

# UGA Department of Linguistics Graduate Handbook



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**Graduate School**  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



**Department of Linguistics**  
*Franklin College of Arts and Sciences*  
**UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION TO GRADUATE STUDY IN LINGUISTICS AT UGA

## 1.1 Academic Unit Overview

### 1.1.1 Mission Statement

The Department of Linguistics is a diverse and vibrant academic community dedicated to the scientific study of language as a human phenomenon. Language plays a central role in society and culture and is an essential part of what makes us human. Through our research, we aim to advance our knowledge of the nature and structure of language, including: theoretical models of language structure and meaning; the documentation of understudied and endangered language varieties; the production and perception of speech; the processing of language and its relationship to cognition; the acquisition of language; the functioning of language in society; the variation of language in time and space; and the histories of individual languages and language families. Our work is empirically based, using data from diverse languages and employing fieldwork, surveys, acoustic analysis, and experimental, corpus, and computational methods. We provide effective and innovative instruction at the A.B., M.A., and Ph.D. levels, training students to become independent linguists and researchers. Because of the essential nature of language, linguistics is linked to many other disciplines, such as anthropology, artificial intelligence, communication studies, cognitive science, computer science, education, sociology, and psychology. In both our research and teaching, we employ cutting-edge tools and promote methodological advancement. We train students in the analysis of linguistic data, reasoning, critical thinking, and writing, as well as in the use of software and other tools, all of which are transferable skills that can be employed in a wide range of careers, in addition to preparing them for further study in linguistics or careers in academia.

### 1.1.2 Organizational Structure

Housed within the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Linguistics at the University of Georgia was structured as an interdisciplinary program for over 30 years, becoming a department only in July 2017. Due to its history, many of the core faculty in the Department have joint appointments, and there is a large number of affiliated faculty with appointments in various departments across the university. Most faculty typically have responsibilities in these other departments in addition to teaching and working with students in Linguistics. Contact information for current faculty can be found on the department website <https://linguistics.uga.edu/directory/faculty>. Courses are often cross-listed between Linguistics and other departments, although the Department of Linguistics also offers many courses of its own. The relatively recent transition to departmental status means that Linguistics has a smaller physical and administrative presence than many other departments at the University, and the fact that faculty members are housed all over the campus sometimes poses challenges. However, this structure also makes Linguistics more diverse, allowing for interdisciplinary cooperation and a wider variety of course offerings.

The Head has overall responsibility for the administration of the Department of Linguistics. The Head is assisted by a Director of Graduate Studies, who advises prospective and current students, oversees the admissions process, and ensures compliance with Graduate School policies and procedures. The Head and Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with a Graduate Committee composed of faculty members, determine admissions and financial aid awards. The Administrative Specialist, who works in the departmental office in Gilbert Hall, is responsible for overseeing the daily business of the Department and its finances, and serves as the Graduate Program Administrator and Course Scheduling Officer. The Administrative Associate (currently housed in Joe Brown Hall in the Department of Germanic & Slavic Studies [with which this position is shared]) provides general administrative support and is responsible for social media and the department website.

Graduate students elect two representatives at the beginning of each academic year to attend faculty meetings and facilitate communication between the students and faculty as a whole.

In addition, graduate students run the Linguistics Society at the University of Georgia (LSUGA), which organizes a biannual conference and sponsors other events for students in the Department.

Within the Franklin College of Arts and Sciences, Linguistics is part of the Humanities Division. It is overseen by an Associate Dean (Dr. Stephen Mihm) and the Dean (Dr. Anna Stenport). Other Associate Deans in the college oversee various aspects of instruction, research, curriculum, facilities management, etc. The Franklin College Business Office oversees financial matters for all units in the college, and the Franklin Office of Information Technology manages instructional and research technology. The Department of Linguistics regularly interacts with all of the Dean's Office Staff.

The University of Georgia has 16 schools and colleges. Within the University, the current interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Ron W. Walcott, oversees instruction, research, public service and outreach, and student affairs. The Vice Presidents for these four areas report to the provost, as do the deans of the schools and colleges. There are seven associate provosts who direct other areas of responsibility. The Provost reports to President Jere Morehead.

### **1.1.3 Faculty and Staff**

- **Administration**

Dr. Chad Howe, Department Head and Undergraduate Coordinator

[chowe@uga.edu](mailto:chowe@uga.edu)

218 Gilbert Hall

Dr. Pilar Chamorro, Co-Director of Graduate Studies

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235 Gilbert Hall

Dr. Mark Wenthe, Co- Director of Graduate Studies

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G12 Brooks Hall

Dr. Mi-Ran Kim, Teaching Assistant Supervisor/LING 2100 Coordinator

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140 Gilbert Hall

Ms. Amy Smoler, Administrative Specialist II, Graduate Program Administrator and Office Manager

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142 Gilbert Hall

- **Core Faculty**

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Sociolinguistics, Heritage language communities, Historical linguistics, Germanic languages

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- **Affiliated Faculty**

The Department of Linguistics has affiliated faculty members in various departments throughout the University. Affiliated faculty at UGA may teach courses in Linguistics, usually cross-listed with their home departments, and may serve on graduate committees (including as major professor). Please see our website for a [full list of affiliated faculty](#).

## 1.2 Program Description

Graduate programs of study are offered at both the M.A. and Ph.D. levels. Students may choose either a thesis or non-thesis option for the M.A. degree.

Our graduate programs provide both a grounding in core areas of linguistics as well as the opportunity for specialization within a number of different areas: phonetics and phonology; syntax, semantics, and morphology; pragmatics and discourse analysis; computational and corpus linguistics; language documentation; psycholinguistics and neurolinguistics; sociolinguistics and language variation; historical (Indo-European) linguistics; and language acquisition. The actual degree programs constructed by individual students and their advisory committees focus on two specific fields of concentration. The programs of study may also include courses or research projects in related disciplines such as anthropology, sociology, computer science, philosophy, or in the history or structure of a specific language or languages. GradFIRST and colloquium courses are offered to enhance students' professional training and to provide opportunities to present and discuss current research projects.

For brief descriptions of these different areas and the faculty members associated with them, please see our website: <https://www.linguistics.uga.edu/research-areas>

## 1.3 Global Expectations of All Students

Students within the Department of Linguistics are expected to demonstrate professional behavior while enrolled in the graduate program and to act in a manner that demonstrates integrity and respect for others and the campus environment. Further, it is expected that all students will adhere to university policies governing student conduct (<https://conduct.uga.edu/>), research and academic conduct (<https://honesty.uga.edu/>), non-discrimination and anti-harassment ([https://eoo.uga.edu/civil\\_rights\\_NDAH/ndah-policy/](https://eoo.uga.edu/civil_rights_NDAH/ndah-policy/)), and workplace violence (<https://safeandsecure.uga.edu/workplace-violence/>). It is expected that all students will maintain academic standards in line with Graduate School policy, including maintaining a minimum 3.0 GPA in all required coursework, attending courses and seminars, and achieving satisfactory academic progress. Failure to follow these policies may lead to loss of financial support and dismissal from the university.

Graduate student mailboxes are located in Gilbert Hall, next to room 140. Students should check them regularly for announcements and other documents from the Linguistics Department or the university administration.

The Department maintains listservs for graduate students and faculty. Students will provide the Graduate Program Administrator (currently Ms. Amy Smoler) with their official UGA e-mail account information so that they may be added to the appropriate mailing lists. E-mail is the primary

means of communication used to get important information to all members of the program. Note that we cannot use a non-UGA e-mail account to communicate with you about academic matters or financial aid once you are enrolled. All instructors, including graduate teaching assistants, must use only their UGA e-mail accounts (or the e-mail function in eLC) to communicate with their students. *It is imperative for graduate students to check their UGA e-mail on a consistent basis, even during the summer, and to respond in a timely manner.*

In addition, all students should provide current mailing addresses and phone numbers to the Graduate Secretary for our records, and should update this information whenever it changes. We will only text or call you if the matter is urgent and/or you have not responded to previous attempts to contact you by e-mail.

The Department of Linguistics website has a full list of faculty members with their contact information, as well as other useful information about the department (including a link to the most recent version of the Graduate Handbook). Graduate students are also normally listed on the website, together with contact information, areas of interest and other academic information, and links to personal webpages (if desired). This provides students with an excellent opportunity to start building a professional presence in the discipline, and students are strongly encouraged to keep their own profile on the website up to date.

## 1.4 Student Well-Being

Pursuing a graduate degree can be stressful. There will be greater academic demands on you than in your undergraduate degree program, and your personal and financial situation may be different from when you were an undergraduate student. It's important for you to take care of your mental and physical health, and to reach out when you need help. Participating in student organizations (such as LSUGA) and other campus and community activities and events is a good way to make connections with other people. In addition to building and maintaining your own personal support network, UGA offers a number of resources that can be helpful.

Anyone needing assistance is encouraged to contact **Student Care & Outreach (SCO)** in the Division of Student Affairs, located in 318 Tate Student Center. The office is open from 8:00-5:00 and accepts walk-ins and phone calls at 706-542-8479. You can also visit <https://sco.uga.edu> to find more information or to submit an online request.

Other resources include:

- Well-being Resources: <https://well-being.uga.edu/>
- University Health Center: <https://healthcenter.uga.edu/>
- Counseling and Psychiatric Services (CAPS): <https://caps.uga.edu/> or call CAPS 24/7 crisis support at 706-542-2273

- Health Promotion/Fontaine Center, for alcohol and substance use, relationship and sexual violence prevention and advocacy services: <https://healthpromotion.uga.edu/fontaine-center/>, or call the 24/7 relationship and sexual violence prevention hotline at 706-542-2273
- Accessibility and Testing Services: <https://accessibility.uga.edu/>

If you are experiencing difficulties that are affecting your academic performance, we also encourage you to reach out to the instructors of your courses, your major professor, and to the Director of Graduate Studies. You don't have to share sensitive personal information, but it's better to let us know about the existence of a problem as soon as possible so that we can do whatever we can to help you deal with the academic side of things.

## 1.5 Admissions

### 1.5.1 Admissions Requirements

In conjunction with the admissions forms and documents required by the University of Georgia Graduate School, applications for admission require the following items:

1. An undergraduate degree. Your degree need not be in Linguistics, but course work or experience relevant to Linguistics is strongly preferred. Applicants should at least have completed an undergraduate introductory survey course in Linguistics, or its equivalent. Students with a bachelor's degree may apply for either the M.A. (30 semester hours) or Ph.D. (45 semester hours) program; admission to the Ph.D. program for students with a bachelor's degree demands exemplary qualifications. Students with an M.A. in Linguistics or a closely related field (including one from the University of Georgia) may apply for the Ph.D. program, and must complete at least 30 semester hours at UGA. Students with an M.A. unrelated to Linguistics may apply for either the M.A. (30 semester hours) or Ph.D. (45 semester hours) program and should expect to complete requirements as if they had completed only an undergraduate degree. Admission is highly competitive. Successful applicants for the M.A. and Ph.D. programs typically have undergraduate GPAs well above 3.0. Applicants with graduate training are normally expected to have achieved at least a 3.5 GPA in previous graduate courses.
2. English Language Proficiency Requirement for International Applicants. Applicants with degrees from non-U.S. accredited institutions where English is not the primary language must prove English proficiency. The department follows UGA graduate school guidelines. For comprehensive details on specific score thresholds and updates, consult the UGA Graduate School website: <https://grad.uga.edu/admissions/requirements/international-applications/english-language-proficiency-requirement/?>.
3. Three letters of recommendation. All recommendation letters are submitted online. This process is initiated by the applicant, after filling out the online application form, and is inside the applicants' side of the online admissions site. Letters from professors and other academic sources are preferred.

4. Statement of purpose. You should compose a brief essay of about 500 words explaining why you want to study Linguistics at the University of Georgia. You should specify your areas of interest and faculty members with whom you would like to work.
5. Letter of request to be considered for an assistantship. You should send a letter directly to the Linguistics office which indicates that you wish to be considered for a research assistantship, a teaching assistantship, or both, and which describes your qualifications for an assistantship. Students who hold Linguistics teaching assistantships normally do the bulk of their teaching in our introductory Linguistics course (LING 2100), but some may teach foreign language or English composition courses.
6. A writing sample. If possible, your writing sample should be an academic essay, normally a paper submitted for a course. It may have an instructor's comments on it.

Additional information regarding university-wide graduate admissions policies and deadlines can be found here: <https://grad.uga.edu/admissions/apply-now/>.

### **1.5.2 Admission Schedule**

Incoming graduate students begin their course of studies in the Fall semester. You should submit your application online to the University of Georgia Graduate School, together with the additional items requested above, by January 1 before the Fall semester in which you wish to enroll. The Linguistics faculty cannot consider any application until the Graduate School certifies that all of the necessary documents (transcripts, etc.) have been received.

For Double Dawgs students completing a dual A.B./M.A. degree, or students completing other degree programs at UGA, applications for admission in the Spring semester may be considered. Contact the Double Dawgs advisor or the Director of Graduate Studies to discuss this possibility.

## **2. ACADEMIC / CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS**

### **2.1 The M.A. in Linguistics**

The M.A. degree is intended to provide students with a solid background in core areas of linguistic research, exposure to the various subfields constituting the discipline as a whole, and greater depth in two areas of interest. It will prepare students to continue in Ph.D. programs in Linguistics (at UGA or elsewhere) or for employment in fields where a master's degree in Linguistics is one of the desired qualifications. Students may choose either a thesis or non-thesis option for the M.A.

Students must fulfill all requirements of the Graduate School for the M.A. degree, including the residence requirement and time limits (<https://policy.uga.edu/policies/#!/programs/ryIJXLjKp>).

## 2.1.1 Thesis Option

### Coursework

Students are required to take 30 hours of regular coursework (10 courses, to include LING 7300 Master's Thesis) plus a 1-hour GradFIRST seminar in Linguistics (GRSC 7001, graded S/U, to be taken in the first semester) and at least two hours of Linguistics Colloquium (LING 8101, graded S/U).

#### Required courses:

##### (a) Professional development

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1 hour, S/U)\*

LING 8101 Linguistics Colloquium (1 hour, S/U)\*\*

\*Must be a section of GRSC 7001 taught by a Linguistics faculty member, unless special permission is granted to take a different section of this course. Should be taken in the Fall semester of Year 1.

\*\*Must be taken for **2 semesters** (total of 2 hours). Offered in the Spring semester every year.

##### (b) Foundational courses

LING 8021 Phonetics & Phonology

LING 8150 Syntax

##### (c) Core courses (theoretical linguistics)

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6022 Advanced Phonetics & Phonology

LING 6105 Psycholinguistics

LING 6160 Compositional Semantics

LING 6570 Natural Language Processing **or** LING 8580 Seminar in Computational Linguistics

LING 8120 Morphology

LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax

LING 8170 Seminar in Syntax/Semantics

LING 8180 Seminar in Phonetics/Phonology

##### (d) Distributional requirement (language acquisition, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, corpus linguistics):

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6175 Second Language Acquisition

LING 6690 Historical Linguistics

LING 6710 Languages in Contact

LING 6770 Historical Sociolinguistics

LING 6860 Sociolinguistics

LING (ENGL) 6886 Text and Corpus Linguistics

LING 8680 Seminar in Historical Linguistics

LING 8980 Seminar in Language Variation

(e) LING 7300 Master's Thesis (3 hours)

Students should take all the required courses listed in (b)-(d) in the first year of study, if possible.

Elective courses:

5 elective graduate courses (15 hours, excluding LING 7000, 7005, 7300, 9010). Relevant graduate courses that do not carry a LING prefix may be included in the program of study with approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the student's Advisory Committee.

Primary and secondary areas of concentration:

The program of study must include at least 3 courses (9 hours) in a primary area of concentration and 2 courses (6 hours) in a secondary area of concentration, to be determined in consultation with the student's Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies. The courses in the primary and secondary areas of concentration may be drawn from courses used to satisfy the requirements in (b)-(d) above and from elective courses.

Graduate-only Requirement:

The program of study must include at least 12 hours of courses open only to graduate students.

Additional requirements:

GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar (or an approved substitute) is required for all teaching assistants.

Directed Readings:

In order to register for LING 9010 Directed Readings, a student must prepare both a rationale, which indicates the justification for the Directed Reading and specifies the work to be performed to complete it, and a reading list. The faculty director of the Directed Reading and the student's major professor must sign the document. The student should turn in the signed rationale and reading list to the Department Head at least one week before registering for the course. The Head may approve the rationale and reading list or return it to the student for modification and resubmission.

Directed Readings are not a replacement for the regularly scheduled courses of the program, and they will not be approved if they substantially duplicate a regular course. Directed Readings should normally be used to explore topics that are not covered in detail in regularly scheduled courses, or to develop lines of inquiry initiated in a regular course. Please note that per Graduate School requirements, LING 9010 cannot be used towards your Program of Study.

A final program of study form must be completed and submitted to the Graduate School by the end of the second week of classes in the student's final semester. See the Grad School's [Important Dates and Deadlines](#) page for the specific date.

## Other Degree Requirements

### (a) Research skills

M.A. students must achieve one research skill as described in section 2.4 of this Handbook. Courses taken to satisfy this requirement cannot be counted among the courses on the student's Program of Study if they are undergraduate courses.

### (b) M.A. Thesis

In consultation with the major professor and the other members of the student's M.A. Advisory Committee, the student will prepare a thesis proposal. Normally, the proposal should be submitted no later than the third semester. See the Appendix for more detailed guidelines regarding the thesis proposal.

Upon approval of the proposal by the Advisory Committee, the student will prepare a thesis. The thesis is a formal research paper normally about 50 pages in length. It may be an expansion of a research paper prepared by the student for a course. The thesis should demonstrate the student's understanding of linguistic theory and the relevant literature, as well as the ability to deal with problems that arise in the application of linguistic theory. It should not emphasize topics that are peripheral to the field of linguistics, or focus too heavily on description or classification. Previous linguistics M.A. theses of the department are available for students' consideration; see [Dissertations and Theses at UGA](#). Older theses may be found in hard copy in the departmental library.

Theses and dissertations will be submitted electronically to the Graduate School. Consult the UGA Graduate School [Theses and Dissertation Overview](#) webpage regarding electronic theses and dissertations.

When the student and major professor agree that the thesis is complete, it must be circulated to the other members of the Advisory Committee at least three weeks before the date of the defense. The defense itself must be scheduled at least one week before the deadline for submission of the completed thesis to the Graduate School prior to graduation.

### (c) Final examination

The final examination will consist of an oral defense of the thesis, together with an oral examination on the program of study. Students should consult with their committee members and choose an area of linguistics related to the thesis topic and the program of study and be prepared to answer more general questions within this area, in addition to questions that focus more narrowly on the thesis. The combined defense/oral exam will last approximately 90 minutes.

The student's committee will administer and evaluate the examination on the scale High Pass/Pass/Fail. Two passing votes are required to pass the exam.

Students who fail the exam may retake it once, no sooner than two weeks after the first attempt but within one additional semester. Students who fail the exam a second time will be dismissed from the program.

### 2.1.2 Non-Thesis Option

#### Coursework

Students are required to take 33 hours of coursework (11 courses) plus a 1-hour GradFIRST seminar in Linguistics (GRSC 7001, graded S/U, to be taken in the first semester) and at least two hours of Linguistics Colloquium (LING 8101, graded S/U).

#### Required courses:

##### (a) Professional development

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1 hour, S/U)\*

LING 8101 Linguistics Colloquium (1 hour, S/U)\*\*

\*Must be a section of GRSC 7001 taught by a Linguistics faculty member, unless special permission is granted to take a different section of this course. Should be taken in the Fall semester of Year 1.

\*\*Must be taken for **2 semesters** (total of 2 hours). Offered in the Spring semester every year.

##### (b) Foundational courses

LING 8021 Phonetics & Phonology

LING 8150 Syntax

##### (c) Core courses (theoretical linguistics)

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6022 Advanced Phonetics & Phonology

LING 6105 Psycholinguistics

LING 6160 Compositional Semantics

LING 6570 Natural Language Processing **or** LING 8580 Seminar in Computational Linguistics

LING 8120 Morphology

LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax

LING 8170 Seminar in Syntax/Semantics

LING 8180 Seminar in Phonetics/Phonology

##### (d) Distributional requirement (language acquisition, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, corpus linguistics):

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6175 Second Language Acquisition

LING 6690 Historical Linguistics

LING 6710 Languages in Contact  
 LING 6770 Historical Sociolinguistics  
 LING 6860 Sociolinguistics  
 LING (ENGL) 6886 Text and Corpus Linguistics  
 LING 8680 Seminar in Historical Linguistics  
 LING 8980 Seminar in Language Variation

Students should take all the required courses listed in (b)-(d) in the first year of study, if possible.

Elective courses:

7 elective graduate courses (21 hours, excluding LING 7000, 7005, 7300, 9010). Relevant graduate courses that do not carry a LING prefix may be included in the program of study with approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the student's Advisory Committee.

Primary and secondary areas of concentration:

The program of study must include at least 3 courses (9 hours) in a primary area of concentration and 2 courses (6 hours) in a secondary area of concentration, to be determined in consultation with the student's Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies. The courses in the primary and secondary areas of concentration may be drawn from courses used to satisfy the requirements in (b)-(d) above and from elective courses.

Graduate-only Requirement:

The program of study must include at least 12 hours of courses open only to graduate students.

Additional requirements:

GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar (or an approved substitute) is required for all teaching assistants.

Directed Readings:

In order to register for LING 9010 Directed Readings, a student must prepare both a rationale, which indicates the justification for the Directed Reading and specifies the work to be performed to complete it, and a reading list. The faculty director of the Directed Reading and the student's major professor must sign the document. The student should turn in the signed rationale and reading list to the Department Head at least one week before registering for the course. The Head may approve the rationale and reading list or return it to the student for modification and resubmission. Directed Readings are not a replacement for the regularly scheduled courses of the program, and they will not be approved if they substantially duplicate a regular course. Directed Readings should normally be used to explore topics that are not covered in detail in regularly scheduled courses, or to develop lines of inquiry initiated in a regular course. Please note that per Graduate School requirements, LING 9010 cannot be used towards your Program of Study.

## Other Degree Requirements

### (a) Research skills

M.A. students must achieve one research skill as described in section 2.4 of this Handbook. Courses taken to satisfy this requirement cannot be counted among the courses on the student's Program of Study if they are undergraduate courses.

### (b) Final Examination

Students will take a written exam, normally in the final (fourth) semester of the program. The candidate will choose two areas related to courses they have taken (these will normally correspond to the student's primary and secondary areas of concentration) and will prepare a manageable reading list for each area with the help of the major professor. After the two lists have been approved by the major professor, they will be e-mailed to the other two professors on the student's M.A. Advisory Committee. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the two finalized reading lists to all three professors on their committee at least two weeks in advance of the exam.

The exam will normally be a take-home exam and will contain separate sections on each of the two reading lists. The student may refer to items on the reading lists or other published sources when writing the exam. The exam will be given to the student at 5:00 pm on a regular operating day of the university and must be turned in at 8:00 am on the third day following (e.g., from 5:00 pm Friday until 8:00 am Monday). The student will write the exam in a format determined by the Advisory Committee and e-mail it to all committee members by the deadline.

If the committee finds it appropriate, based on the areas covered in the reading lists, they may choose to administer a closed-book exam in lieu of the take-home exam. In this case, the exam will last for three hours. The exam may be written by hand or using a computer, at the discretion of the committee.

Committee members will have two weeks to grade the written exam and will inform the major professor if the student has passed or failed each portion; a two-thirds majority will determine whether the student passes or fails. Once the student has passed both portions of the written examination, a one-hour oral exam will be scheduled.

The oral examination will begin with a defense of the written exam, but thereafter questions may cover any areas included in the student's program of study. The student's overall performance on the oral and written exams together will be evaluated by the committee on a scale of High Pass/Pass/Fail. A two-thirds majority is required to pass.

Students who fail any portion of the exam may retake it once, no sooner than two weeks after the first attempt but within one additional semester. Students who fail the exam a second time will be dismissed from the program.

## 2.2 The Ph.D. in Linguistics

The Ph.D. program provides both a broad grounding in linguistics and the opportunity for specialization within the broad areas of formal linguistic theory, second language acquisition, and language variation and change. The programs of study constructed by individual students and their advisory committees focus on two specific fields of concentration within these broader areas. The programs of study also may include courses or research projects in related disciplines such as computer science, philosophy, or in the history or structure of a specific language or languages.

Students must fulfill all requirements of the Graduate School for the Ph.D. degree, including the residence requirement and time limits (see the Graduate Bulletin).

### 2.2.1 Coursework: Ph.D. With No Prior M.A.

Students entering the Ph.D. program with a B.A. or B.S. degree will take **45 semester hours** of coursework (15 courses) plus a one-hour GradFIRST seminar (GRSC 7001, graded S/U, to be taken in the first semester) and at least three hours of Linguistics Colloquium (LING 8101, graded S/U). Any particular course requirement may be waived for students who have had an equivalent course at the graduate level at another university. However, any such waiver will not reduce the total number of courses required for the degree; students will take additional elective courses in place of the courses that would have satisfied any waived requirements.

#### Required courses:

##### (a) Professional development

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1 hour, S/U)\*

LING 8101 Linguistics Colloquium (1 hour, S/U)\*\*

\*Must be a section of GRSC 7001 taught by a Linguistics faculty member, unless special permission is granted to take a different section of this course. Should be taken in the Fall semester of Year 1.

\*\*Must be taken for at least **3 semesters** (minimum 3 hours). Offered in the Spring semester every year.

##### (b) Foundational courses

LING 8021 Phonetics & Phonology

LING 8150 Syntax

##### (c) Core courses (theoretical linguistics)

Choose **two** courses from the following list:

LING 6022 Advanced Phonetics & Phonology

LING 6105 Psycholinguistics

LING 6160 Compositional Semantics

LING 6570 Natural Language Processing **or** LING 8580 Seminar in Computational Linguistics

LING 8120 Morphology  
 LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax  
 LING 8170 Seminar in Syntax/Semantics  
 LING 8180 Seminar in Phonetics/Phonology

(d) Distributional requirement (language acquisition, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, corpus linguistics):

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6175 Second Language Acquisition  
 LING 6690 Historical Linguistics  
 LING 6710 Languages in Contact  
 LING 6770 Historical Sociolinguistics  
 LING 6860 Sociolinguistics  
 LING (ENGL) 6886 Text and Corpus Linguistics  
 LING 8680 Seminar in Historical Linguistics  
 LING 8980 Seminar in Language Variation

(e) LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (3 hours)

Elective courses:

9 elective graduate courses (27 hours, excluding LING 9000, 9005, 9010, 9300). Relevant graduate courses that do not carry a LING prefix may be included in the program of study with approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the student's Advisory Committee.

Primary and secondary areas of concentration:

The program of study must include at least 4 courses (12 hours) in a primary area of concentration and 3 courses (9 hours) in a secondary area of concentration, to be determined in consultation with the student's Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies. The courses in the primary and secondary areas of concentration may be drawn from courses used to satisfy the requirements in (b)-(d) above and from elective courses.

Graduate-only requirement:

According to Graduate School policies, the program of study for a student who bypasses the master's degree must contain 4 semester hours of University of Georgia courses open only to graduate students in addition to 16 semester hours of 8000- and 9000-level courses. Doctoral research (9000), independent study courses (9010), and dissertation writing (9300) may not be counted in these 20 hours.

Additional requirements:

GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar (or an approved substitute) is required for all teaching assistants.

### Directed Readings:

In order to register for LING 9010 Directed Readings, a student must prepare both a rationale, which indicates the justification for the Directed Reading and specifies the work to be performed to complete it, and a reading list. The faculty director of the Directed Reading and the student's major professor must sign the document. The student should turn in the signed rationale and reading list to the Department Head at least one week before registering for the course. The Head may approve the rationale and reading list or return it to the student for modification and resubmission. Directed Readings are not a replacement for the regularly scheduled courses of the program, and they will not be approved if they substantially duplicate a regular course. Directed Readings should normally be used to explore topics that are not covered in detail in regularly scheduled courses, or to develop lines of inquiry initiated in a regular course. Please note that per Graduate School requirements, LING 9010 cannot be included in your Program of Study.

## **2.2.2 Coursework: Ph.D. With A Prior M.A. in Linguistics**

Students who enter with a relevant M.A. degree (including one from UGA) must take at least an additional **30 semester hours** of coursework (10 courses) plus a one-hour GradFIRST seminar (GRSC 7001, graded S/U, to be taken in the first semester, if this was not part of the M.A. program of study) and at least three hours of Linguistics Colloquium (LING 8101, graded S/U). It is expected that students will have already had introductory graduate-level coursework in phonetics, phonology, and syntax as part of their M.A. program of study. Any particular course requirement may be waived for students who have had an equivalent course at the graduate level at another university. However, any such waiver will not reduce the total number of courses required for the degree; students will take additional elective courses in place of the courses that would have satisfied any waived requirements.

Any student who enters with an M.A. in hand but who cannot meet the following Ph.D. requirements within 30 semester hours will be required to take additional courses beyond 30 semester hours.

### Required courses:

#### (a) Professional development

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1 hour, S/U)\*

LING 8101 Linguistics Colloquium (1 hour, S/U)\*\*

\*Must be a section of GRSC 7001 taught by a Linguistics faculty member, unless special permission is granted to take a different section of this course. Should be taken in the Fall semester of Year 1.

\*\*Must be taken for at least **3 semesters** (minimum 3 hours). Offered in the Spring semester every year.

#### (b) Core courses (theoretical linguistics)

Choose **one** courses from the following list:

LING 6022 Advanced Phonetics & Phonology

LING 6105 Psycholinguistics

LING 6160 Compositional Semantics

LING 6570 Natural Language Processing **or** LING 8580 Seminar in Computational Linguistics

LING 8120 Morphology

LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax

LING 8170 Seminar in Syntax/Semantics

LING 8180 Seminar in Phonetics/Phonology

(c) Distributional requirement (language acquisition, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, corpus linguistics):

Choose **one** course from the following list:

LING 6175 Second Language Acquisition

LING 6690 Historical Linguistics

LING 6710 Languages in Contact

LING 6770 Historical Sociolinguistics

LING 6860 Sociolinguistics

LING (ENGL) 6886 Text and Corpus Linguistics

LING 8680 Seminar in Historical Linguistics

LING 8980 Seminar in Language Variation

(d) LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (3 hours)

#### Elective courses:

7 elective graduate courses (21 hours, excluding LING 9000, 9005, 9300). Relevant graduate courses that do not carry a LING prefix may be included in the program of study with approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the student's Advisory Committee.

#### Primary and secondary areas of concentration:

The program of study must include at least 4 courses (12 hours) in a primary area of concentration and 3 courses (9 hours) in a secondary area of concentration, to be determined in consultation with the student's Major Professor and the Director of Graduate Studies. The courses in the primary and secondary areas of concentration may be drawn from courses used to satisfy the requirements in (b)-(c) above and from elective courses.

#### Graduate-only requirement:

The program of study must include at least 16 semester hours of 8000- and 9000-level courses. Doctoral research (9000), independent study courses (9010), and dissertation writing (9300) may not be counted in these 16 hours.

#### Additional requirements:

GRSC 7770 Graduate Teaching Seminar (or an approved substitute) is required for all teaching assistants.

Students who have not completed the foundational courses LING 8021 Phonetics and Phonology and LING 8150 Syntax (or equivalent courses taken at other institutions) will be required to complete these courses in addition to the other degree requirements listed above.

### Directed Readings:

In order to register for LING 9010 Directed Readings, a student must prepare both a rationale, which indicates the justification for the Directed Reading and specifies the work to be performed to complete it, and a reading list. The faculty director of the Directed Reading and the student's major professor must sign the document. The student should turn in the signed rationale and reading list to the Department Head at least one week before registering for the course. The Head may approve the rationale and reading list or return it to the student for modification and resubmission. Directed Readings are not a replacement for the regularly scheduled courses of the program, and they will not be approved if they substantially duplicate a regular course. Directed Readings should normally be used to explore topics that are not covered in detail in regularly scheduled courses, or to develop lines of inquiry initiated in a regular course. Please note that per Graduate School requirements, LING 9010 cannot be included in your Program of Study.

### **Other Degree Requirements**

#### (a) Research skills requirement

Ph.D. students must achieve two research skills, as described in section 2.4 of this Handbook. Courses taken to satisfy this requirement cannot be counted among the courses on the student's Program of Study if they are undergraduate courses.

#### (b) Comprehensive examination

The comprehensive examination covers two different areas of linguistics (normally corresponding to the student's primary and secondary areas of concentration) and consists of written and oral components. The written comprehensive exam may consist of two research papers ("qualifying papers"), two closed-book or take-home exams, or some combination of these formats. At least one of the two papers or exams should deal with a core area of linguistic theory. The format of the written examination will be determined by the student's Advisory Committee on the basis of the student's areas of concentration. Students who pass the written examination should proceed to the oral portion of the comprehensive within two weeks.

While the written exam format will involve a separate exam for each of the two areas (see below), students following the research paper format may write papers that reflect a combination of their areas of concentration (e.g., sociolinguistics and phonetics, historical linguistics and syntactic theory, etc.). However, the two papers should still indicate breadth of knowledge as well as depth, which could be shown by the use of different research methodologies or by focusing on different languages, for example.

Details specific to the different formats of the exam are given below.

(i) Written comprehensive exam

*Research paper format (qualifying paper):*

The first qualifying paper will normally be a revised and expanded version of a paper written for a course (usually no more than 25 pages). The paper should be approved by the major professor then submitted to the other members of the committee. Once the paper has passed, a 30-minute oral defense will normally be scheduled. This unofficial “mini-defense” is not required by the Graduate School; the purpose is to test the student’s understanding of the material covered in the paper and to give the student practice for the official oral comprehensive examination. At the discretion of the committee, if the student presents this work in the Linguistics Colloquium or at a conference, the defense of the first paper may be combined with the defense of the second as part of the official oral comprehensive exam.

The second qualifying paper should be more original and more comprehensive than the first and must be of publishable quality (usually at least 25 pages). While it may also be based on a paper written for a course, it should go well beyond the original course paper in depth and/or breadth. The paper should be approved by the major professor then submitted to the other members of the committee.

*Take-home exam format:*

The candidate will prepare two reading lists with the help of the major professor. After the two lists have been approved by the major professor, they will be e-mailed to the other two professors on the student’s committee. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the two finalized reading lists to all three professors on his/her committee at least two weeks in advance of the exam.

The student will write a separate exam on each reading list, and may refer to items on the reading lists or other published sources. Each exam will be given to the student at 5:00 pm on a regular operating day of the university and must be turned in at 8:00 am on the third day following (e.g., from 5:00 pm Friday until 8:00 am Monday). The student will write the exam in a format determined by the Advisory Committee and e-mail it to all committee members by the deadline. On each exam the student must demonstrate a good understanding of the subject matter and provide a level of detail and quality of argumentation commensurate with the time and resources allowed.

*Closed-book exam format:*

The candidate will prepare two reading lists with the help of the major professor. After the two lists have been approved by the major professor, they will be e-mailed to the other two professors on the student’s committee. It is the responsibility of the student to provide the two finalized

reading lists to all three professors on his/her committee at least two weeks in advance of the exam. The student will sit a separate 3-hour examination on each reading list on two different days. The exam may be written by hand or using a computer, at the discretion of the committee. On each exam the student must demonstrate a good understanding of the subject matter and provide a level of detail and quality of argumentation commensurate with the time and resources allowed.

(ii) Oral comprehensive exam

The oral comprehensive exam lasts for 90 minutes. It will begin with an oral defense of the second research paper (or both the first and second papers, if the separate “mini-defense” of the first paper is waived by the student’s committee) or a consideration of the student’s performance on the written exams, but after this the questions may range over any material on the exam reading lists and/or the student’s program of study.

Written and oral exams will be graded on the scale High Pass/Pass/Fail. Two passing votes are required to pass each portion of the exam.

Students who fail any portion of the exam may retake it once, no sooner than two weeks after the first attempt but within one additional semester. Students who fail this portion of the exam a second time will be dismissed from the program.

(c) Dissertation prospectus

Within one semester after passing the comprehensive examination, the student should submit, and the Advisory Committee approve, a dissertation prospectus. The prospectus should propose a problem for a doctoral dissertation, ascertain the originality of the idea with reference to the available literature, and demonstrate the availability of means and materials required to solve the problem. The prospectus need not be lengthy and should not exceed 5,000 words (excluding references). See the Appendix for more detailed instructions regarding the prospectus.

When the student, major professor, and Advisory Committee agree that the prospectus is complete, a copy must be filed with the Department Head. The Department Head will publish for the faculty and students at least once per year a list of dissertation topics currently in progress in the program, along with the names of the students and their Advisory Committees.

(d) Dissertation and oral defense

Upon approval of the prospectus by the Advisory Committee, the student will prepare a dissertation. The dissertation is based on original research that makes a significant contribution to knowledge in some area of theoretical and/or applied linguistics. Previous linguistics Ph.D. dissertations of the

department are available for students' consideration; see [Dissertations and Theses at UGA](#). Older dissertations may be found in hard copy in the departmental library.

Theses and dissertations will be submitted electronically to the Graduate School. Consult the UGA Graduate School [Theses and Dissertation Overview](#) webpage regarding electronic theses and dissertations.

The student will defend the dissertation in an oral examination of approximately 90 minutes, and at most two hours. When the student and major professor agree that the dissertation is complete, it must be circulated to the other members of the Advisory Committee at least three weeks before the date of the defense. The defense itself must be scheduled at least one week before the deadline for submission of the completed thesis to the Graduate School prior to graduation.

## **2.3 Change of Degree Objective**

Students may petition to change from the thesis to non-thesis M.A. or vice versa by completing a Request for Change of Degree Objective Form and submitting this form together with a new program of study to the Director of Graduate Studies for approval. Such requests will normally not be considered after the third semester of study.

Students may also petition to move from the M.A. program to the Ph.D. program without completing the M.A. degree. Students must submit an application for change of degree objective and three letters of recommendation from Linguistics faculty members that address the student's readiness for doctoral study. Applications for a change in degree objective should be submitted according to the same deadlines as applications for graduate study (i.e., by January 1 for a change of degree objective effective for the following Fall term) in order for the student to receive full consideration for assistantships. Students whose petitions are approved will be subject to the requirements of the 45 semester hour Ph.D. program.

Students who choose to complete the M.A. degree may apply for admission to the Ph.D. program according to the same procedures and deadlines as new applications for graduate study. Students who complete the M.A. degree at UGA and who are accepted for the Ph.D. program must complete at least 30 semester hours of additional coursework. Courses counted for the M.A. degree may not be included on the Ph.D. Program of Study.

## **2.4 Research Skills Requirement**

The research skills requirement is designed to help students acquire specific skills needed to conduct and interpret research in linguistics. Note that there are special requirements for students specializing in historical Indo-European linguistics (see 2.4.2 below).

## 2.4.1 General Research Skills Requirement

(all M.A. and Ph.D. students except those specializing in historical Indo-European linguistics)

M.A. students may choose **one** of the options in either (1) **or** (2) below. Ph.D. students must complete **one** of the options in both (1) **and** (2).

(In other words, M.A. students may choose reading knowledge of a modern foreign language **or** a research methods course; Ph.D. students must demonstrate reading knowledge of a modern foreign language **plus** a second research skill, which may be a research methods course or reading knowledge of a second foreign language.)

*Please consult with the Director of Graduate Studies and your major professor to determine which option is recommended for you, based on your area(s) of interest.*

1. Reading knowledge of a modern foreign language. This requirement may normally be satisfied in one of three ways:

- a. Receiving a passing grade on a departmental foreign language translation test. These tests are offered once a semester by Romance Languages, Germanic and Slavic, and other departments.
- b. Earning a grade of B or higher in any UGA foreign language course at the intermediate (2000) level or above.
- c. Earning a grade of B or higher in a translation course, such as GRMN 3500 Techniques of Translation, FREN 2500 French for Reading Knowledge, or SPAN 2500 Spanish for Reading Knowledge.

For students who are native speakers of a language other than English, please consult with the Director of Graduate Studies about satisfying this requirement.

2. One of the following options:

- a. Completion of LING 6400 Quantitative Methods in Linguistics
- b. Completion of LING 6410 Experimental Methods in Linguistics
- c. Completion of LING 6880 or LING 8880 Field Methods in Linguistics
- d. Completion of STAT 6210 Statistical Methods I or STAT 6310 Statistical Analysis I
- e. Reading knowledge of a second modern foreign language as described in (1) above

### **2.4.2 Research Skills Requirement for Students with a Primary Area of Concentration in Historical Indo-European Linguistics**

Much of the literature in historical Indo-European linguistics is written in German and French, so a reading knowledge of these languages is essential.

All students pursuing an M.A. in historical Indo-European linguistics should demonstrate a reading knowledge of German, as described in (1) above, by the end of their third semester. (Students who plan to apply to Ph.D. programs in Indo-European linguistics are strongly advised to acquire a reading knowledge of both French and German prior to applying to these programs.)

All students pursuing a Ph.D. in historical Indo-European linguistics should demonstrate a reading knowledge of both German and French, as described in (1) above, by the completion of their program of study.

## **2.5 Enrollment Requirements and Time Limits**

- **Minimum Enrollment**

All enrolled students pursuing graduate degrees at the University of Georgia must register for a minimum of 3 hours of credit during any semester in which they use University facilities and/or faculty/staff time. This includes semesters in which they are completing comprehensive examinations and defending their thesis or dissertation.

- **Continuous Enrollment Policy**

All enrolled graduate students must maintain continuous enrollment from matriculation until completion of all degree requirements. Continuous enrollment is defined as registering for a minimum of 3 credit hours in at least two semesters per academic year (Fall, Spring, Summer) until the degree is attained or status as a degree-seeking graduate student is terminated.

Doctoral students must maintain enrollment during fall and spring semesters (breaking only for summer semesters) until the residency requirement has been met.

All students must be enrolled for at least three graduate credits in the semester in which degree requirements are completed (e.g., a final examination, qualifying paper defense, thesis or dissertation defense).

- **Residence Credit Requirement**

The residency requirement for the Doctor of Philosophy degree and the Doctor of Public Health degree is interpreted as 30 hours of consecutive graduate course work that is included on the approved program of study (20 hours for EdD and DMA degrees).

There is no residency requirement for master's or EdS degree programs.

- **Leave of Absence**

A leave of absence provides a mechanism for students experiencing unusual circumstances to be exempt temporarily from the continuous enrollment policy. A leave of absence requires approval of the Director of Graduate Studies and the dean of Graduate School. A leave of absence will be granted only for good cause such as serious medical and health-related issues, major financial and employment issues; pregnancy, childbirth, child care, elder care, and other significant family issues; and other major personal circumstances that interfere with the ability to undertake graduate study. An approved leave of absence does not stop the clock unless the leave is granted for pregnancy, childbirth or adoption (see below): time on leave counts toward any University, Graduate School, or program time limits pertaining to the degree being sought.

- **Time Limits**

Master's degree students must complete all degree requirements, including all coursework on their approved program of study and defend their thesis (if applicable) within **six years** of matriculation.

**Doctoral students who matriculate in Fall 2024 and later** must complete all course work on their approved program of study and be admitted to candidacy within **six** years of matriculation. They further must complete all requirements for the doctoral degree and the degree must be awarded within 8 calendar years after initial enrollment in the program. Students who fail to complete their degrees within **eight years** will be dismissed by the Graduate School. Students who are in good academic standing but are unable to finish their degree in eight years due to extenuating circumstances may petition for a maximum 2-year extension. See the Graduate School website for more information: <https://grad.uga.edu/policy-update-doctoral-time-limits/>

**Doctoral students who matriculated prior to Fall 2024** must complete all course work on their approved program of study and be admitted to candidacy within **six years** of matriculation.

For all degrees the six-year limit begins with the semester the student matriculated into the program and ends with the last semester before the beginning of the sixth year.

For doctoral students who matriculated prior to Fall 2024, the time limit to complete the dissertation and qualify for graduation is **five years** following admission to candidacy. After this time, the student's candidacy will be considered expired, and the student must retake the comprehensive exams and be re-admitted to candidacy in order to defend the dissertation and

qualify for graduation. If a doctoral student's candidacy expires after the first week of classes in the final semester of the fifth year, the student is granted the remainder of the semester to complete degree requirements without special permission of the Dean of the Graduate School.

- Extension of Time for doctoral students matriculating prior to Fall 2024

A special request for an extension of time on the six-year expiration of coursework or the five-year expiration of candidacy may be made to the dean of the Graduate School. This request must include specific reasons that the student did not complete requirements in the time allotted by Graduate School policy. A petition of this type must include: 1) a specific timeline for the completion of requirements; 2) an approved advisory committee form, if required for the degree; 3) an approved program of study and a letter of support from both the Director of Graduate Studies and the major professor.

## 2.6 Registration and Course Loads

After being advised by the Director of Graduate Studies or the major professor and cleared for registration, students should register promptly for the courses listed on their advisement form. *It is important for students to register well before the beginning of the semester.* UGA enforces minimum enrollment requirements for courses, and failure to register in a timely manner may result in course cancellation, which could delay your completion of degree requirements. We must submit requests to offer courses that do not meet the minimum enrollment requirements approximately 8 business days before the beginning of the semester, and the cancellation deadline is 3 business days before the beginning of the semester.

In addition to coursework required for your program of study, you will normally also register for research hours (LING 7000 for M.A. students or 9000 for Ph.D. students) and/or LING 7005 (supervised practical experience) when teaching LING 2100 (optional, when needed). Once you begin working on your thesis or dissertation, you may also register for LING 7300 or LING 9300. These courses are intended to capture the other work that you do as a graduate student (preparing for teaching, reading literature, preparing for comprehensive examinations, conducting research) as well as the work our faculty do in supervising these endeavors.

You may also audit courses, with permission of the instructor and the Graduate School. This is a good option for Ph.D. students, in particular: it allows you to gain exposure to subfields of linguistics outside of your areas of specialization, or to take courses in related fields that are relevant for your research, without the pressure of tests or final papers or projects.

All full-time students at the M.A. level and all Ph.D. students who have not yet advanced to candidacy (i.e., who have not yet completed their qualifying papers/exams) should register for a total of **18 hours** during each semester. Research and thesis hours allow variable credit to reach 18 hours.

Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy must register for a minimum of 12 hours (fall/spring) or 9 hours (summer) in any semester in which they hold an assistantship. Otherwise, students must register for a minimum of 3 hours each semester.

M.A. and Ph.D. students are **not** required to register in Maymester or summer, unless they hold an assistantship or are completing degree requirements during Maymester or the summer terms.

Note that there is a maximum number of credit hours that you can earn and still be considered as making satisfactory academic progress for financial aid purposes. The maximum total attempted hours allowed for M.A. students is **102**, and for Ph.D. students **280.5**. Nobody who is making good progress towards completing their degree requirements should exceed this maximum, based on the enrollment requirements above. For example, you could register for the maximum 18 hours every fall and spring semester for 7.5 years without exceeding the limit for Ph.D. students. However, if you regularly need to register for 9 hours in the summer or if your degree completion is delayed for an extended time due to some exceptional circumstances, you should monitor your total credit hours.

## **2.7 Advising and the Selection of an Advisory Committee**

The Director of Graduate Studies serves as the general advisor for all students with respect to degree requirements (whether these are Department of Linguistics requirements or general Graduate School requirements), advises and clears students for registration before they have chosen a major professor, and oversees the completion of required forms. Students should meet with the Director of Graduate Studies once every semester to discuss their programs of study and progress towards the degree.

Once students have chosen a major professor, they should meet with the major professor to be advised and cleared for registration.

It is very important that new students become acquainted with the faculty, particularly in their area of interest, as soon as possible. All faculty are willing to talk with new students about their career interests and possible research topics. During the first semester graduate students should meet with faculty members beyond those they have for courses, so that they can select an Advisory Committee and a Major Professor.

It is the student's responsibility to identify a graduate faculty member willing to serve as their major professor by the end of their first year. Students who do not have a major professor may be dismissed from the program. No faculty member is required to serve as the major professor for any student.

By the end of the second semester students should choose a major professor, who will chair their Advisory Committee, plus at least two other faculty members to serve on the committee. The major professor must be a member of the Graduate Faculty of the Department of Linguistics or an Affiliated Faculty member in Linguistics who has graduate faculty status in their home department, and a

majority of the members of the committee as a whole must be Core/Affiliated faculty in Linguistics who are members of the Graduate Faculty. (Typically, all full-time tenured and tenure-track faculty at the university are members of the Graduate Faculty.) One member of the committee may be a non-UGA faculty member. Co-major Professors, limited to two, may be appointed to an advisory committee provided both parties are appointed members of the Graduate Faculty. Both parties must sign all forms requiring the chair's signature. Co-major professors count as one member of the committee; therefore, an additional faculty member must be added to the advisory committee with a majority of Graduate Faculty members being maintained. Paperwork to declare an advisory committee will be submitted electronically to the Graduate School via GradStatus.

The advisory committee along with the major professor share responsibilities to monitor graduate student progress and guide the student toward timely completion of their degree program. The advisory committee is charged with framing and approving programs of study, advising students on required research skills, directing and approving the comprehensive examinations, guiding the design of thesis/dissertation research projects, reading and approving the final thesis/dissertation document, and approving the final oral examination (defense).

Please note that it is the students' responsibility to inform themselves of academic requirements for a graduate degree at UGA. Ultimately all graduate students are responsible for their own academic progress at the University of Georgia; advisors cannot provide a guarantee of graduation within a specified period of time.

## **2.8 Program of Study**

For the Doctor of Philosophy degree an approved program of study must carry a minimum of 30 hours of graduate course work, three hours of which must be dissertation writing (9300). The program of study for Master of Arts and Master of Sciences degrees must contain a minimum of 30 hours of graduate course work, three hours of which must be thesis writing (7300) for programs that require a thesis.

Students must design and complete a program of study that satisfies all relevant degree requirements (including Graduate School requirements) and constitutes a logical whole. In addition to courses that are required for all Linguistics graduate students, students must choose primary and secondary areas of concentration and design their programs of study around these specializations, in consultation with their major professor and the Director of Graduate Studies. A preliminary program of study should be submitted to the Director of Graduate Studies by the end of the second semester in the program. A final version of the Program of Study must be submitted to the Graduate School by the appropriate deadlines (see the degree requirements below and the [Graduate School website](#) for details).

## 2.9 Timelines

### 2.9.1 Master's Thesis Timeline

*Second semester:*

- Submit Advisory Committee form
- Submit preliminary program of study to Director of Graduate Studies

*Third Semester:*

- Submit thesis proposal to committee
- If thesis involves research using human subjects, submit materials for IRB approval

*Fourth/Final Semester:*

- End of second full week of classes: Submit Program of Study and Application for Graduation
- No later than March 1 (October 1 for students graduating in fall): Agree on a tentative schedule for submitting a complete draft of your thesis to your committee and a date for your thesis defense. You must submit a complete draft of your thesis to your committee at least three weeks prior to the planned defense date.
- Approximately four weeks prior to graduation: Deadline for submission of complete thesis to the Graduate School for the format check
- Once all committee members have given their approval, you may officially schedule the defense. The defense must be held at least one week prior to the Graduate School deadline for submission of the approval form for the master's thesis and final oral examination.

(See the Graduate School list of [Important Dates and Deadlines](#) for exact dates for the current semester.)

### 2.9.2 Master's Non-Thesis Timeline

*Second semester:*

- Submit Advisory Committee form
- Submit preliminary program of study to Director of Graduate Studies

*Third Semester:*

- Prepare reading lists for final examination, in consultation with major professor and other committee members

*Fourth/Final Semester:*

- End of second full week of classes: Submit Program of Study and Application for Graduation
- No later than March 1 (October 1 for students graduating in fall): Agree on a date for your written exam and a tentative date for your oral examination. You must complete your written exam at least two weeks prior to the planned oral examination date.

- Once the committee determines that the student has passed the written examination, the oral examination can be officially scheduled. The oral examination must be held at least one week prior to the deadline for submitting the MA Non-Thesis Approval form to the Graduate School.

(See the Graduate School list of [Important Dates and Deadlines](#) for exact dates for the current semester.)

### 2.9.3 Ph.D. Timeline

*Second semester:*

- Submit Advisory Committee form
- Submit preliminary program of study form

*By end of fourth semester (students who enter with a relevant M.A.) or end of sixth semester*

- Submit Final Program of Study form
- Complete written and oral comprehensive exams. The final oral comprehensive exam must be formally announced by the Director of Graduate Studies at least two weeks in advance.

*Fifth semester (students with relevant M.A.) or seventh semester*

- Dissertation prospectus
- If thesis involves research using human subjects, submit materials for IRB approval

*At least one semester prior to graduation:*

- File application for Admission to Candidacy

*Semester of graduation:*

- End of second full week of classes: Submit Program of Study and Application for Graduation
- No later than March 1 (October 1 for students graduating in fall): Agree on a tentative schedule for submitting a complete draft of your dissertation to your committee and a date for your dissertation defense. You must submit a complete draft of your dissertation to your committee at least three weeks prior to the planned defense date.
- Approximately four weeks prior to graduation: Deadline for submission of complete dissertation to the Graduate School for the format check
- Once all committee members have given their approval, officially schedule the defense; the defense must be formally announced by the Director of Graduate Studies at least two weeks prior to the defense date.
- The defense must be held at least one week prior to the Graduate School deadline for submission of the approval form for the doctoral dissertation and final oral examination.

(See the Graduate School list of [Important Dates and Deadlines](#) for exact dates for the current semester.)

The Ph.D. dissertation and defense should be completed no later than the fourth semester after a student passes the written and oral comprehensive exams.

## 2.10 Graduation

All students must submit their application for graduation by the posted deadline or they will be charged a late filing application fee. There is no summer commencement ceremony so students should plan accordingly if they desire to walk and be hooded. Students who have not completed degree requirements as determined by the Graduate School and by published deadlines will not be allowed to walk in the ceremony but may return to walk in a subsequent commencement event. There are NO exceptions to this policy.

## 3. Integrity In Research

It is the responsibility of faculty and students to maintain the highest ethical standards in conducting and reporting research. Misconduct in research must be reported accurately and in a timely manner. Examples of unethical research conduct include, but are not limited to:

- Data fabrication for projects or papers, either in whole or in part
- Falsification of data through the exclusion, inclusion, or manipulation of datapoints or groups
- Methodological falsification through the misrepresentation of data collection and analysis processes or protocols
- Plagiarism of written work, including inadequate citation of previous research or its ideas
- Use of data from human subjects without prior IRB approval or beyond the scope of IRB permittance

UGA's Research Misconduct Policy is available here: <https://research.uga.edu/docs/Research-Misconduct-Policy.pdf>

Research integrity is one of the topics covered in the required GradFIRST seminar. Additional training is available. The following courses are most relevant for graduate students in Linguistics and may be required for certain research assistantships or individual research projects. Other training may also be required, depending on the nature of the research.

### ***Responsible Conduct of Research***

Available through UGA's Professional Education Portal (<https://hr.uga.edu/pep/>)  
Recommended for all students; may be required (e.g., for NSF grants or some Grad School assistantships)

### ***Human Subjects Training***

All research involving human subjects requires the completion of the appropriate human subjects training and the submission of the project for approval through the IRB portal. For research in linguistics, typically the Human Subjects Social and Behavioral Research training is required, with

additional modules for international projects or projects that involve the transmission of data over the internet.

Available through UGA's Professional Education Portal (<https://hr.uga.edu/pep/>).

Currently required for all students as part of the GradFIRST seminar.

## 4. Expectations For Good Academic Standing

Good academic standing is defined as meeting the following requirements:

- Maintaining a minimum grade-point average of 3.0 (see <https://policy.uga.edu/policies/#/programs/SJodDPOua>) and resolving incomplete grades in a timely manner.
- Registering for an appropriate number of graduate credit hours each semester (see section 2.6 above).
- Maintaining regular communication with the student's advisor (i.e., the Director of Graduate Studies until the student selects a major professor, who then takes over the role of advisor). Regular communication should involve at least one meeting per semester.
- Making timely progress towards the completion of degree requirements (see section 2.9 above).
- Submitting the required annual report (students in year 2 and beyond; see 4.1 below).

Students must be in good academic standing to qualify for a teaching assistantship in linguistics. If a student cannot meet these expectations due to extenuating circumstances, the student, major professor, and Director of Graduate Studies should meet to discuss the situation, and the student and major professor must prepare a plan for correcting any deficiencies.

### 4.1 Annual Review

Annually, before December 1 (for M.A. students) and April 1 (for Ph.D. students) the Linguistics faculty will conduct a review of student progress. Students who are in their **2nd year and beyond** should complete the Graduate Student Annual Report by the deadline indicated on the appropriate form; their advisors will then complete their portion of the form. These reports will be discussed at a meeting of the Linguistics faculty, which will recommend appropriate actions as needed, up to and including dismissal from the program for students whose performance is deemed unsatisfactory. The reports will also be used to help make determinations about the renewal of assistantships or other financial aid and awards.

For Ph.D. students who have advanced to candidacy, good academic standing includes making progress towards completion of the dissertation and professional accomplishments beyond course and program requirements, such as publications and presentations at linguistics conferences.

## 4.2 Extensions, Appeals, and Dismissal

Students with extenuating circumstances who are otherwise in good academic standing may request the extension of departmental or graduate school deadlines, in keeping with any relevant Graduate School policies.

Students also have the right to appeal certain academic decisions. See the Graduate School policy statement on appeals for more information: <https://policy.uga.edu/policies/#!/programs/SkqcrwuO6>. Appeals at the departmental level will be heard by a committee of three graduate faculty members appointed by the Head.

Note that while students have the right to request an extension or to appeal a decision, the Department of Linguistics is not obliged to *support* such requests or appeals. For example, if a student requests an extension of the 8-year limit for completing the Ph.D., the student's major professor, the Director of Graduate Studies, and/or the Department Head may not recommend that the extension be granted if they feel that the request is not justified or if the plan for completing the remaining degree requirements is not feasible.

Students may be placed on probation or dismissed at the end of any semester for the following reasons:

- Failure to pass comprehensive examinations (QP defenses, written/oral comprehensive exams, thesis or dissertation defenses) on the second attempt.
- Inadequate academic progress
- Failure to meet program requirements
- Failure to adhere to the Honor Code
- Research misconduct or violation of ethical standards for research with human subjects
- Title IX/Non-discrimination and Anti-harassment violation
- No clear path to degree

Recommendations for probation or dismissal may be made by the student's major professor, in consultation with the other committee members, or by a vote of the Graduate Faculty in the department. These recommendations will be reviewed by the Director of Graduate Studies and Department Head. Students placed on probation will develop a plan to correct any deficiencies, in consultation with their major professor and the Director of Graduate Studies, with an appropriate deadline for completion (minimum of one semester, maximum of one calendar year). At the end of this period, if insufficient progress is made, the student will be dismissed from the program.

No clear path to degree: Graduate students who cannot identify a major professor or who cannot form an advisory committee shall be placed on a status called "No clear path to degree completion." This status is distinct from "Not in good standing", which refers to academic status. Students will be given one semester after being placed on this status by their unit/program to identify a major professor or form a committee. The Director of Graduate Studies will work closely

with the student to try to rectify the problem. If the situation is not resolved during this semester, the student can be dismissed from the program.

See the Graduate School policy statement on Probation and Dismissal for more information:

<https://policy.uga.edu/policies/#!/programs/SJod>

## 5. Funding and Development Opportunities for Students

Candidates for admission should indicate in their applications whether they wish to be considered for assistantships. All applicants who express a need for assistance are considered for all appropriate university support. However, applicants are encouraged to seek outside funding for their graduate studies since Graduate School and department-based financial support is limited and these awards are highly competitive.

Graduate School financial support includes Presidential Graduate Fellow Awards, Graduate School Doctoral Fellow Awards, Graduate School Master's Fellow Awards, summer research grants and assistantships for doctoral students, out-of-state tuition waivers, and Dissertation Completion Awards (for doctoral students in their final year). For more information, see the Graduate School website:

<https://grad.uga.edu/funding/funding-from-the-graduate-school/>

Other financial aid is available, including funding for military veterans. See the Office of Financial Aid for more information:

<https://osfa.uga.edu/types-of-aid/graduate/>

Funding from the Department of Linguistics is primarily in the form of teaching assistantships for students to serve as instructors of record for their own sections of our introductory linguistics course (LING 2100 *The Study of Language*). We also typically have one TAship through the Writing Intensive Program to assist the instructors of record in LING 3150W *Generative Syntax*. Graduate students in Linguistics also often serve as teaching assistants in the First-Year Writing Program (Department of English) or in foreign language courses (in the departments of Comparative Literature [Asian and African languages], Germanic & Slavic Studies, and Romance Languages).

The normal teaching assistantship (3 courses per year) qualifies students for a tuition waiver in addition to the salary for teaching. To serve as an instructor of record, students must have an M.A. degree (or at least 18 hours of graduate coursework) in the discipline and must have completed the required TA training (which usually involves a semester-long apprenticeship and a TA training course). Therefore, graduate students are not typically eligible to begin teaching as an instructor of record in their first year of graduate study. To the extent that this is possible, we will fund students in their first year of graduate study to serve as assistants to other instructors, to work in the Linguistics Lab, or to perform other instruction-related duties.

Teaching assistantships in Linguistics are annual appointments for which renewal is contingent upon funding, in addition to satisfactory teaching evaluations and good progress towards the completion of degree requirements. Continuing students should notify the Head in writing by February 1 if they wish to be considered for a teaching assistantship for the following academic

year. The department tries to assign 3 course teaching assistantships to all students in good standing, dependent upon available sections of LING 2100. Occasionally, a student who shows evidence of exceptional performance (ahead of the typical timeline for completion of the degree/excellent grades/etc.) may be offered a fourth course, which provides extra financial assistance. However, since students may prefer to teach fewer courses and prioritize their research to complete their degree, no student will be required to accept such an offer. Because of the limited funding at our disposal, we may not be able to fund Ph.D. students after Year 4 of their program, and all other factors being equal, funding will be prioritized for students in Year 5 before those in Year 6. Funding beyond Year 6 will only be provided in exceptional circumstances (e.g., a need to staff courses when no other graduate students are available and eligible to teach). Note that students who have completed all degree requirements except for the thesis or dissertation are required to register for only 3 hours of credit per semester at the in-state tuition rate (see <https://grad.uga.edu/graduate-policies/enrollment-policy/>).

Assistantships may also be available to assist faculty on grant-funded research projects. Students will be offered these assistantships by the Principal Investigator for the grant. In addition, some graduate assistantships are available through the Office of International Education, the Intensive English Program, and the Office of Student Affairs (<https://studentaffairs.uga.edu/graduate-assistantships/>).

## 5.1 Teaching Assistantships and TA Training

All teaching assistants at UGA who serve as the instructors of record for courses must have completed a minimum amount of graduate study in the discipline and must have undergone appropriate training prior to teaching. Prospective teaching assistants in Linguistics are required to complete a one-semester apprenticeship in LING 2100 (normally during the spring semester prior to their first semester of teaching). Teaching assistants will then take GRSC 7770 (taught by the TA Coordinator) during their first semester of teaching. The apprenticeship will automatically be satisfied by students who are funded to assist an instructor of record during their first year. During the apprenticeship and for every semester teaching LING 2100, students may register for LING 7005 as part of their course load. In addition, all teaching assistants at UGA are required to complete the [Center for Teaching and Learning's TA orientation](#) prior to or concurrent with their first TAship.

Graduate students in Linguistics also frequently serve as TAs for First-Year Composition in the English Department and for beginning and intermediate foreign language courses (a certain number of assistantships in English and Romance Languages are reserved for Linguistics graduate students each year, and other departments also employ our graduate students when they need additional instructors). These departments have their own training programs for teaching assistants, which involve formal course work and/or apprenticeships and which must be completed according to individual departmental policies; some components may be required before a TA-ship can be awarded, while others may be completed concurrently with the TA-ship. Students who wish to be considered for one of these assistantships should request information about these requirements well in advance.

## 5.2 Support for Travel

Doctoral students who present papers at academic conferences may apply for financial assistance from the Graduate School and the Office of the Vice President for Research. Note that the awards usually cover only a portion of the costs of a trip. Additional information regarding Graduate School travel support can be found here <https://grad.uga.edu/funding/travel-grants/>.

## 5.3 Support For Research

The Graduate School and the Willson Center for Humanities and Arts offer some support for graduate student research. Calls for applications will be shared on the Linguistics graduate student listserv. Visit the websites for additional information.

Professional Development Opportunities (see Graduate School website for details)

All graduate students are encouraged to create an Individual Development Plan (IDP), in consultation with their major professor. See the Graduate School website for more information. <https://grad.uga.edu/development/professional/career-exploration/>

The Grad School website provides links to online resources for developing and IDP, along with other career resources. A [Microsoft Word IDP template](#) is available from the Office of Research:

Some Grad School awards and all NSF-funded positions require an IDP.

We also encourage students to develop a [Mentor-Mentee Compact](#) with their major professor.

Other professional development opportunities and resources include:

[Teaching Portfolio](#)

[Interdisciplinary Certificate in University Teaching](#)

[Three Minute Thesis \(3MT\) Competition](#)

## 6. APPENDICES

### 6.1 M.A. Sample Programs of Study

As an illustration of how programs of study may be structured, three sample programs combining different areas of specialization are given below. The samples assume a TAsip in the second year, which requires students to be registered full-time, and assumes full-time enrollment in the first year as well, so they include more than the minimum 30 hours of coursework required for the degree. (Note that students who are registered full time pay the same tuition for 12-18 hours, and students are strongly encouraged to register for the maximum credit hours, since this more accurately reflects the work expected of graduate students).

***Areas of concentration: Phonology and SLA***

## YEAR 1

## Fall Semester

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1)

LING 8021 Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)

LING 8150 Syntax (3)

LING 7005 Apprenticeship (3)

LING elective [SLA] (3)

Either course for research skills requirement (3) and LING 7000 Master's Research (2)

or LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total

## YEAR 2

## Fall Semester

LING elective [SLA] (3)

LING 7005 Teaching (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (9)

Either LING elective (3) or

LING 7300 Master's Thesis (3)

---

18 hours total

## Spring Semester

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)

LING 6022 Adv. Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)

LING 6170 Second Language Acquisition (3)

LING elective (3)

LING elective (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total***Areas of concentration: Syntax and Historical Linguistics***

## YEAR 1

## Fall Semester

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1)

LING 8021 Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)

LING 8150 Syntax (3)

LING elective [Historical] (3)

LING 7005 Apprenticeship (3)

Either course for research skills requirement (3) and LING 7000 Master's Research (2)

or LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total

## Spring Semester

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)

LING 8160 Adv. Generative Syntax (3)

LING 6690 Historical Linguistics (3)

LING elective (3)

LING elective (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total

## YEAR 2

## Fall Semester

LING elective [Historical] (3)

LING 7005 Teaching (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (9)

## Spring Semester

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)

LING elective [Syntax] (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (3)

LING elective (3) or  
LING 7300 Master's Thesis (3)

---

18 hours total

LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
LING 7300 Master's Thesis (8)

---

18 hours total

***Areas of concentration: Language Variation and Romance linguistics***

**YEAR 1**

**Fall Semester**

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1)  
LING 8021 Phonetics & Phonology (3)  
LING 8150 Syntax (3)  
LING elective [LangVar] (3)  
LING 7005 Apprenticeship (3)  
Either course for research skills requirement (3)  
and LING 7000 Master's Research (2)  
or LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total

**Spring Semester**

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)  
LING 8160 Adv. Generative Syntax (3)  
LING 6350 ROML Theory (3)  
LING elective [ROML] (3)  
LING elective (3)

LING 7000 Master's Research (5)

---

18 hours total

**YEAR 2**

**Fall Semester**

LING elective [LangVar] (3)  
LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
LING 7000 Master's Research (9)  
Either LING elective (3) or  
LING 7300 Master's Thesis (3)

---

18 hours total

**Spring Semester**

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)  
LING elective [ROML] (3)  
LING 7000 Master's Research (3)  
LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
LING 7300 Master's Thesis (8)

---

18 hours total

## **6.2 Ph.D. Sample Programs of Study**

As an illustration of how programs of study may be structured, two sample programs for the 45-hour Ph.D. combining different areas of specialization are given below. The samples assume a TAsip in the second year and beyond, which requires students to register for a minimum of 12 semester hours each semester, so they include more than the minimum 45 hours required for the degree. (Note that students who are registered full time pay the same tuition for 12-18 hours, and students are strongly encouraged to register for the maximum credit hours, since this more accurately reflects the work expected of graduate students).

***Areas of concentration: Phonology and SLA***

**YEAR 1**

**Fall Semester**

GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1)

**Spring Semester**

LING 8101 Colloquium (1)

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>LING 8021 Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)<br/> LING 8150 Syntax (3)<br/> LING elective [SLA] (3)<br/> LING 7005 Apprenticeship (3)<br/> Either course for research skills requirement (3) and LING 9000 Doctoral Research (2)<br/> or LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p> | <p>LING 6022 Adv. Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)<br/> LING 6170 Second Language Acquisition (3)<br/> LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax (3)<br/> LING elective (3)<br/> Either course for research skills (3) and LING 9000 Doctoral Research (2)<br/> or LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p> |
| <p>YEAR 2</p> <p>Fall Semester</p> <p>LING elective [SLA] (3)<br/> LING elective [Phon] (3)<br/> LING elective (3)<br/> LING 7005 Teaching (3)<br/> LING 9000 Doctoral Research (6)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p>                                                                                    | <p>Spring Semester</p> <p>LING 8101 Colloquium (1)<br/> LING elective [Phon] (3)<br/> LING electives (6)<br/> LING 7005 Teaching (3)<br/> LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p>                                                                                                                  |
| <p>YEAR 3</p> <p>Fall Semester</p> <p>LING elective (3)<br/> LING elective (3)<br/> LING 7005 Teaching (3)<br/> LING 9000 Doctoral Research (6)<br/> LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (3)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p>                                                                               | <p>Spring Semester</p> <p>LING 8101 Colloquium (1)<br/> LING 7005 Teaching (3)<br/> LING 9000 Doctoral Research (8)<br/> LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (6)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p>                                                                                                                               |

***Areas of concentration: Syntax and Historical Linguistics***

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>YEAR 1</p> <p>Fall Semester</p> <p>GRSC 7001 GradFIRST (1)<br/> LING 8021 Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)<br/> LING 8150 Syntax (3)<br/> LING elective [Historical] SLA (3)<br/> LING 7005 Apprenticeship (3)<br/> Either course for research skills requirement (3) and LING 9000 Doctoral Research (2)<br/> or LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p> | <p>Spring Semester</p> <p>LING 8101 Colloquium (1)<br/> LING 6022 Adv. Phonetics &amp; Phonology (3)<br/> LING 6690 Historical Linguistics (3)<br/> LING 8160 Advanced Generative Syntax (3)<br/> LING elective (3)<br/> Either course for research skills (3) and LING 9000 Doctoral Research (2)<br/> or LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)</p> <hr/> <p>18 hours total</p> |
| <p>YEAR 2</p> <p>Fall Semester</p> <p>LING elective [Syntax] (3)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <p>Spring Semester</p> <p>LING 8101 Colloquium (1)</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

LING elective [Historical] (3)  
 LING elective (3)  
 LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
 LING 9000 Doctoral Research (6)

---

18 hours total

#### YEAR 3

Fall Semester  
 LING elective (3)  
 LING elective (3)  
 LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
 LING 9000 Doctoral Research (6)  
 LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (3)

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18 hours total

LING elective [Syntax] (3)  
 LING electives (6)  
 LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
 LING 9000 Doctoral Research (5)

---

18 hours total

Spring Semester  
 LING 8101 Colloquium (1)  
 LING 7005 Teaching (3)  
 LING 9000 Doctoral Research (8)  
 LING 9300 Doctoral Dissertation (6)

---

18 hours total

### 6.3 Guidelines for the M.A. Thesis Proposal/Ph.D. Dissertation Prospectus

1. Students must submit a formal thesis proposal/dissertation prospectus for approval by the Advisory Committee. The M.A. thesis proposal should be submitted in the third semester of study, and Ph.D. dissertation prospectus in the semester following the completion of the written and oral comprehensive examinations. The proposal assures the student and the committee that the contemplated thesis or dissertation is a sound and feasible project.
2. The proposal/prospectus should be addressed to readers with a general, rather than a specific knowledge of the area of the proposed thesis (such as phonology, syntax, semantics, language acquisition, sociolinguistics). The committee may wish to consult others, inside or outside the UGA program, in determining the soundness and feasibility of a proposed thesis.
3. The proposal/prospectus should include:
  - a. A statement of the topic or problem to be investigated. For example, it may propose to apply a particular linguistic model to some set of relevant data, or it may specify a particular question or questions to be investigated, together with one or more hypotheses to be examined. The proposal should convince readers that the thesis can be expected to be a worthwhile piece of scholarship and that its goals are not too extensive or too vaguely defined to be accomplished in a reasonable amount of time.
  - b. A summary of relevant previous research and scholarship on the topic, showing that the matter involved has not yet been treated in a completely satisfactory way.
  - c. A presentation of the theoretical foundations, sources of data, and methods of analysis to be employed.

- d. A statement of the nature of expected conclusions and their significance.
- e. A bibliography.
- f. A proposed title and preliminary outline of the expected organization of the thesis.

4. The proposal should be formatted according to accepted standards for work in linguistics (e.g. the LSA Style Sheet). Exclusive of bibliography, an M.A. thesis proposal is normally from eight to twelve pages in length; a dissertation prospectus is normally ten to fifteen pages in length (or about 5000 words). Ordinarily the chair of the Advisory Committee will approve a draft of the proposal/prospectus before it is submitted to other members. After the formal submission of the proposal, the committee may take up to two weeks (during the regular academic year) to decide whether to (1) accept it as submitted, (2) accept it subject to specified revisions, or (3) reject it.

5. These guidelines are offered as a statement of general policy. In particular cases, a committee may, in consultation with the student, change and/or add to them.