



DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND APPLIED LINGUISTICS

**MA IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS**  
**MA IN TESOL**

# EARN AN MA FROM ONE OF THE FIRST APPLIED LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENTS IN THE WORLD.



OUR GRADUATES ARE AMONG THE MOST SUCCESSFUL LANGUAGE SPECIALISTS IN THE WORLD



THEY WORK IN A RANGE OF CAREERS INCLUDING EDUCATION, GOVERNMENT OR INDUSTRY



POSTGRADUATES IN WORK OR FURTHER STUDY SIX MONTHS AFTER GRADUATING<sup>1</sup>

The University of Reading has been known for decades as a centre of excellence in TESOL and Applied Linguistics. Our MA programmes have more than 1500 graduates in over 40 countries, many of whom have gone on to become world-renowned teachers and scholars. Distinguished graduates from Reading's MAs include Professor Penny Ur OBE (Haifa University), Professor Roger Nunn (Petroleum Institute Abu Dhabi), Professor Scott Thornbury (The New School New York), and Professor Barry O'Sullivan (British Council).

## TAUGHT BY TOP RESEARCHERS IN THE FIELD

Academic staff in the Department of English Language and Applied Linguistics are involved in cutting edge research in fields such as English Language Teaching, Second Language Acquisition, Language Testing, Multilingual Pedagogies and Translanguaging, Literacy, Language and Digital Media, Intercultural Communication, Linguistic Landscapes, and Language in Workplace/ Professional Communication. Their work is regularly published in important international journals, and they are often invited to speak at major international conferences. At the same time, nearly all of them also have backgrounds in English Language Teaching and understand how to apply research to addressing practical issues in the classroom.

## INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION

Students on Reading's MA programmes receive considerable individual attention. All students have regular meetings with a personal academic advisor, and all MA students have access to weekly training sessions in academic writing.

## DIVERSE STUDENT BODY

Diversity is a feature of Reading's MA, with students coming from a wide variety of backgrounds and nationalities. Students are part of a thriving intellectual community with regular research talks and social events with academic staff and PhD students.

## IDEAL LOCATION

The University of Reading is ideally located just 25 miles from Heathrow Airport and 25 minutes by train to Central London. Reading is now a stop on the London Tube map. Its 321 acre main campus has been consistently judged to be one of the greenest and most beautiful campuses in the UK.<sup>2</sup> The library houses one of the best collections of materials on Applied Linguistics and English Language Teaching in the country.

## VARIETY AND FLEXIBILITY

Reading's MA programmes are flexible enough to suit the needs of different students. Students can pursue a research-focused degree with a dissertation, or a teaching-focused degree with a portfolio. Both MA programmes include a wide choice of option modules in which students can gain specialised training in particular areas of TESOL or Applied Linguistics. Core modules specific to each MA include:

## MA TESOL Core Modules:

- Second Language Learning Principles
- Foundations of Language Study
- Research Design Methods
- Academic Practices in Applied Linguistics

## Dissertation Track Core Modules:

- Language Curriculum Design
- Dissertations

## Portfolio Track Core Modules:

- Issues in Language Skills Teaching
- Language Teaching Portfolio

## MA Applied Linguistics Modules:

- Second Language Learning Principles
- Foundations of Language Study
- Academic Practices in Applied Linguistics
- Research Design Methods
- Sociolinguistics
- Dissertation

## Some of our Optional modules:

- Approaches to Discourse Analysis
- Corpus-based Approaches to Language Description
- English in the World
- Language Testing Principles
- Issues in Bilingualism
- Information Technology for Language Teaching

## ENTRY CRITERIA

Applicants are normally required to have a good undergraduate honours degree (or equivalent international qualification), a minimum overall score of IELTS 6.5 with no score below 6.0 in any of the parts of the test, or a minimum TOEFL score of 570 (88 internet-based) accompanied by a TWE score of at least 4.5.



**"More than any other factor, my experience on the MA program at Reading precipitated my transition from teacher and teacher trainer to fully-fledged ELT professional. My first ELT Journal articles were based on assignments I'd done on the MA; my first IATEFL talk was derived from my dissertation; my first writing contacts came through fellow students. The MA gave me not just the skills and the discourse that enabled professionalization, but also the confidence. It was a turning point and I'm enormously grateful."**

Professor Scott Thornbury, Associate Professor of English Language Studies at the New School, New York, and Academic Director at the International Teacher Development Institute (iTDi)

<sup>1</sup>OHLE Survey - 2016/17 leavers. Link <https://www.hesa.ac.uk/news/19-07-2018/DLHE-publication-201617>  
<sup>2</sup>greenflagaward.org

**“My MA at Reading was a turning point in my professional career. Not only did I improve my insight into English Language Teaching, but it also honed my intercultural and interpersonal skills, and broadened my network”**

Analia Kandel – English Language lecturer, Teacher trainer  
and President of the Buenos Aires Association of English Teachers

**Department of English Language  
and Applied Linguistics**

[www.reading.ac.uk/appling](http://www.reading.ac.uk/appling)


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 /Applied Linguistics, English Language & ELT at Reading

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