

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 3750 words and no more than 5250 words (Approx. 15-20 pages). It must be typed in Times New Roman, 12-point font, double-spaced, with standard margins. Word counts include all tables and figures, but not references and appendices.

The MA Project should be organized in three sections:

The first section (Issue in Context; 3-4 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; 6-8 pages) should be a review of relevant, contemporary literature that shows how this issue has been approached theoretically or practically in other contexts (no less than 15 sources and typically no more than 25 should be included; more sources may be used if they are important and relevant to the teaching issue). 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; 6-9 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.

MA Project approximate word ranges are summarized below.

Section	Word Range	Page Range
Issue in context	750- 1000	3-4
Lit review	1500-2000	6-8
Ped Action	1500-2250	6-9
Total	3750-5250	15-20

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 appropriate for the writer's goals (e.g., purpose, authority, relevance, timeliness)			
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.			