



---

## Proposal to the Senate Educational Policy Committee

**PROPOSAL TITLE:** Update the requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics

**SPONSOR:** Peter Lasersohn, Professor of Linguistics, 333-1206, [lasersoh@illinois.edu](mailto:lasersoh@illinois.edu)

**COLLEGE CONTACT:** Karen Carney, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 3-1350, [kmcarney@illinois.edu](mailto:kmcarney@illinois.edu)

1. Adjust admissions prerequisites so that students entering the Linguistics Ph.D. program with an M.A. in Teaching English in a Second Language do not have to complete the equivalent of a second M.A. in Linguistics as part of their Ph.D.
2. Eliminate the phonetics and historical linguistics prerequisites for admission to the Linguistics M.A. program.
3. Adjust the requirements for the M.A. in Linguistics to require courses in both Psycholinguistics and Sociolinguistics (instead of just one), eliminate the requirement of Historical Linguistics, and reduce the requirements of Syntax and Phonology so that the second-level course in only one of these two fields is required.
4. Adjust the language requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics to increase the variety of languages and types of courses which will satisfy the requirements.
5. Adjust minimum GPA requirements so that they are the same for the M.A. programs in Linguistics and in Teaching English as a Second Language.
6. Eliminate the requirement that all Ph.D. students take LING 516 – Field Methods.
7. Replace the requirement that all Ph.D. students take either LING 407 – Logic and Linguistic Analysis or an appropriate course in social statistics with a set of separate requirements for the various areas of specialization within the Linguistics Ph.D. program.
8. Add a requirement that all Ph.D. students must take at least 2 hours of LING 590 – Special Topics in Linguistics.
9. Add a requirement that all Ph.D. students submit a substantial research paper, with an oral presentation and defense, normally in the first year of the Ph.D. program.

10. Eliminate the separate Programs of Study statement of requirements for the Ph.D. specialization in Second Language Studies; treat this specialization in parallel with other specializations.
11. Reword Programs of Study text for clarity and correct mistakes.

**JUSTIFICATION:** In light of the recent merger of the Department of Linguistics with the Division of English as an International Language, the research focus and teaching strengths of the Department of Linguistics have shifted, with greater emphasis on applied linguistics and second language acquisition. Faculty retirements have also altered the research and teaching profile of the department, particularly by reducing our ability to offer advanced instruction in historical linguistics. In addition, the field of linguistics as a whole has undergone significant changes in recent years, with more reliance on experimental techniques, and an increased perception of psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics as central areas of inquiry. The proposal updates our graduate program in response to all these developments by facilitating the entry of students into the Ph.D. program of students with a background in Teaching English as a Second Language, adjusting the course requirements to better reflect the range of specializations available to our Ph.D. students, and unifying the GPA requirements for the parts of the program which had previously been under different departments. More specifically:

1. Our existing requirements for admission to the Ph.D. program call for a GPA of at least 3.5 in the required courses for the M.A. in Linguistics. Together with other admissions requirements, this has the effect of requiring all students entering the Ph.D. program to have completed the equivalent of our M.A. in Linguistics — even if they have already completed an M.A. in a closely related field, such as our own M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language (offered by the Department of Linguistics since the merger with the Division of English as an International Language). Students who have completed such degrees may be perfectly acceptable candidates for entry into a Ph.D. program in linguistics, particularly a program with strengths in applied linguistics and second language acquisition. Accordingly, we propose altering the requirements for admission to the Ph.D. program to a GPA of at least 3.5 in the required courses for the M.A. in Linguistics *or the M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language*, or comparable evidence of achievement in the case of students admitted directly to the Ph.D. program from other universities. In addition, entry into the Ph.D. program bears a prerequisite of courses equivalent to LING 501, 502, either 425 or 450, and at least one of 507, 509, 551. This is a subset of the courses required for the M.A. in Linguistics, chosen to ensure that entering Ph.D. students have a broad graduate-level background in basic linguistics, even if their M.A. is from an adjacent field.
2. We propose eliminating the historical linguistics prerequisite for admission to the Linguistics M.A. program, to reflect the reduced presence of historical linguistics in our program due to faculty retirements. The phonetics prerequisite is also eliminated, because in actual practice, most incoming students have been admitted without this prerequisite, and have been required to take phonetics as a remedial course on arrival. Phonetics will continue as a prerequisite for the required course LING 502, but not as a prerequisite for admission to the program.
3. Our current requirements for the M.A. in Linguistics include 2-semester sequences in syntax and phonology, one course in historical linguistics, one course in psycholinguistics or sociolinguistics, one course in semantics or pragmatics, and electives. We propose eliminating the requirement of a course in historical linguistics,

because of the reduced presence of this topic in our program due to faculty retirements. We also propose requiring *both* psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics, as the importance of these areas in the field as a whole has increased in recent years. The requirement of two full semesters in both phonology and syntax now seems excessive; we propose requiring students to take a second semester in syntax *or* phonology. To keep the total number of credit hours in the program constant in light of these changes, we recommend increasing the number of required electives by one course. With these changes, the total number of 500-level courses required for the M.A. in Linguistics is reduced from 24 to 20 for thesis students, and from 20 to 16 for non-thesis students.

4. Our current requirements for the M.A. in Linguistics include demonstrated proficiency in a language (other than the student's native language) in which there exists a significant body of linguistic literature. We propose eliminating the requirement that the language be one in which there exists a significant body of linguistic literature. The existing requirement forces students to spend their time learning familiar European languages, when the experience of learning a relatively "exotic" language may be more valuable to them as linguistic researchers. Our current Ph.D. program requires proficiency in a language which is neither the student's native language, nor the language used to satisfy the M.A. requirement. We propose broadening this requirement so to require "knowledge of the structure" of a language; the faculty feel that structural analysis of a language is more directly relevant to a linguistics degree than proficiency.
5. Currently, completion of the M.A. in Linguistics and admission to the Ph.D. program require a minimum GPA of 2.75, but completion of the M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language requires a minimum GPA of 3.0. This discrepancy is a result of the two programs having formerly been housed in different departments. We propose a unified policy so that both M.A. programs and admission to the Ph.D. program require a minimum GPA of 3.0.
6. The requirement that all Ph.D. students take LING 516 – Field Methods, which dates to the era when virtually all linguists engaged in field research on understudied languages, no longer seems appropriate in an era when many linguists no longer conduct such research, but work exclusively in areas where field methods are of marginal relevance (such as computational linguistics). We propose eliminating this requirement.
7. The current requirement that all Ph.D. students take either LING 507 – Logic and Linguistic Analysis or "an appropriate course in social statistics" now strikes the department faculty as too crude; the type and extent of mathematical training needed by linguists varies by subdiscipline. We propose replacing this requirement with a set of requirements stated separately in the descriptions of the various specializations within the Linguistics Ph.D. program. (These specialization requirements are described on the department website but for the most part do not form part of the official Programs of Study text.)
8. In 2010, the course description for LING 504 – Practicum was revised to require concurrent enrollment in at least two hours of LING 590 – Special Topics in Linguistics. Because LING 504 is required of all Ph.D. students, this effectively introduced a requirement that all Ph.D. students take at least two hours of LING 590. We propose making this requirement explicit by listing it in the Programs of Study text.

9. Currently, non-thesis students in the Linguistics M.A. program must submit two original research papers, and present and defend them in a single oral examination. This examination also serves as the qualifying examination for entry into the Ph.D. program. The fact that students must submit and defend two papers at the same time frequently has the effect that one of the two papers is much stronger than the other. To reduce this problem, we propose revising the qualifying examination so that it involves only a single paper, and requiring a second paper (with oral presentation and defense) during the first year of the Ph.D. program.
10. Adopting all these changes makes the Ph.D. specialization in Second Language Studies compatible with the general requirements for a Ph.D. in Linguistics. The separate Programs of Study statement for this specialization can therefore be eliminated. Requirements for other areas of specialization within the Linguistics Ph.D. program are currently presented on the department website, but do not have separate Programs of Study statements; we propose treating the specialization in Second Language Studies in the same way. Requirements for all specializations will be reviewed and revised through a department-internal process.
11. The wording of the Programs of Study entry for Department of Linguistics graduate programs is unclear or stylistically clumsy at several points, and at least one major factual error appears in the text: The thesis option of the M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language currently is listed as requiring “0–8” hours of thesis credit. This is a mistake; since the thesis option requires a thesis, it is inappropriate to allow 0 hours of thesis credit. In actual practice, 4 hours have always been required. We propose revising the text to call for “4–8” hours. The text proposed below corrects this mistake, and improves the wording of the current text at several points. In the Dual Degree Program statement, our PhD is mistakenly labeled as Speech Communication. The PhD is in Linguistics.

**BUDGETARY AND STAFF IMPLICATIONS:** (*Please respond to each of the following questions. Place your response right after each item. See [Appendix A](#) for questions required of new degree program proposals as well additional notes regarding budgetary and staff implications.*)

- a. Additional staff and dollars needed: none
- b. Internal reallocations (e.g., change in class size, teaching loads, student-faculty ratio, etc.): LING 425 – Intro to Psycholinguistics and Ling 450 – Sociolinguistics I should experience modest increases in enrollment, while LING 541 – Syntax II and LING 542 – Phonology II should experience modest decreases. LING 410 – Historical Linguistics may experience a substantial decrease in enrollment.
- c. Effect on course enrollment in other units and explanations of discussions with representatives of those departments: none
- d. Impact on the University Library: none
- e. Impact on computer use, laboratory use, equipment, etc.: none

**DESIRED EFFECTIVE DATE:** Fall Semester 2012

**STATEMENT FOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY CATALOG:**

**Proposed Statement:**

# Linguistics

[www.linguistics.illinois.edu](http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu)

(Including English as an International Language, English as a Second Language, African Languages [Bamana, Lingala, Swahili, Wolof, and Zulu], Arabic, Hindi-Urdu, Modern Greek, Persian, Sanskrit, and Turkish)

Head of the Department: Hye Suk James Yoon

Director of Graduate Studies: Jennifer Cole

Director of Admissions Committee: Rakesh Bhatt

4080 Foreign Languages Building

707 South Mathews Avenue

Urbana, IL 61801

(217) 333-3563

Fax: (217) 244-8430

E-mail: [deptling@illinois.edu](mailto:deptling@illinois.edu)

**Majors:** Linguistics, Teaching English as a Second Language

**Degrees Offered:** M.A., Ph.D.

**Dual Degree Program:** Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Linguistics and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) through the [Medical Scholars Program](#)

## Graduate Degree Programs

The Department of Linguistics offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts in Linguistics, Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language, and Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics. More detailed information on departmental programs, offerings, admission, degree requirements, and financial aid, may be found at: [www.linguistics.illinois.edu](http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu).

The Master of Arts in the Teaching of English as a Second Language (MATESL) formerly offered by the Division of English as an International Language is now offered through the Department of Linguistics.

## Admission

Applicants to the MATESL program and to the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Linguistics must have completed a bachelor's degree.

For the M.A. program in Linguistics, undergraduate preparation should include the study of at least one foreign language; a course equivalent to LING 400; and a broad background in the humanities, social sciences, and/or mathematics.

For the MATESL program, an undergraduate major in linguistics, English, a foreign language, or education is generally recommended, though other majors are also acceptable. Applicants must present a grade point average of at least 3.0 (A = 4.0) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work. Two years of coursework in a foreign language or the equivalent are also required.

Student intending to pursue a Ph.D. in Linguistics should apply to the M.A. program in Linguistics unless they expect to have already completed a master's degree in Linguistics, Teaching English in a Second Language, or a related field by the time of entry into the program. Students who will have completed a master's degree in one of these fields may be considered for direct admission to the Ph.D. program. Applicants for direct admission must have a GPA of 3.5 or better in the required courses for the M.A. in Linguistics or MATESL at the University of Illinois, or comparable evidence of achievement in a master's program at another university. Recommended preparation includes courses comparable to LING 501, 502, either 425 or 450, and at least one of 507, 509, 551. Students admitted without such preparation are required to take these courses immediately on entry into the program; the courses will not count toward the 64 hours required for the PhD.

Applicants to all Linguistics graduate programs should apply online (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of recommendation and a writing sample of 10-20 pages in length. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate Student Services, 3070 Foreign Languages Bldg., 707 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL

61801. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required. The applicant should ask the ETS to submit scores to institution 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 88 (100 preferred) on the internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see <http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c>). Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services at [sclgradservices@illinois.edu](mailto:sclgradservices@illinois.edu)

## Degree Requirements

\*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's [graduate programs](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

### Master of Arts in Linguistics

Requirements:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours
Four elective courses (Non-thesis students may apply LING 590 to this requirement, to a maximum of 4 hours.)	16	16
LING 501, 502, 425 and 450	16	16
LING 541 or 542	4	4
LING 507 or 509 or 551	4	4
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours, LING 590 (min/max applied toward degree):	max 4	max 4
<b>Language Requirement:</b> Students must demonstrate proficiency in one language other than their native language		
<b>M.A. Qualifying Examination or writing of an acceptable M.A. thesis is required.</b>		
<b>Thesis Hours Required LING 599 (min/max applied toward degree):</b> Students writing a thesis are required to take 4 hours of LING 599 in addition to the required 40 hours.	4 min	N/A
<b>Total Hours</b>	44	40
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	20	16

The aim of the master's program is to instruct students in the major areas of linguistic theory and the methods of linguistic analysis. Candidates for this degree must earn at least 40 graduate hours with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (A = 4.0) and satisfy other department and Graduate College requirements.

## Master of Arts in the Teaching of English as a Second Language

Requirements:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours
<b>Track Coursework</b>  Students must select between the <i>pedagogical track</i> and the <i>research track</i> , and complete course requirements specified for the selected track	40	40
<b>Language Requirement</b>  Students who have not completed the equivalent of at least two years of study in a language other than their native language as an undergraduate must do so in order to complete the MATESL degree. These courses do not count toward the 40-hour total		
<b>Thesis Hours Required EIL 599:</b>	4-8  (Thesis option is required for students in the research track, optional for students in the pedagogical track.)	0  (Non-thesis option is available only to students in the pedagogical track. Students in the research track must select the thesis option.)
<b>Total Hours</b>	40	40
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12	12
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	Courses that satisfy curriculum prerequisites may be taken, but do not count toward graduation requirements. A Comprehensive Examination is required.	

The MATESL program offers two separate curricula or tracks. One track is designed for candidates whose principal interests are in language pedagogy and related research. The other track encourages candidates to concentrate more heavily on applied research in various aspects of English studies. A detailed description of the two tracks is available at [http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu/students/grad/matesl/documents/2009-curriculum\\_and\\_cohort\\_system.pdf](http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu/students/grad/matesl/documents/2009-curriculum_and_cohort_system.pdf). Usually candidates can meet all degree requirements in two years.

## Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics

Requirements:	Required Hours
LING 504 and at least 2 hours of LING 590	4
Courses as required in the area of specialization, or a combination of such courses across specializations upon the approval of the advisor	varies
First-year exam: Students must submit a substantial research paper, and present and defend it in	

<b>an oral examination</b>	
<b>Research/Project/Independent Study Hours:</b>	12
<b>Language Requirement:</b> Students must demonstrate knowledge of the structure of a language that is neither their native tongue nor the same language that satisfied the foreign language requirement for the M.A. degree	
<b>Thesis Hours Required (LING 599):</b>	32
<b>Total Hours</b>	64
<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	3.0
<b>Master's Degree Required for Admission to PhD?</b>	Yes
<b>Qualifying Exam Required</b>	No
<b>Preliminary Exam Required</b>	Yes
<b>Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required</b>	Yes
<b>Dissertation Deposit Required</b>	Yes

Admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. requires a grade point average of 3.5 or better in the non-elective M.A. courses (or comparable evidence of achievement in the case of students admitted directly to the Ph.D. program with an external master's degree), and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 for all graduate work in linguistics. In deciding whether students will be admitted from the Linguistics M.A. program to the Ph.D. program, the Student Examination and Evaluation Committee considers their performance in meeting these requirements, as well as their general potential for successfully conducting advanced linguistic research.

Students are encouraged to attend at least one summer session of the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America. Up to 8 graduate hours of credit granted under this program may be transferred, with Graduate College approval. Candidates are required to take the preliminary examinations (written and oral) after completion of 32 graduate hours beyond the master's level and to present a research paper at a meeting of the Linguistics Seminar.

## Medical Scholars Program

The Medical Scholars Program permits highly qualified students to integrate the study of medicine with study for a graduate degree in a second discipline, including the Department of Linguistics. Students may apply to the Medical Scholars Program prior to beginning graduate school or while in the graduate program. Applicants to the Medical Scholars Program must meet the admissions standards for and be accepted into both the [name of department] and the College of Medicine. Students in the combined program must meet the specific requirements for both the medical and graduate degrees. On average, students take eight years to complete both degrees. Further information on this program is available by contacting the Medical Scholars Program, 125 Medical Sciences Building, (217) 333-8146 or at <http://www.med.illinois.edu/msp>.

## Financial Aid

The Linguistics department aims to provide financial aid for all graduate students in the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Linguistics for up to five years, in the form of fellowships, teaching assistantships, research assistantships, or departmental assistantships. To hold a teaching assistantship non-native

English speakers must first pass a test of their oral English ability (see <http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/taengprof.htm>). Some students receive aid through other units in the University. New applicants receive automatic consideration for financial aid within the department, including teaching assistantships for the non-Western languages taught in its programs. For details and applications, write to the above address.

For students in the MATESL program, financial assistance is offered to as many qualified applicants as possible, but cannot be awarded to all. A record of extensive experience in teaching English as a second language enhances a candidate's chance of receiving financial assistance during one's first semester. A limited number of University fellowships are available for exceptionally qualified candidates. Teaching assistants (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c>) teach students in the Division's ESL program and in the Intensive English Institute.

**CLEARANCES:** (Clearances should include signatures and dates of approval) -- These signatures must appear on a separate sheet. If multiple departments or colleges, add lines.)

**Signatures:**

Unit Representative:

---

**College Representative:**

**Graduate College Representative:**

---

**Provost Representative:**

**Educational Policy Committee Representative:**

Drew  
School Representative

10/4/2011

Date:

卷之三

Date:

10/11d12

Date:

Date:

---

Date:

10/6/2011

## Appendix A:

**For comparison, the text from our existing statement of requirements in the Programs of Study is on the right, proposed POS entry on the left. Highlighted material has been updated/changed**

Proposed Curricula	Current Curricula
<p><b>Linguistics</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu">www.linguistics.illinois.edu</a></p> <p>(Including English as an International Language, English as a Second Language, African Languages [Bamana, Lingala, Swahili, Wolof, and Zulu], Arabic, Hindi-Urdu, Modern Greek, Persian, Sanskrit, and Turkish)</p> <p>Head of the Department: Hye Suk James Yoon</p> <p>Director of Graduate Studies: Jennifer Cole</p> <p>Director of Admissions Committee: Rakesh Bhatt</p> <p>4080 Foreign Languages Building</p> <p>707 South Mathews Avenue</p> <p>Urbana, IL 61801</p> <p>(217) 333-3563</p> <p>Fax: (217) 244-8430</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:deptling@illinois.edu">deptling@illinois.edu</a></p> <p><b>Majors:</b> Linguistics, Teaching English as a Second Language</p> <p><b>Degrees Offered:</b> M.A., Ph.D.</p>	<p><b>Linguistics</b></p> <p><a href="http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu">www.linguistics.illinois.edu</a></p> <p>(Including African Languages [Bamana, Lingala, Swahili, Wolof, and Zulu], Arabic, Hindi-Urdu, Modern Greek, Persian, Sanskrit, and Turkish)</p> <p>Head of the Department: Hye Suk James Yoon</p> <p>Director of Graduate Studies: Jennifer Cole</p> <p>Director of Admissions Committee: Rakesh Bhatt</p> <p>4080 Foreign Languages Building</p> <p>707 South Mathews Avenue</p> <p>Urbana, IL 61801</p> <p>(217) 333-3563</p> <p>Fax: (217) 244-8430</p> <p>E-mail: <a href="mailto:deptling@illinois.edu">deptling@illinois.edu</a></p> <p><b>Major:</b> Linguistics</p> <p><b>Degrees Offered:</b> M.A., Ph.D.</p>
<p><b>Dual Degree Program:</b> Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Linguistics and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) through the <a href="#">Medical Scholars Program</a></p>	<p><b>Dual Degree Program:</b> Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Speech Communication and Doctor of Medicine (M.D.) through the <a href="#">Medical Scholars Program</a></p>
<p>Graduate Degree Programs</p> <p>The Department of Linguistics offers graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts in Linguistics, Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language, and Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics. More detailed information on departmental programs, offerings, admission, degree requirements, and</p>	<p>Graduate Degree Programs</p> <p>The Department of Linguistics offers graduate programs leading to the master of arts in Linguistics, master of arts in teaching English as a second language, and doctor of philosophy in Linguistics degrees. Work toward these degrees is divided into eight major areas: computational linguistics, historical linguistics, phonology/phonetics, psycholinguistics (including language acquisition),</p>

financial aid, may be found at: [www.linguistics.illinois.edu](http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu).

The Master of Arts in the Teaching of English as a Second Language (MATESL) formerly offered by the Division of English as an International Language is now offered through the Department of Linguistics.

second language studies, semantics/pragmatics, sociolinguistics, and syntax. Other areas of concentration are artificial intelligence, cognitive science, and area linguistics (with concentration in African; Germanic; Romance; Semitic; and South, West, or East Asian linguistics). More detailed information on departmental programs, offerings, admission, degree requirements, and financial aid, may be found at: [www.linguistics.uiuc.edu](http://www.linguistics.uiuc.edu).

The Master of Arts in the Teaching of English as a Second Language (MATESL) formerly offered by the Division of English as an International Language ([www.deil.uiuc.edu](http://www.deil.uiuc.edu)) is now offered through the Department of Linguistics. Admission, degree requirements and financial aid information follow the Linguistics requirements.

#### Admission

Applicants to the MATESL program and to the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Linguistics must have completed a bachelor's degree.

For the M.A. program in Linguistics, undergraduate preparation should include the study of at least one foreign language; a course equivalent to LING 400; and a broad background in the humanities, social sciences, or mathematics.

For the MATESL program, an undergraduate major in linguistics, English, a foreign language, or education is generally recommended, though other majors are also acceptable. Applicants must present a grade point average of at least 3.0 (A = 4.0) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work. Two years of coursework in a foreign language or the equivalent are also required.

Student intending to pursue a Ph.D. in Linguistics should apply to the M.A. program in Linguistics unless they expect to have already completed a master's degree in Linguistics, Teaching English in a Second Language, or a related field by the time of entry into the program. Students who will have completed a master's degree in one of these fields may be considered for direct admission to the Ph.D. program. Applicants for direct admission must have a GPA of 3.5 or better in the required courses for the M.A. in Linguistics or MATESL at the University of Illinois, or comparable evidence of achievement in a master's program at another university. Recommended preparation includes courses comparable to LING 501, 502, either 425 or 450, and at least

#### Admission

Applicants to the M.A. in Linguistics, MATESL, and Ph.D. programs in Linguistics must have completed a bachelor's degree.

For the M.A. and Ph.D. programs in Linguistics, undergraduate preparation should include the study of at least one foreign language; courses equivalent to LING 210, 400, and 401 on this campus; and a broad background in the humanities, social sciences, and/or mathematics.

For the MATESL program, an undergraduate major in linguistics, English, a foreign language, or education is generally recommended, though other majors are also acceptable. Applicants must present a grade point average of at least 3.0 (A = 4.0) for the last 60 hours of undergraduate work. Two years of coursework in a foreign language or the equivalent are also required.

Applicants to all Linguistics graduate programs should apply online (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of recommendation and a writing sample of 10-20 pages in length. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate Student Services, 3070 Foreign Languages Bldg., 707 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required. The applicant should ask the ETS to submit scores to institution 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 88

one of 507, 509, 551; students admitted without such preparation are required to take these courses immediately on entry into the program.

Applicants to all Linguistics graduate programs should apply online (<http://www.grad.illinois.edu/admissions/apply/>) and submit a statement of purpose, three letters of recommendation and a writing sample of 10-20 pages in length. Original transcripts (with English translations if applicable) showing all undergraduate and graduate work completed should be sent to SLCL Graduate Student Services, 3070 Foreign Languages Bldg., 707 S. Mathews Ave., Urbana, IL 61801. Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are required. The applicant should ask the ETS to submit scores to institution 1836. Applicants whose native language is not English are required to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) and must score at least 88 (100 preferred) on the internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see <http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c>). Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services at [sclcgradservices@illinois.edu](mailto:sclcgradservices@illinois.edu)

(100 preferred) on the internet-based test (iBT); they must also pass the speaking sub-section of the iBT with a minimum score of 24 (see <http://www.grad.illinois.edu/Admissions/instructions/04c>) Applications are accepted for fall admission only. Application questions may be directed to SLCL Graduate Student Services at [sclcgradservices@illinois.edu](mailto:sclcgradservices@illinois.edu)

## Degree Requirements

\*For additional details and requirements refer to the department's [graduate programs](#) and the [Graduate College Handbook](#).

### Master of Arts

Proposed			Current		
Required Courses:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours	Required Courses:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours
Four elective courses (Non-thesis students may apply LING 590 to this requirement, to a maximum of 4 hours.)	16	16	Three elective courses (including 590, max 4 hours) must be chosen from any one of the areas of specialization	12	12
LING 501, 502, 425 and 450	16	16	LING 410, 501, 502, 541, and 542	20	20

<b>LING 541 or 542</b>	4	4	LING 425 or 450	4	4
LING 507 or 509 or 551	4	4	LING 507 or 509 or 551	4	4
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours, LING 590 (min/max applied toward degree):	<b>max 4</b>	<b>max 4</b>	Research/Project/Independent Study Hours, LING 590 (min/max applied toward degree):	max 4	
<b>Language Requirement:</b> Students must demonstrate proficiency in one language other than their native language			<b>Language Requirement:</b> Students must have proficiency in one language (other than their native tongue) that has a significant body of linguistic literature		
<b>M.A. Qualifying Examination or writing of an acceptable M.A. thesis is required.</b>			M.A. Qualifying Examination or writing of an acceptable M.A. thesis is required. Students writing a thesis are required to take 4 additional hours of LING 590 in addition to the required 40 hours.	4	
<b>Thesis Hours Required LING 599 (min/max applied toward degree):</b>  Students writing a thesis are required to take 4 hours of LING 599 in addition to the required 40 hours	4	N/A	<b>Thesis Hours Required ? LING 599 (min/max applied toward degree):</b>	0 min	N/A
<b>Total Hours</b>	44	40	<b>Total Hours</b>	44	40
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	20	16	<b>Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:</b>		
			<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	24	12
			<b>Other Requirements:*</b>		

The aim of the master's program is to instruct students in the major areas of linguistic theory and the methods of linguistic analysis. Candidates for this degree must earn at least 40 graduate hours with a minimum grade point average of 2.75 (A = 4.0) and satisfy other department and Graduate College requirements.

## Master of Arts in the teaching of English as a second language

Proposed			Current		
Required Courses:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours	Required Courses:	Thesis Option-Required Hours	Non-thesis Option-Required Hours
<b>Track Coursework</b>  Students must select between the <i>pedagogical track</i> and the <i>research track</i> , and complete course requirements specified for the selected track	40	40	Track Coursework		
			Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree):		
<b>Language Requirement</b>  Students who have not completed the equivalent of at least two years of study in a language other than their native language as an undergraduate must do so in order to complete the MATESL degree. These courses do not count toward the 40-hour total			<b>Language Requirement:</b>		
<b>Thesis Hours Required EIL 599:</b>	4–8  (Thesis option is required for students in the research track.)	0  (Non-thesis option is available only to students in the pedagogical track.)	<b>Thesis Hours Required EIL 599 (min/max applied toward degree):</b>	0–8	

	optional for students in the pedagogical track.)	Students in the research track must select the thesis option.)			
<b>Total Hours</b>	40	40	<b>Total Hours</b>	40	40
			<b>Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:</b>		
<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12	12	<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	12	12
<b>Other Requirements:</b>	Courses that satisfy curriculum prerequisites may be taken, but do not count toward graduation requirements. A Comprehensive Examination is required.		<b>Other Requirements:*</b>	Courses that satisfy curriculum prerequisites may be taken, but do not count toward graduation requirements. Comprehensive Examination is required.	
The MATESL program offers two separate curricula or tracks. One track is designed for candidates whose principal interests are in language pedagogy and related research. The other track encourages candidates to concentrate more heavily on applied research in various aspects of English studies. A detailed description of the two tracks is available at <a href="http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu/students/grad/matesl/documents/2009-curriculum_and_cohort_system.pdf">http://www.linguistics.illinois.edu/students/grad/matesl/documents/2009-curriculum_and_cohort_system.pdf</a> . Usually candidates can meet all degree requirements in two years.	The MATESL program offers two separate curricula or tracks. One track is designed for candidates whose principal interests are in language pedagogy and related research. The other track encourages candidates to concentrate more heavily on applied research in various aspects of English studies, such as those listed below under faculty specializations the Second Language Studies Specialization for the PhD. A detailed description of the two tracks is available upon request. Usually candidates can meet all degree requirements in two years.				

## Doctor of Philosophy

Proposed		Current	
<b>Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics</b>		<b>Doctor of Philosophy</b>	
Requirements:	<b>Required Hours</b>	Required Courses:	<b>Required Hours</b>
LING 504 and at least 2 hours of LING 590	4	LING 504 and 516	8
Courses as required in the area of specialization, or a combination of such courses across specializations upon the approval of the advisor	varies	LING 407 or an appropriate course in Social Statistics	4
First-year exam: Students must submit a substantial research paper, and present and defend it in an oral examination		Two required courses in the area of specialization or a combination of such courses across specializations upon the approval of the advisor	8
Research/Project/Independent Study Hours:	12	Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree):	12
Language Requirement: Students must demonstrate knowledge of the structure of a language that is neither their native tongue nor the same language that satisfied the foreign language requirement for the M.A. degree		Language Requirement: Proficiency in a language that is neither their native tongue nor the same language that satisfied the foreign language requirement for the M.A. degree	
Thesis Hours Required (LING 599):	32	Thesis Hours Required LING 599 (min/max applied toward degree):	32
Total Hours	64	Total Hours	64
		Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:	
		Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:	
		Other Requirements:*	
Minimum GPA:	3.0	Minimum GPA:	2.75

<b>Master's Degree Required for Admission to PhD?</b>	Yes	<b>Master's Degree Required for Admission to PhD?</b>	No, but Masters level requirements must be met (additional 40 hours min)
<b>Qualifying Exam Required</b>	No	<b>Qualifying Exam Required</b>	No
<b>Preliminary Exam Required</b>	Yes	<b>Preliminary Exam Required</b>	Yes
<b>Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required</b>	Yes	<b>Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required</b>	Yes
<b>Dissertation Deposit Required</b>	Yes	<b>Dissertation Deposit Required</b>	Yes
<p>Admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. requires a grade point average of 3.5 or better in the non-elective M.A. courses (or comparable evidence of achievement in the case of students admitted directly to the Ph.D. program with an external master's degree), and a minimum grade point average of 3.0 for all graduate work in linguistics. In deciding whether students will be admitted from the Linguistics M.A. program to the Ph.D. program, the Student Examination and Evaluation Committee considers their performance in meeting these requirements, as well as their general potential for successfully conducting advanced linguistic research.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to attend at least one summer session of the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America. Up to 8 graduate hours of credit granted under this program may be transferred, with Graduate College approval. Candidates are required to take the preliminary examinations (written and oral) after completion of 32 graduate hours beyond the master's level and to present a research paper at a meeting of the Linguistics Seminar.</p>	<p>Admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. requires a grade point average of 3.5 or better in the required M.A. courses (not counting the electives) a minimum grade point average of 2.75 over all graduate work in linguistics, and distinction in passing the qualifying examination. In deciding whether students will be admitted to the Ph.D. program, the Student Examination and Evaluation Committee considers their performance in meeting these requirements, as well as their general potential for successfully conducting advanced linguistic research.</p> <p>Students are encouraged to attend at least one summer session of the Linguistic Institute of the Linguistic Society of America. Up to 8 graduate hours of credit granted under this program may be transferred, with Graduate College approval. Candidates are required to take the preliminary examinations (written and oral) after completion of 32 graduate hours beyond the master's level and to present a research paper at a meeting of the Linguistics Seminar.</p>		

Note that the requirements for the specialization in second language studies are different from those for other specializations at the doctoral level. These are summarized below:

## Doctor of Philosophy (specialization in second language studies)

Proposed	Current	
	Prerequisite Courses:	<b>Required Hours</b>
REMOVE	LING 501 and 502	8
	Two additional courses chosen from three separate areas: <b>Language Analysis</b> Ling 541 OR LING 542;OR LING 509 OR LING 527 OR LING 551; <b>Language Use</b> LING 450 OR EIL 456; <b>Psycholinguistics</b> LING 425	8
	Required Courses:	
	Two courses in research design/methodology (one each in <b>qualitative research design</b> (EIL 587 OR EIL 590) and quantitative research design (LING 514)	8
	In consultation with their advisor, candidates will take six courses selected from the following five areas of specialization: Language Analysis; Language Learning; Language Use; Language Education; Educational Technology. At least two of these courses must come from outside the area of specialization that is most relevant to candidates' dissertation work.	24
	Research/Project/Independent Study Hours (min/max applied toward degree):	
	<b>Language Requirement:</b> Proficiency in a language that is neither their native tongue nor the same language that satisfied the foreign language requirement for the M.A. degree	

	<b>Thesis Hours Required (min/max applied toward degree):</b>	32
	<b>Total Hours</b>	64
	<b>Minimum Hours Required Within the Unit:</b>	
	<b>Minimum 500-level Hours Required Overall:</b>	
	<b>Other Requirements:*</b>	
	<b>Minimum GPA:</b>	2.75
	<b>Master's Degree Required for Admission to PhD?</b>	Yes
	<b>Qualifying Exam Required</b>	No
	<b>Preliminary Exam Required</b>	Yes
	<b>Final Exam/Dissertation Defense Required</b>	Yes
	<b>Dissertation Deposit Required</b>	Yes



---

## Senate Educational Policy Committee Proposal Check Sheet

**PROPOSAL TITLE** (Same as on proposal): Update the requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics

**PROPOSAL TYPE** (Please select all that apply below):

A.  **Program and degree proposals**

1. This proposal is for a graduate program or degree

Yes  No

2. **Degree** proposal (e.g. B.S., M.A. or Ph.D.)

New degree — please name the new degree: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision of an existing degree — please name the existing degree to be revised:  
**Major** proposal (disciplinary focus, e.g., Mathematics)

New major — please name the new major: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision of an existing major — please name the existing major to be revised: M.A.  
and Ph.D. in Linguistics

3. **Concentration** proposal (e.g. Financial Planning)

New concentration — please name the new concentration: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision of an existing concentration — please name the existing concentration to be  
revised: \_\_\_\_\_

4. **Minor** proposal (e.g. Cinema Studies)

New minor — please name the new minor: \_\_\_\_\_

Revision of an existing minor — please name the existing minor to be revised: \_\_\_\_\_

5.  Proposal for renaming an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

degree       major       concentration       minor

Please provide the current name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the proposed new name: \_\_\_\_\_

6.  Proposal for terminating an existing degree, major, concentration, or minor

Please name the existing degree, major, concentration, or minor: \_\_\_\_\_

7.  Proposal for a multi-institutional degree between Illinois (UIUC) and a foreign institution

Please name the existing Illinois degree or program: \_\_\_\_\_

Please name the partnering institution: \_\_\_\_\_

- B.  **Proposal for renaming existing academic units** (college, school, department, or program)

Please provide the unit's current name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the unit's proposed new name: \_\_\_\_\_

- C.  **Proposal for reorganizing existing units** (colleges, schools, departments, or programs)

Change in status of an existing and approved unit (e.g. change from a program to department) — please indicate current unit name including status: \_\_\_\_\_

Transfer an existing unit

Please provide the current unit's name and home: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the new home for the unit: \_\_\_\_\_

Merge two or more existing units (e.g., merge department A with department B)

Please provide the name and college of unit one to be merged: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide the name and college of unit two to be merged: \_\_\_\_\_

Terminate an existing unit — please provide the current unit's name and status: \_\_\_\_\_

- D.  **Other educational policy proposals** (e.g., academic calendar, grading policies, etc.)

Please indicate the nature of the proposal: \_\_\_\_\_

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

EP.13.13

Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs

Swanlund Administration Building  
601 East John Street  
Champaign, IL 61820



October 31, 2012

Gay Miller, Chair  
Senate Committee on Educational Policy  
Office of the Senate  
228 English Building, MC-461

Dear Professor Miller:

Enclosed is a copy of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the requirements for the M.A. and PhD in Linguistics

This proposal has been approved by the College of Liberals Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee and Graduate College Executive Committee. It now requires Senate review.

Sincerely,



Kristi A. Kuntz  
Assistant Provost

KAK/njh

Enclosures

c: E. Benmamoun  
W. Buttlar  
K. Carney  
P. Lasersohn  
M. Lowry  
D. Musumeci  
J. Yoon

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Graduate College

204 Coble Hall  
801 South Wright Street  
Champaign, IL 61820-6210



Executive Committee

October 9, 2012

2012-2013 Members

Debasish Dutta, *Chair*

Kristi Kuntz  
Office of the Provost  
207 Swanlund MC-304

Members

Barry Ackerson

David Ceperley

Lin-Feng Chen

Kent Choquette

Jennifer Cole

Brooke Elliott

Susan Garnsey

David Hays

Christine Jenkins

Ashleigh Jones

Tina Mattila

Ramona Oswald

Yoon Pak

Joseph Rosenblatt

Alex Winter-Nelson

Assata Zerai

Dear Kristi,

Enclosed is the proposal entitled "Update the requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics." The Graduate College Executive Committee has approved the proposal. However because this document requests several revisions to the graduate programs in the Department of Linguistics, the School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics, and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, I send it to you now for further review.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William G. Buttlar".

William G. Buttlar  
Associate Dean, Graduate College

c: E. Benmamoun  
P. Lasersohn  
M. Lowry  
K. Carney  
J. Yoon

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Dean

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
294 Lincoln Hall  
702 South Wright Street  
Urbana, IL 61801-3631



November 11, 2011

Andrea Golato  
Associate Dean  
Graduate College  
204 Coble Hall MC-322

RECEIVED  
NOV 23 2011

Dear Dean Golato:

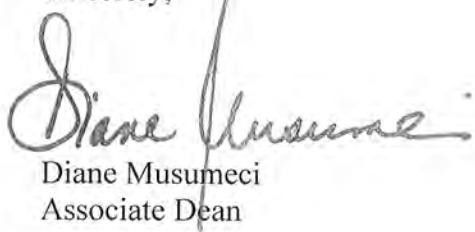
GRADUATE COLLEGE

The Committee on Courses and Curricula on behalf of the Dean's Cabinet, and Executive Committee has voted to approve the following proposal:

**Update the requirements for the M.A. and Ph.D. in Linguistics**

Please address all correspondence concerning this proposal to me. This proposal is now ready for review by the Graduate College for proposed implementation Fall 2012.

Sincerely,

  
Diane Musumeci  
Associate Dean

C: Professor Peter Lasersohn  
Professor Abbas Benmamoun  
Ms. Marita Romine