. IT Services also offers a range of IT learning courses for students, to support with learning and research.

The Bodleian Education Library, located at the centre of the Department of Education, specialises in material on education and related fields. As well as a print collection of books, journals and statistics, the library provides access to a wide range of electronic resources. The library also houses a collection of teaching resources, primarily in support of subjects covered by the department's secondary PGCE course. The Social Sciences Library provides valuable additional resource to students pursuing programmes in the Department of Education.

Supervision

For this course, the allocation of graduate supervision is the responsibility of the Department of Education and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Department of Education.

Students may expect 10 hours of contact time with their supervisors during the course. The specific timing and number of meetings may vary somewhat according to the nature and requirements of a student's dissertation project. Indicatively, it is usual to have three supervision meetings in Term 3 of the first year and two in each of Terms 1 and 2 of the second year. In Term 3 of the second year, students work independently on their projects, though maintain email contact with their supervisors.

Assessment

Students will complete six modules, each assessed by submitted assignments (usually taking the form of a 2,500-word take-home essay), and a dissertation topic selected by the student and approved by the supervisor.

Changes to this course

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after you commence your course. These might include significant changes made necessary by any pandemic, epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2025-26

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£8,950
Overseas	£17,060

Information about course fees

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

You will be required to cover your own accommodation costs in Oxford the induction week. The department estimates that accommodation costs can start at around £70 per night in a college or around £150 in a hotel (single rate). Students should also factor in costs for meals during your stay. As part of your course requirements, you will need to choose a dissertation topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs yourself, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees and any additional course-specific costs, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for the 2025-26 academic year are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£330	£515
Accommodation	£790	£955
Personal items	£200	£335
Social activities	£45	£100
Study costs	£40	£90
Other	£20	£40
Total	£1,425	£2,035

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,970	£4,635
Accommodation	£7,110	£8,595
Personal items	£1,800	£3,015
Social activities	£405	£900
Study costs	£360	£810
Other	£180	£360
Total	£12,825	£18,315

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,960	£6,180
Accommodation	£9,480	£11,460
Personal items	£2,400	£4,020
Social activities	£540	£1,200
Study costs	£480	£1,080
Other	£240	£480
Total	£17,100	£24,420

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond the 2025-26 academic year, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 4% each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require a more accessible version of this document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask/form>).