

Research Title: Preferable Qualifications of Master of Arts Students in Applied Linguistics – English for Science and Technology, Faculty of Industrial Education, King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang

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Year 2015

ABSTRACT

The purposes of this study were to investigate preferable qualification of Master of Arts Students (MA) in Applied Linguistics – English for Science and Technology, Faculty of Industrial Education, King Mongkut’s Institute of Technology Ladkrabang and to find out the preferable course contents useful for their careers. The sample includes 125 alumni’s employers from both government and private sectors. The quantitative research methodology was employed. Questionnaires were used and the data were then analyzed by using descriptive statistic analysis, i.e. percentage, means and standard deviation. The main results indicated that the top three preferable qualifications of MA students in Applied Linguistics were morality, knowledge, and intellectual skills (4.61), numerical analysis, communication and the use of information technology (4.50), interpersonal relationship and responsibility (4.49), respectively. In terms of the preferable course content, it was found that the samples preferred “English for Professional Communication” (4.68), “English for Communication in the Workplace” (4.56), “English Listening and Speaking Skills for Specific Purposes” (4.49), respectively. In conclusion, the majority of alumni’s employers rated that the alumni had an outstanding characteristics in morality, knowledge, and intellectual skills. The English language needs of course content should be focused on English for Professional communication or English for Communication in the Workplace. The English language skills should be focused on Speaking and Listening skills rather than Reading and Writing ones.

Keywords: preferable qualification, Master of Arts, Applied Linguistics, needs analysis