Programme Specification

MA TESOL with Korean

School:	Education, Language and Psychology
Entry from academic year:	2024-25
in the month(s) of	September
Awarding institution:	York St John University
Teaching institution:	York St John University
Delivery location:	York St John University
Programme/s accredited by:	
Exit awards:	Postgraduate Certificate TESOL Postgraduate Diploma TESOL with Korean
UCAS code / GTTR / other:	
Joint Honours combinations:	N/A
QAA subject benchmark statement(s):	Master's Degree Characteristics 2015 Languages, Cultures and Societies 2015
Mode/s of study:	Full time: one calendar year Part time: two calendar years or three academic years[1]
Language of study:	English and Korean
Paired with Foundation Year	No
Study abroad opportunities:	No
Placement Year opportunity:	No

Introduction and special features

TESOL is the Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages. It is an umbrella term which encompasses the teaching of English as a 'second', 'foreign' or 'additional' language and as a *lingua franca*; teaching both multilingual and monolingual groups of students; and teaching both young learners and adults. TESOL professionals work as instructors, materials designers, and test developers.

The MA TESOL with Korean is designed for both qualified/experienced and intending TESOL professionals (who may be joining the programme directly from undergraduate-level studies or who may have other, non-ESOL, teaching experience) who plan to teach English in Korea after graduation.

You can enter this programme as a beginner in Korean. You can also enter if you have studied Korean before, as long as you do not already have C1 level or above of the Common European Framework for Languages (CEFR).

Our MA programmes attract students from the UK and many parts of the world, who bring with them a diverse mix of educational backgrounds and experiences. This creates opportunities for you to work with people of different nationalities and educational cultures with a view to increasing your cross-cultural understanding and opening your mind to new possibilities within your specialisation.

The TESOL side of the programme consists of two 30-credit modules, two 15-credit modules, and a 60-credit Final Project or Dissertation. For 30-credit modules you will take Second Language Acquisition, where you will discover key theoretical issues in second language learning and relate theoretical

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[1] Funding only available for first 2 years of 3 year programme

frameworks to your own teaching context, and Theory and Practice in Language Teaching, where you will gain practical experience of lesson planning and delivery, and explore how to adapt materials and methods to diverse contexts.

For 15-credit modules, you will take Language Myths, where you will learn about myths which circulate in popular discourse and your role in challenging these as a future TESOL professional, and Research Methods you will discover a variety of approaches to research used in TESOL and the broader field of Applied Linguistics, and explore links between research and your professional practice.

In addition, you will take two 15-credit Korean language modules. We have a range of modules from beginners (A1) to advanced (C1) to suit your level of Korean. You will learn to communicate effectively, using both spoken and written Korean, enabling you to adapt quickly to teaching English in Korea after graduation.

You will complete your MA with a 60-credit module which gives you the freedom to either conduct an independent research project related to TESOL, or to carry out a related pedagogical engagement activity.

Special features:

- Start Korean from beginners – no need to have studied Korean, or any other language, before – or study at a level that suits you.

- Make use of your Korean skills after graduation when teaching English in Korea – you will be at an advantage when settling in, and have special insight into your future students' language learning needs

- Take the CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages), the internationally-recognised English language teaching qualification awarded by Cambridge Assessment English, part of the University of Cambridge, subject to successful interview – take this for no extra fee, during the summer or up to a year after you graduate

- Gain TESOL experience through student-run community programmes such as YESOL (York: English speakers of Other Languages) and YEAL (York: English as an Additional Language)

- Access specialist spaces for students: a Linguistics Lab, Languages Workshop, Lounge and Study

- Learn about current research issues and methods from guest lecturers in our Colloquium Series on a variety of topics related to programmes in Language and Linguistics

- Co-organise and present at the yearly conference run by Languages and Linguistics post-graduate students, Postgraduate Forum in Applied Linguistics (PFAL), or apply to join the University's Students-as-Researchers scheme

- Take part in extra-curricular activities related to Korean language and culture: the vibrant student-run Korean Society, where you can experience Korean culture and meet home and exchange students.

Admissions criteria

You must meet the minimum entry requirements which are published on the programme specific webpage.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see https://www.yorksj.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/). For this programme, the following English level is required:
- IELTS 7.0 overall, with no less than 6.0 in each component, or equivalent.

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of Recognition of prior learning (RPL). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

Programme aims

To prepare students to work as a TESOL practitioner in Korea and/or continue to doctoral level study. Successful students will be able to adapt materials and methods to diverse contexts and challenge conventional thinking in TESOL policies and practices. The study of Korean will give students an advantage when adapting to life in Korea, and provide insight into their students' language learning needs.

Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to:

7.1 Display in-depth, extended or specialist knowledge and understanding of concepts, information and techniques relevant to TESOL

7.2 Display an advanced understanding of the applications of theory to relevant real-world contexts

7.3 Critically evaluate current issues and research in the subject field of TESOL

7.4 Take a critical and reflective role in developing and communicating ideas

7.5 Effectively communicate in Korean, both orally and in writing, on routine and familiar matters

7.6 Read and write hangul, and understand text on predictable everyday matters

Programme structure

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status compulsory or optional to take **C or O**	non-compensatable or compensatable **NC or X**
LAL7007M	M	1	Second Language Acquisition	30	C	X
LAL7014M	M	1	Language Myths (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7003M	M	1	Accelerated Korean 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7005M	M	1	Korean Communication 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7007M	M	1	Korean Language and Society 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7009M	M	1	Korean Language Project 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7008M	M	2	Theory and Practice in Language Teaching	30	C	NC
LAL7013M	M	2	Research Methods (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7004M	M	2	Accelerated Korean 2	15	O	X
LAK7006M	M	2	Korean Communication 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7008M	M	2	Korean Language and Society 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7010M	M	2	Korean Language Project 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7010M	M	Year	Dissertation or Final Project	60	C	NC

Suggested part time route over two calendar years:

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status compulsory or optional to take **C or O**	Module status non-compensatable or compensatable **NC or X**
LAL7007M	M	Yr 1 sem 1	Second Language Acquisition	30	C	X
LAL7008M	M	Yr 1 sem 2	Theory and Practice in Language Teaching	30	C	NC
LAL7014M	M	Yr 2 sem 1	Language Myths (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7003M	M	Yr 2 sem 1	Accelerated Korean 1	15	O	X
LAK7005M	M	1	Korean Communication 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7007M	M	1	Korean Language and Society 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7009M	M	1	Korean Language Project 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7013M	M	Yr 2 sem 2	Research Methods (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7004M	M	Yr 2 sem 2	Accelerated Korean 2	15	O	X
LAK7006M	M	2	Korean Communication 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7008M	M	2	Korean Language and Society 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7010M	M	2	Korean Language Project 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7010M	M	Yr 2	Dissertation or Final Project	60	C	NC

Suggested part time route over three academic years:

Code	Level	Semester	Title	Credits	Module status compulsory or optional to take **C or O**	Module status non-compensatable or compensatable **NC or X**
LAL7007M	M	Yr 1 sem 1	Second Language Acquisition	30	C	X
LAL7008M	M	Yr 1 sem 2	Theory and Practice in Language Teaching	30	C	NC
LAL7014M	M	Yr 2 sem 1	Language Myths (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7003M	M	Yr 2 sem 1	Accelerated Korean 1	15	O	X
LAK7005M	M	1	Korean Communication 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7007M	M	1	Korean Language and Society 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7009M	M	1	Korean Language Project 1 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7013M	M	Yr 2 sem 2	Research Methods (15 credits)	15	C	X
LAK7004M	M	Yr 2 sem 2	Accelerated Korean 2	15	O	X
LAK7006M	M	2	Korean Communication 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7008M	M	2	Korean Language and Society 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAK7010M	M	2	Korean Language Project 2 (M Level)	15	O	X
LAL7010M	M	Yr 3	Dissertation or Final Project	60	C	NC

Learning, teaching and assessment

In your TESOL modules you are encouraged to play an active role, critically reflecting on subject input and contextualising it through structured and assessed reflection on how your reading and discussion connects with your own experience. Module tutors will take the role of facilitators, encouraging you to think outside your own sphere of reference and maximising the development of your subject knowledge and understanding. You will be encouraged to share your experience and reflections through in-class dialogue and a proactive approach to learning will be promoted.

On the Theory and Practice in Language Teaching module you will have opportunities to gain experience of effective lesson planning, developing your confidence to deliver and evaluate your lessons through micro-teaching.

In your Korean modules, we use a communicative teaching style, teaching speaking and listening through tasks such as pair-work and group work. Reading and writing input includes focus on independent learning strategies. Modules for students with prior experience of Korean will be delivered using content-and-language integrated learning, studying aspects of Korean cultures, communities and societies through the medium of Korean. You are expected to proactively engage with the language inside and outside of class time. Korean modules are assessed with a combination of oral exam, videos, exams and/or written work.

Your final piece of work will be a dissertation exploring a specific research question(s) about a topic within TESOL which is of interest to you, or the development of a pedagogical engagement activity. This Dissertation or Final Project provides an opportunity for you to show that your knowledge of Applied Linguistics, as it applies to your chosen research topic and question, is both relevant and up-to-date. You will be supervised by an academic member of staff, but will be guided towards taking independent responsibility for your own work. The Dissertation or Final Project module is designed to enable you to provide evidence of your ability to pro-actively formulate research plans, independently carry these out and critically reflect on your findings.

You will be helped to acquire the key skills appropriate to taught postgraduate study. These include: evaluation of your own achievement and that of others; the ability to develop professional relationships; self-direction and effective decision-making and time management; independent learning; and the ability to work in a way that encourages continuing professional development.

The programme employs a range of teaching, learning and assessment practices including:
- Lectures (with supporting materials posted on the VLE)
- Tutor and student-led seminars; workshops and discussion groups
- Independent study and research
- Collection and analysis of data
- A range of assessment methods, catering for a diverse range of preferences in assessment type, including essays, self-reflection, data analysis, videos, peer teaching, and critical reviews, and, for the language modules, oral exam, reading/writing/grammar exam, and video
- Online submission of assessment
- Formative assessment and feedback

CELTA

You will have the opportunity to apply to take CELTA (Certificate in English Language Teaching to Speakers of Other Languages), an internationally-recognised English language teaching qualification. You can apply to take this during the summer or up to a year after you graduate. CELTA is awarded by Cambridge Assessment English, part of the University of Cambridge, and is delivered as a four-week intensive course at York St John University. A place on the CELTA course is subject to a successful application and interview, but, if successful, is funded by the School. CELTA includes theoretical input, tutorial support and consultation, supervised lesson planning, six hours of assessed teaching practice, peer observation of teaching practice and observation of experienced teachers in the classroom.

Progression and graduation requirements

The University's [general regulations for](#) postgraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

In exceptional cases, late changes of programme to the MA TESOL are allowed. This involves replacing the 15-credit versions of Language Myths and/or Research Methods with the 30-credit versions, taking an additional assessment.

Internal and external reference points

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:
- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [CEFR](#)

Date written / revised:
Programme originally approved: