APL (Accredited Prior Learning) for MA ELT programmes

The Centre for Applied Linguistics
The University of Warwick

The Centre for Applied Linguistics is an internationally recognised research and teaching centre in a university that has consistently been positioned in the top 10 UK universities. The Centre offers a suite of MA ELT programmes for those who have substantial experience of teaching, including those who wish to further their expertise in particular areas. We have specialist and research-active ELT staff who support you with your studies and we are flexible in allowing you to focus on materials and approaches to teaching that are appropriate for you. We hope you can join us to experience our world-class resources and facilities. The MA ELT programmes are available both full-time and part-time. For those who cannot take a full year out to study, it is possible to spread the programme over more than one year, and up to a maximum of four, by attending the university to complete modules available from the timetable.

I took a year’s sabbatical to do this course and my main regret is that I didn’t do it earlier. The taught elements were great, providing an excellent balance of the practical and the theoretical and an ideal underpinning for the dissertation which followed. The lecturers, many very eminent in their field, were very approachable and encouraging. The international backgrounds of the students made for a brilliantly friendly and supportive group. When I returned to work I realised I was ready to take on new challenges with renewed energy. I now have a new job!

(Christine, UK)

If you have a Diploma (DELTA) qualification you will be able to ask for ‘APL’ (accredited prior learning). In order to get an MA in ELT you need 180 credit points (CATS). The DELTA will give you 60 of these. This means you do not need to complete and do not have to pay for this part of the course. Therefore the MA will cost you roughly one-third less because you have a DELTA.

APL students are exempt from two 15 CAT core modules in Term 1.
These are:
- SLA (Second Language Acquisition) and Classroom Language Learning – ET990
- Issues and Research in ELT (post-experience) – ET965

APL students are exempt from one 30 CAT core module in Term 2. This is:
- Professional Practice in ELT – ET972

www.warwick.ac.uk/al
Diploma level professional qualifications recognised for APL

Although there are numerous Diploma level professional qualifications, we only recognise the following:

- Diploma in TESOL (DELTA, Cambridge Assessment, University of Cambridge, formerly UCLES)
- Diploma TESOL (Trinity College, London LTC L)

I chose Warwick due to both its excellent reputation in the field and the range of interesting modules on offer, including text and discourse analysis, educational management and teacher training. As I intended to study part-time, I was also impressed by the flexibility offered by the course. I feel that I have developed as a researcher and I am more confident in my ability to collect and then act on classroom data. I now apply what I have learned in my current position as an EAP lecturer. I am seriously considering returning at some point to embark on a PhD.

(Stephen, UK)

Frequently asked questions

Q Can I get APL for one of the specialist MA courses?
A Yes, applicants who have a Diploma level qualification in ELT are exempt from 30 CATs of the MA ELT specialisms:

- EYL (English for Young Learners)
- ESP (English for Specific Purposes)
- ICT and MM (Information Communication Technologies and Multimedia)
- TA (Testing and Assessment)

However, we cannot give APL for an additional 30 CATs in Term 2 for students following a specialist MA because there is not a close match between DELTA content and the specialist Professional Practice modules in Term 2.

Q Can I get APL for MA ELT (Studies and Methods)?
A APL will not apply to our MA ELT (Studies and Methods) programme as this programme is for pre-experience students.

Q Can I choose to follow the exempt modules if I want to?
A Yes – you can audit the modules but you will not be able to submit an assignment for assessment.

The Masters degree will deepen your theoretical knowledge about ELT, will help you develop a more robust understanding of theory-practice links, and will lead to improved prospects of promotion as well as job satisfaction.

I came to the MA with quite a lot of teaching experience behind me and wasn’t sure exactly what to expect - I just knew that I was hungry for some more professional input. The whole experience really surpassed all of my expectations and has opened up so many professional doors.

(Jo, UK)

Applications

To apply please visit

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/study/postgraduate/apply/

Further information

Further information can be obtained from:

The Secretary, Centre for Applied Linguistics, University of Warwick, COVENTRY CV4 7AL, UK.

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