



## FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

### SCHOOL OF LINGUISTICS AND APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

#### MASTER OF ARTS

#### LALS526 Special Topic: Computer-Assisted Language Learning

#### TRIMESTER 3 2013

### Important dates

**Trimester dates:** 18 November 2013 – 23 February 2014

**Teaching dates:** 18 November 2013 – 09 February 2014

**Mid-trimester/Xmas break:** 23 December 2013 – 5 January 2014

**Last assessment item due:** 06 February 2014

**Withdrawal dates:** Refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/payments/withdrawalsrefunds)

If you cannot complete an assignment or sit a test or examination (aegrotats), refer to [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)

### Class times and locations

There are no face-to-face class meetings in this course. Module recordings on the topics addressed in this course and additional materials will be posted online fortnightly.

### Names and contact details

#### Course coordinator

Dr Irina Elgort	Office:	10 Waiteata Road, Room 107
	In office:	10 am – 12 pm Tuesdays or by appointment
	Phone:	+64 4 4635970
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## Course administrator

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## Communication of additional information

Additional information about this course and information about any changes will be posted on the course website in Blackboard.

## Prescription

This course engages participants in a critical examination of theoretical and practical issues in Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL). Students will develop an understanding about using, evaluating and designing digital tools and environments for language learning and teaching. Students will also engage in creative thinking by undertaking a CALL project.

## Course content

Week	Topics
1-2	Introduction to Computer-assisted language learning (CALL); SLA theory and CALL; Applications of CALL: vocabulary, pronunciation, listening, reading, writing, assessment.
3-4	Applications of CALL for language teaching and learning (continued): Computer Mediated Communication (CMC), Technologies and environments (Web 2.0; mobile learning; authoring tools, virtual learning environments).
5-6	CALL Evaluation
7-8	CALL Design, Development and Practice
9-10	CALL Research; Learner Autonomy and CALL

## Course learning objectives (CLOs)

Students who pass this course should be able to:

1. demonstrate a high level of understanding about the relationship between capabilities of digital technologies and language learning/teaching opportunities;
2. locate, select and use technologies for specific language learning/teaching tasks;
3. evaluate CALL resources, tools and environments;
4. design and implement CALL activities and resources for specific teaching contexts and learner groups.

## Teaching format

The course is delivered online and requires students to follow the schedule of readings and course activities and assessment as specified in the course outline.

The course is available at <http://blackboard.vuw.ac.nz>. Blackboard is Victoria's online teaching and learning system. Students are expected to participate actively in online learning activities and discussions. Further information about Blackboard is available under Frequently Asked Questions, on the MA page.

## Mandatory course requirements

In addition to achieving an overall pass mark of 50%, students must submit the work specified in this course outline on (or prior to) the specified dates (subject to such provisions as are stated for late submission of work).

## Workload

It is anticipated that students will devote, on average, 15 hours a week to this course. Over ten weeks, your expected workload should be approximately 150 hours, although students aiming for a high grade will almost certainly require more time.

## Assessment

This course is **internally assessed**: there is no final examination. The course will be assessed as follows:

Assessment	Due date	Weighting	Learning objective/s
Biweekly CRAs (critical reading assignments)	1. Tuesday, 26 Nov 2013 (wk 2) 2. Tuesday, 10 Dec 2013 (wk 4) 3. Tuesday, 07 Jan 2014 (wk 6) 4. Tuesday, 21 Jan 2014 (wk 8)	2 best submissions contribute to <b>10%</b> of the final course mark	Objective 1
Course tasks: Task 1 <u>or</u> 2; Task 3	Thursday, 5 December 2013 (wk 3) Tuesday, 14 January 2014 (wk 7)	<b>20%</b> Complete two tasks, 10% each	Objectives 2,3,4
CALL wiki	Wiki contribution - Tuesday, 17 Dec 2013 (wk 5) Comments/feedback on a wiki page developed by another student Friday, 20 December 2013 (wk 5)	<b>30%</b>	Objectives 1,2,3
CALL Project	Proposal due: Monday, 06 January 2014 (wk 6); Project presentation: 27-31 January (wk 9, by negotiation); Project submission due: Thursday, 6 February 2014 (wk 10).	<b>40%</b>	Objectives 1,2,3,4

**CRAs** are critical reflections on course readings in the form of blog (online journal) entries. They are due fortnightly on Tuesdays (weeks 2,4,6,8). Each CRA is expected to be no longer than 500

words. You are required to submit all 4 CRAs, from which two best submissions will count towards 10% of the final course mark.

In CRAs, you will

1. critically evaluate key ideas, approaches and examples from your course readings, from the perspective of your prior knowledge/understanding of the topic or teaching experience, OR
2. analyze and reflect on examples from your teaching/learning practice, by applying frameworks from the readings; or compare your experiences with research findings/examples from the course readings.

**Course Tasks** (complete at least two tasks, with an option to choose between Task 1 & 2):

1. Create an *exercise or activity* using one of the recommended tools;
2. Create a *teaching/learning resource* using a digital technology/tool;
3. Evaluate an existing CALL tool/program/resource/website (Task 3 must be completed by all students). This submission should be no longer than 1000 words.

**CALL wiki** (knowledge base)

A wiki is a type of web site. The CALL wiki assignment can be completed individually or in pairs. Each student or pair is responsible for one selected topic in the CALL wiki. The total contribution by a student will be no longer than 1500 words (or 2000 for a pair). In addition to creating their own wiki pages, students are required to provide commentary/feedback on at least one selected wiki topic page created by a class mate. This commentary is worth 20% of the wiki assignment mark.

**CALL project.** Project proposals are limited to 300 words and must be submitted prior to or on Monday, 6 January (immediately after the Holidays' break). Final Project Submission should be no longer than 2500 words, not including figures and tables. Project work-in-progress presentations (2-3 'slides') should be made available for peer feedback during week 9. Further details about the form of these presentations will be negotiated with the course coordinator by each student individually.

## Submitting Assessments

General guidelines for word-processed work

- Set margins to at least 2.5 cm
- Set line spacing to 1.5
- Set font size of 12 point
- Set paper size to A4
- Include page numbers
- Include the course number, your name, your student ID number and the title of the assignment on the first page.
- Provide a word count at the end of the assignment (not including the Reference section)

All assessed work in this course must be fully referenced, following APA guidelines.

Further details about assessment and marking criteria are published in Blackboard. If you have a problem with meeting the deadlines, you must approach the lecturer as early as possible.

## Relationship between course assessment and Victoria graduate profile

This course is based on the principles of assessment for learning. It builds on smaller pieces of assessment towards the final project, encouraging students to explore the key topics of the course in relation to their teaching context, pedagogical approaches and personal preferences for digital

tools. A certain level of learner autonomy is expected, as students are encouraged to manage their workload by selecting from a range of recommended readings and learning activities. Successful students should be able to create their own learning path through the course, while adhering to the assessment requirements.

Fortnightly CRA submissions engage students in a critical reflection on course readings, in order to develop higher level specialised understanding of CALL. By constructing a CALL wiki knowledge base students collectively build up knowledge and understanding of the key topics and concepts in CALL. Course tasks provide opportunities to try out computer tools for creating teaching and learning materials, and to evaluate an existing CALL tool or resource. The final course project, which builds on all other pieces of assessment, is an opportunity to think creatively about application of the knowledge acquired in the course and to develop CALL design and implementation skills. Student will be provided with opportunities to communicate their original ideas and provide comments and feedback in the learning journals, CALL wiki and online work-in-progress presentations of their projects.

## Submission and return of work

In this course, students are required to submit all assessed work electronically, using Blackboard. Feedback on all course submissions will be provided in Blackboard. All course submissions, excluding the final project will be marked within 2 weeks. Final projects will be marked within 4 weeks.

## Penalties

The statement on deadlines in the School MA Handbook applies to this course. There is no formal penalty for missing the deadline, but you must get permission in advance if you find that you have to hand work in late. The course coordinator reserves the right not to accept an assignment that is submitted after the deadline without prior permission.

***Any course work that is plagiarised will not receive a grade and cannot be resubmitted.***

## Materials and equipment and/or additional expenses

There are no special requirements for materials or equipment, but student must have access to the Internet to complete this course.

## Set texts

Levy, M., & Stockwell, G., (2006). *Call dimensions: Options and issues in computer-assisted language learning*. Mahwah, N.J.: L. Erlbaum Associates. VUW Call No. P53.28 L668 C1.

## Recommended reading

Chappelle, C. A. & Jamieson, J. (2008). *Tips for teaching with CALL: Practical approaches to computer-assisted language learning*. White Plains, NY: Pearson Education.

**Journals** (all journals are available for online access from the VUW Library website):

1. *Language Learning and Technology (LLT)*
2. *CALICO Journal*
3. *ReCALL*

Additional readings are posted in Blackboard, and include articles from online journals recommended for each topic/module. Students must choose one or two of these articles that best meet their personal interests or teaching context to include in their fortnightly readings.

## Class representative

There is one class representative for the MA programme. Details are posted on Blackboard.

## Student feedback

Student feedback on University courses may be found at [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback\\_display.php](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/feedback/feedback_display.php).

## Other important information

The information above is specific to this course. There is other important information that students must familiarise themselves with, including:

- Academic Integrity and Plagiarism: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/plagiarism)
- Aegrotats: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/aegrotat)
- Academic Progress: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/academic-progress) (including restrictions and non-engagement)
- Dates and deadlines: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/dates)
- FHSS Student and Academic Services Office: [www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/fhss/student-admin)
- Grades: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/study/exams-and-assessments/grades)
- Resolving academic issues: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#grievances)
- Special passes: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/avcacademic/publications2#specialpass)
- Statutes and policies including the Student Conduct Statute: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about/policy)
- Student support: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-service)
- Students with disabilities: [www.victoria.ac.nz/st\\_services/disability](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/st_services/disability)
- Student Charter: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/viclife/student-charter)
- Student Contract: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/admisenrol/enrol/studentcontract)
- Turnitin: [www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin](http://www.cad.vuw.ac.nz/wiki/index.php/Turnitin)
- University structure: [www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about](http://www.victoria.ac.nz/home/about)
- VUWSA: [www.vuwsa.org.nz](http://www.vuwsa.org.nz)