

The Department of Linguistics and
The Linguistics Graduate Program

GRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

Revised 2022

University of California, Davis
<http://linguistics.ucdavis.edu>

I. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Welcome to graduate study in the Department of Linguistics and the Linguistics Graduate Program at UC Davis! This handbook is intended to provide you with information about the workings of the graduate programs, what the requirements are, what you need to do, and when you need to do it. It is likely that it will not answer all of the questions that you might have about the program, but it should provide a starting point.

The Graduate Personnel may be able to answer questions not addressed in the handbook.

Graduate Coordinator - This is a staff position. The Graduate Coordinator is responsible for making sure that all of the administrative matters having to do with linguistics graduate students are handled properly. The Graduate Coordinator is:

- Stephanie Fallas, 470 Kerr Hall, 530-752-3464, sfallas@ucdavis.edu

Graduate Advisor(s) - This is the faculty member responsible for counseling graduate students about courses they should be taking, financial aid for which they may be eligible, and so on. The Graduate Advisor's signature is required on a number of official forms. The current Graduate Advisors are:

- Vai Ramanathan, 276 Kerr Hall, vramanathan@ucdavis.edu
- Emily Morgan, 264 Kerr Hall, eimorgan@ucdavis.edu

Graduate Program Director - This is the faculty member responsible for the Graduate Program in Linguistics. The Graduate Program Director's signature is required on various forms, and in addition, the Graduate Program Director also serves as an alternate Graduate Advisor, and so can sign forms requiring the Graduate Advisor's signature, if the regular Advisor is not available. The current Graduate Program Director is:

- Santiago Barreda, 265 Kerr Hall, sbarreda@ucdavis.edu

Department Chair - This is the faculty member responsible for administrative oversight of the Linguistics Department. The department chair is available to consult with graduate students on matters concerning the Department. The Chair's signature is also required on certain forms. The current Department Chair is:

- Raul Aranovich, 277 Kerr Hall, raranovich@ucdavis.edu

The other Department and Graduate Program faculty members are available to consult with graduate students about course work, research possibilities, thesis topics, career opportunities, etc.

II. THE LINGUISTICS GRADUATE PROGRAM

The Linguistics Graduate Program combines the talents and skills of faculty members from a variety of academic departments, including Linguistics, Philosophy, Psychology, Education, French, Spanish, East Asian Studies, and English. Students are thus afforded the opportunity of working with faculty representing a variety of disciplinary perspectives.

The Linguistics Department at UC Davis offers both an MA degree and a Ph. D. degree. Students may be admitted to the Ph.D. program and earn an MA degree en route or may be admitted directly to the MA program.

III. THE M.A. PROGRAM IN LINGUISTICS

The Linguistics Graduate Program at UC Davis offers both an MA degree and a Ph. D. degree. Students may be admitted to the Ph.D. program and earn an MA degree en route or may be admitted directly to the MA program.

1 Admissions Requirements

Applicants for admission to the Linguistics M.A. program must meet the University of California minimum requirements for admission. In addition, consideration for program admission requires:

- A bachelor's degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- English proficiency examination for international applicants who have not studied at an English speaking University, with one of the following minimum scores:
 - 100 on the TOEFL iBT
 - 7 on the IELTS (overall band score)
 - 600 on the TOEFL paper test
 - 250 on the TOEFL computer-based test
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Official transcripts.
- Office of Graduate Studies online application, including a Statement of Purpose and a Personal History Statement, with fee by the stated admission deadline

Applications are accepted in Fall Quarter for the next Fall entering class. The application deadline is listed in the UC Davis Linguistics Department website (<https://linguistics.ucdavis.edu/graduate/apply>). Admissions decisions are made on a case-by case basis based on a holistic review of each candidate's application. Meeting some or all of these criteria does not guarantee admission, but merely eligibility. The decision to recommend admission to the Dean of Graduate Studies will be made by the Program Admissions Committee on the basis of available space and the competitiveness of applicants compared to the eligible pool.

Students admitted to the Ph.D. program may earn an M.A. degree *en route*.

(a) Prerequisites

In addition to the admission requirements stated above, applicants are expected to have passed the equivalent of at least one course from each of the following subject areas (as examples, applicable UC Davis courses are listed in parentheses):

syntax (e.g., Linguistics 103B, Linguistics 131)

phonology (e.g., Linguistics 103A, Linguistics 111)

and the equivalent of at least two other language structure courses in one or more other areas, such as phonetics (e.g., Linguistics 112), morphology (e.g., Linguistics 121), semantics (e.g., Linguistics 141), or comparative/historical linguistics (e.g., Linguistics 150, Linguistics 151, Linguistics 152).

(b) Deficiencies

Coursework deficiencies (missing prerequisites) should be made up by the end of the first academic year following initial enrollment by earning a letter grade of "B" or better in courses approved by the graduate advisor.

2 Master's Plan

This program offers an M.A. degree following PLAN II. At a minimum, 36 units of coursework are required, at least 18 of which must be graduate level courses in the major field. A comprehensive final examination in the major subject is required of each candidate. No thesis is required.

3 Course Requirements

a) Core courses (8 units)

- LIN 211 Advanced Phonological Theory and Analysis OR LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics (4 units)
- LIN 231 Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis (4 units)

b) Elective courses (28 units)

28 units of additional coursework (exclusive of 299, 396 and prerequisite units), chosen with the guidance and approval of the graduate advisor. All courses must be selected from among those that can satisfy course requirements for the Ph.D. degree (see section 3 of the Ph.D. Requirements), for example:

- LIN 241 Advanced Semantics (4 units)
- LIN 250 Principles of Typological Linguistics (4 units)
- LIN 251 Principles of Historical Linguistics (4 units)
- LIN 253 Speech Perception (4 units)
- LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities (4 units)
- LIN 263 Discourse Analysis: Text in Context (4 units)
- LIN 264 Current Issues in Language and Gender (4 units)
- LIN 275 Neurobiology of Language (4 units)
- LIN 280 Theories of Second Language Acquisition (4 units)
- LIN 281 Research Methods in TESOL/SLD (4 units)
- LIN 282 Individual and Social Aspects of Bilingualism (4 units)
- LIN 283 Politics of Bi and Multilingual Literacies (4 units)
- LIN 289 Pedagogical Applications of Second Language Acquisition Theory (4 units)

c) English Language Requirement

Students who have not obtained a previous degree at an approved English-medium institution or demonstrated English-language proficiency through an appropriate exam (e.g. TOEFL) are required to complete appropriate English-language courses, as described in the policy *Graduate Student Course Requirements – English as Second Language* ([GC2018-02](#)). Courses taken in satisfaction of this requirement do not count towards the units required for graduation.

d) Summary

M.A. students must complete 36 units of coursework (exclusive of 299, 396, and prerequisite units), which include 8 units of core coursework, and 28 elective units. Full-time students must enroll for 12 units per quarter including research, academic and seminar units. Courses that fulfill any of the program course requirements may not be taken S/U unless the course is normally graded S/U. Once course unit requirements are completed, students can take additional classes as needed while completing their Comprehensive Examination (Plan II), although the 12 units per quarter are generally fulfilled with a research class (299) and perhaps seminars. Per UC regulations students should not ordinarily enroll in more than 12 units of graduate level courses (200) or

more than 16 units of combined undergraduate and graduate level (100, 200, 300) courses per quarter.

4 Special Requirements

(a) Language Other than English

All students must have basic proficiency in a language other than English, as demonstrated by one of the following:

- being a native speaker of a language other than English,
- attending a post-secondary school, for at least two years, in which English is not the language of instruction,
- satisfying (prior to enrollment in the program) the equivalent of the foreign language requirement of the undergraduate major in Linguistics at UC Davis (<https://ucdavis.pubs.curri-cunet.com/Catalog/lin>), or
- passing either a reading exam or a speaking exam administered by a faculty member of the Linguistics graduate program or a proxy designated by the graduate advisor.

The reading exam involves translating a 500-word passage into English within two hours, with the assistance of a dictionary. A passing score requires both accurately translating the major points of the text into English and constructing the translation so that it makes sense in English. The speaking exam consists of a 5-10 minute conversation in a language other than English. A passing score requires showing ability to ask and answer questions on topics beyond the most immediate needs, such as personal history and leisure time activities. Either kind of exam can be administered for a signed language such as ASL, by using the visual or gestural modality corresponding to reading or speaking. The graduate advisor arranges the appropriate exam within four weeks from a written request from the student. The request must specify the type of exam (reading or speaking) and the language. If an exam is not passed, it may be retaken after further preparation. However, this requirement must be satisfied no later than the end of the 6th quarter of study.

(b) Change in Degree Objective

Students whose initial degree objective is the M.A. degree may request to change their objective to the Ph.D. degree by submitting a petition to the admissions committee by January 15 for consideration for enrollment in the next Fall quarter. Such requests will be considered using the same strict criteria used for regular applications to the Ph.D. program. A recommendation for approval of the request will normally be contingent on completion of all requirements for the M.A. degree. Once a proposed change is approved by the admissions committee and the chair of the Linguistics graduate program and any contingencies have been met, the change can be made using the Change of Degree Objective form available from the Registrar's Office: http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/local_resources/forms/D065-graduate-major-degree-change.pdf

5 Advising Structure and Mentoring

The GRADUATE ADVISORS are recommended for appointment by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program to the Dean of Graduate Studies. Graduate Advisors play a consultative role in the formation of the comprehensive examination committee (as discussed in section 8) and are a resource for information on academic requirements, policies and procedures, and registration information. Each student is initially assigned to one of the graduate advisors by the chair of the graduate program. Graduate ad-

visors may serve as the chair of the comprehensive exam committee. Students may, at any time, request a different graduate advisor assignment, if a choice is available. The MENTORING GUIDELINES can be found on Graduate Studies web site at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/mentoring.pdf>.

6 Committees

(a) Admissions Committee

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE. The admissions committee consists of four faculty members from the Linguistics graduate program. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or deny an applicant's request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies. Applications are accepted in Fall Quarter for the next Fall entering class. The application deadline is listed in the UC Davis Linguistics Department website (<https://linguistics.ucdavis.edu/graduate/apply>).

(b) Course Guidance

The graduate advisor assists students in understanding the course requirements and in selecting courses. In selecting courses, students should take into account the Academic Senate regulation that all students must be enrolled in at least 12 units of coursework each quarter. This unit requirement can be satisfied with courses that meet the course requirements specified in section 3 and section 1a, as well as 299 (research) and 396 (teaching practicum) units.

(c) Comprehensive Examination Committee

The student, in consultation with the graduate advisor, nominates a chair and two other faculty members to serve on the COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE. These nominations are approved by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program. The committee, which is to be constituted no later than the end of the 4th quarter of study, guides the student's research, culminating in a paper that demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of his or her field of study, and determines the outcome of the exam, following the procedure discussed in section 8.

7 Advancement to Candidacy

Students must file an official application for Candidacy for the Degree of M.A. after completing one-half of their course requirements and at least one quarter before completing all degree requirements. The Candidacy for the Degree of Master form can be found online at <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>. A completed form includes a list of courses the student will take to complete degree requirements. If changes must be made to the student's course plan after s/he has advanced to candidacy, the graduate advisor must recommend these changes to Graduate Studies. Students must have their graduate advisor sign the candidacy form before it can be submitted to Graduate Studies. If the candidacy is approved, the Graduate Studies will send a copy to the appropriate graduate staff person and the student. If the Graduate Studies determines that a student is not eligible for advancement, the department and the student will be told the reasons for the application's deferral. Some reasons for deferring an application include: grade point average below 3.0, outstanding "I" grades in required courses, or insufficient units.

8 Comprehensive Examination Requirements

After advancement to candidacy and no later than the end of the 6th quarter of study, each student must present to a faculty committee a research paper (henceforth COMP PAPER), the evaluation of which constitutes a COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION. This is to be a 30-50 page report on a topic in linguistics, which needs to demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the student's field of study and how this topic is situated in it. It should address a particular problem, showing awareness of different methodological avenues for addressing this problem, and present a clear argument concerning a solution. The COMP PAPER will be evaluated by a COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE, whose membership is discussed in section 6c. The committee will be constituted and the student will provide the members with a two-page abstract summarizing the plan for the paper no later than the end of the 4th quarter of study. All committee members are expected to read and comment on the COMP PAPER within four weeks. Upon failure of a committee member to comply with the 4-week deadline, the Graduate Advisor may reconstitute the committee which will then be conveyed to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval. This policy does not apply to summer periods for faculty holding 9-month appointments. The committee will provide feedback on the plan and guidance, as needed, on the research and writing. The committee must give the COMP PAPER a score of pass (P) or not pass (NP). Only a score of P by unanimous decision satisfies the comprehensive examination requirement for the M.A. degree. If there is a score of NP and the graduate advisor concurs, the student will be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit the paper no later than the end of the 10th week of the subsequent quarter, in which case s/he must be enrolled or in filing fee status. If there is no resubmission or there is and the committee does not change the score to P, the graduate advisor will recommend to Graduate Studies that the student be disqualified from the program.

9 Normative Time to Degree

The NORMATIVE TIME TO DEGREE for the M.A. in Linguistics is 6 quarters.

10 Typical Timeline and Sequence of Events

Coursework for the degree is normally completed by the end of the 6th quarter. Advancement to candidacy normally occurs in the 5th quarter.

The example below illustrates a typical sequence of events for a student with a bachelor's degree in a social science, but not in Linguistics. A student with an undergraduate degree in Linguistics would not take the undergraduate prerequisites, and instead take additional electives or LIN 299 (research) units.

	Fall	Winter	Spring
Year 1	LIN 103A Linguistic Analysis I: Phonetics, Phonology, Morphology (prerequisite) Elective (e.g. PHI 237 Philosophy of Language) Elective (e.g. PSC 263 Topics in Cognitive Psychology)	LIN 112 Phonetics (prerequisite) LIN 103B Linguistic Analysis II: Morphology, Syntax, Semantics (prerequisite) LIN 396 Teaching Assistant Training Practicum (4 units), OR LIN 299 Research (4 units), OR elective	LIN 131 Introduction to Syntactic Theory (prerequisite) LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics LIN 396 Teaching Assistant Training Practicum (4 units), OR LIN 299 Research (4 units), OR elective

		Research (4 units), OR elective	
Year 2	<p>LIN 231 Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis</p> <p>LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities</p> <p>LIN 396 Teaching Assistant Training Practicum (4 units), OR LIN 299 Research (4 units), OR elective</p> <p>Advancement to MA Candidacy</p>	<p>LIN 275 Neurobiology of Language</p> <p>LIN 250 Principles of Typological Linguistics</p> <p>LIN 396 Teaching Assistant Training Practicum, OR LIN 299 Research (4 units), OR elective</p>	<p>LIN 282 Individual and Social Aspects of Bililingualism</p> <p>LIN 263 Discourse Analysis: Text in Context</p> <p>LIN 396 Teaching Assistant Training Practicum, OR LIN 299 Research (4 additional units)</p> <p>Preliminary Exam completed</p>

11 Sources of Funding

There generally is no funding for students admitted directly into the M.A. program, although they occasionally receive appointments as an academic student employee (e.g., reader, TA).

12 PELP, In Absentia, and Filing Fee Status

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide: <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>.

IV. THE PH.D. PROGRAM IN LINGUISTICS

1 Admissions Requirements

Applicants for admission to the Linguistics Ph.D. program must meet the University of California minimum requirements for admission. In addition, consideration for program admission requires:

- A bachelor's degree with a minimum GPA of 3.0 or master's degree in a discipline relevant to Linguistics, including, but not limited to, Philosophy, Psychology, Modern Languages, Communication, and other social sciences and humanities.
- English proficiency examination for international applicants who have not studied at an English speaking University, with one of the following minimum scores:
 - 100 on the TOEFL iBT
 - 7 on the IELTS (overall band score)
 - 600 on the TOEFL paper test
 - 250 on the TOEFL computer-based test
- Three letters of recommendation.
- Official transcripts.
- A writing sample (such as a term paper or an academic essay).
- Office of Graduate Studies online application, including a Statement of Purpose and a Personal History Statement, with fee by the stated admission deadline.

Admissions decisions are made on a case-by case basis based on a holistic review of each candidate's application. Meeting some or all of these criteria does not guarantee admission, but merely eligibility. The decision to recommend admission to the Dean of Graduate Studies will be made by the Program Admissions Committee on the basis of available space and the competitiveness of applicants compared to the eligible pool.

(a) Prerequisites

In addition to the admission requirements stated above, applicants are expected to have passed the equivalent of at least one course from each of the following subject areas (as examples, applicable UC Davis courses are listed in parentheses):

- syntax (e.g., Linguistics 103B, Linguistics 131)
- phonology (e.g., Linguistics 103A, Linguistics 111)

and the equivalent of at least two other language structure courses in one or more other areas, such as phonetics (e.g., Linguistics 112), morphology (e.g., Linguistics 121), semantics (e.g., Linguistics 141), or comparative/historical linguistics (e.g., Linguistics 150, Linguistics 151, Linguistics 152).

(b) Deficiencies

Coursework deficiencies (missing prerequisites) should be made up by the end of the first academic year following initial enrollment by earning a letter grade of "B" or better in courses approved by the graduate advisor.

2 Dissertation Plan

PLAN B. There is a three member (minimum) dissertation committee, an optional final oral examination (with the decision about whether to require one being made on an individual student basis by the dissertation committee), and no exit seminar.

3 Course Requirements

A course used to satisfy one requirement cannot be used to satisfy another requirement.

(a) Core Courses: 18 units

1. LIN 201 Proseminar (total of 2 units)
LIN 200A, B or C: Foundations of Linguistics (4 units)
LIN 211 Advanced Phonological Theory and Analysis OR LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics (4 units)
LIN 231 Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis (4 units)
2. Any *one* of the following courses:
LIN 211 Advanced Phonological Theory and Analysis (4 units)
LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics (4 units)
LIN 241 Advanced Semantics (4 units)
LIN 250 Principles of Typological Linguistics (4 units)
LIN 251 Principles of Historical Linguistics (4 units)

(b) Research Methods: 4 units

One course (minimum 4 units) on research methods chosen from the following or in consultation with graduate advisor (other appropriate research courses may exist in Psychology, Education and Native American Studies):

- LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities (4 units)
- LIN 263 Discourse Analysis: Text in Context (4 units)
- LIN 281 Research Methods in TESOL/SLD (4 units)
- Any 4-unit graduate course focused on linguistic research methods (with the approval of the graduate advisor)

(c) Area of Emphasis Courses: 16 units

Four courses chosen from *one* area of emphasis, or in consultation with graduate advisor:

i. Multilingualism and Second language acquisition

Four courses, three of which must be from the department of Linguistics:

- LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities (4 units)
- LIN 264 Current Issues in Language and Gender (4 units)
- LIN 280 Theories of Second Language Acquisition (4 units)
- LIN 281 Research Methods in TESOL/SLD (4 units)
- LIN 282 Individual and Social Aspects of Bilingualism (4 units)
- LIN 283 Politics of Bi and Multilingual Literacies (4 units)
- LIN 289 Pedagogical Applications of Second Language Acquisition Theory (4 units)

- Any 4-unit graduate course focused on linguistic diversity (with the approval of the graduate advisor)

ii. Language Sciences

Four courses, three of which must be from the department of Linguistics:

- LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics (4 units)
- LIN 250 Principles of Typological Linguistics (4 units)
- LIN 253 Speech Perception (4 units)
- LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities (4 units)
- LIN 275 Neurobiology of Language (4 units)
- LIN 282 Individual and Social Aspects of Bilingualism (4 units)
- PSC 230 Cognitive Psychology (4 units)
- PSC 261 Cognitive Neuroscience (4 units)
- PSC 264 Topics in Psycholinguistics (4 units)
- PHI 237 Philosophy of Language (4 units)
- Any 4-unit graduate course focused on language and cognition, language processing, or neuroscience (with the approval of the graduate advisor)

(d) Elective Courses: 12 units

Under the approval of a graduate advisor, 12 units of additional graduate or upper-division courses in Linguistics or other departments, **not including** 299 (research), 396 (teaching practicum), prerequisite units, or course(s) taken to satisfy the language requirement.

These elective courses may be used to satisfy the requirements of one of the following Designated Emphases (<https://grad.ucdavis.edu/programs/designated-emphases>):

- Writing, Rhetoric and Composition
- Native American Studies
- Feminist Theory and Research (affiliation pending)
- Human Rights (affiliation pending)

(e) English Language Requirement

Students who have neither obtained a previous degree at an approved English-medium institution nor demonstrated English-language proficiency through an appropriate exam (e.g. TOEFL) are required to complete appropriate English-language courses, as described in the policy Graduate Student Course Requirements – English as Second Language (GC2018-02). Courses taken in satisfaction of this requirement do not count towards the units required for graduation.

(f) Summary

Ph.D. students must complete at least 50 units of coursework (exclusive of 299, 396, language requirement, or prerequisite units): 18 units in core courses, 4 units in research methods, 16 units in one of two areas of emphasis, as detailed above, and 12 units in elective graduate-level or upper-division

courses, to be approved by the graduate advisor. Students must be enrolled in at least 12 units per quarter.

Graduate advisors and/or the major professor assist students in developing a plan of study, which should take into account the Academic Senate Regulation that all students must be enrolled in at least 12 units of coursework each quarter. This unit requirement can be satisfied with courses that meet the course requirements specified for the PhD degree, as well as 299 (research) and 396 (teaching practicum) units, prerequisites, language study, or other coursework approved by the graduate advisor.

4 Special Requirements

(a) Language Other than English A

All students must have basic proficiency in a language other than English, as demonstrated by one of the following:

- being a native speaker of a language other than English,
- attending a post-secondary school, for at least two years, in which English is not the language of instruction,
- taking coursework in a language other than English at the second-year level, e.g. Spanish 21 at UC Davis, for a letter grade, and receiving at least a B, or
- passing either a reading exam or a speaking exam administered by a faculty member of the Linguistics graduate program or a proxy designated by the graduate advisor.

The reading exam involves translating a 500-word passage into English within two hours, with the assistance of a dictionary. A passing score requires both accurately translating the major points of the text into English and constructing the translation so that it makes sense in English. The speaking exam consists of a 5-10 minute conversation in a language other than English. A passing score requires showing ability to ask and answer questions on topics beyond the most immediate needs, such as personal history and leisure time activities. Either kind of exam can be administered for a signed language such as ASL, by using the visual or gestural modality corresponding to reading or speaking. The graduate advisor arranges the appropriate exam within four weeks from a written request from the student. The request must specify the type of exam (reading or speaking) and the language. If an exam is not passed, it may be retaken after further preparation. However, this requirement must be satisfied before the qualifying exam.

(b) Language Other than English B

All students must demonstrate an in-depth understanding of a language in addition to English and the language used to satisfy the requirement in section 4a, either by satisfying in some way the requirement in section 4a for this other language, or by presenting a substantial research paper (at least 30 pages in length) that focuses on and demonstrates an understanding of some aspect of the structure of this language (e.g. phonology). The adequacy of this paper as a demonstration of an understanding of this language will be determined by the graduate advisor or a designee. This paper may be, but need not be, either the PRELIM PAPER (see section 8a) or the doctoral QUALIFYING PAPER (see section 8c), provided that the structure of a qualifying language is addressed. If the paper is the prelim paper or the qualifying paper, it will be evaluated separately as to whether it fulfills the language other than English B requirement. This requirement must be met prior to the doctoral qualifying examination (see section 8b).

5 Committees

(a) Admissions Committee

Once the completed application, all supporting material, and the application fee have been received, the application will be submitted to the ADMISSIONS COMMITTEE. The admissions committee consists of four faculty members from the Linguistics graduate program. Based on a review of the entire application, a recommendation is made to accept or decline an applicant's request for admission. That recommendation is forwarded to the Dean of Graduate Studies for final approval of admission. Notification of admissions decisions will be sent by Graduate Studies. Applications are accepted in Fall Quarter for the next Fall entering class. The application deadline is listed in the UC Davis Linguistics Department website (<https://linguistics.ucdavis.edu/graduate/apply>).

(b) Preliminary Examination Committee

A graduate advisor, in consultation with the student, nominates a chair and two other faculty members to serve on the PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION COMMITTEE. These nominations are approved by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program. The committee, which is to be constituted no later than the end of the 4th quarter of study, guides the student's research, culminating in a paper that demonstrates a comprehensive understanding of his or her field of study, and determines the outcome of the exam, following the procedure discussed in section 8a.

(c) Qualifying Examination Committee

In consultation with the student and the graduate advisor, the major professor nominates five faculty members to serve on the DOCTORAL QUALIFYING EXAMINATION COMMITTEE. These nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment and must satisfy the requirements of the Graduate Council Policy on Doctoral Qualifying Examinations (GC2005-02). The major professor must be a member of the committee but cannot be the chair. The committee chair is appointed by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program in consultation with the major professor and the graduate advisor.

(d) Dissertation Committee

The DISSERTATION COMMITTEE consists of at least three members nominated by the major professor in consultation with the student. It is the student's responsibility to contact the proposed dissertation committee members and to receive their agreement to serve. Member nominations are submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies for formal appointment and must satisfy the requirements of the Graduate Council Policy on Service on Advanced Degree Committees (GC1998-01).

6 Advising Structure and Mentoring

The MAJOR PROFESSOR is the faculty member who supervises the student's research and dissertation and serves as the chair of the dissertation committee. The student selects a major professor from among the Linguistics graduate program faculty, normally within the first 4 quarters of study. This choice is registered with the staff GRADUATE STUDENT COORDINATOR by filling out a major professor form, which is to be signed by the student, the selected faculty member, and the graduate advisor. The choice of major professor may be changed by the student at any time prior to advancement to candidacy, by obtaining the required signatures and re-filing the form. The GRADUATE ADVISORS, who are named by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program, and must be officially appointed by Graduate Studies in order to have signature authority, are responsible for:

- assisting students in selecting prelim committee members and a major professor,
- assisting students in developing and maintaining plans of study,
- playing a consultative role in the formation of the doctoral qualifying examination committee (as discussed in section 5d),
- providing information to students on academic requirements, policies and procedures, and registration information, and
- designating faculty members to administer language exams or evaluate language proficiency to meet the requirements discussed in sections 4a and 4b.

Each student is initially assigned to one of the graduate advisors by the chair of the Linguistics graduate program. Students may, at any time, request a different graduate advisor assignment, if a choice is available. The MENTORING GUIDELINES can be found on the Grad Studies web site at <https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/mentoring.pdf>

7 Advancement to Candidacy

The student is eligible for ADVANCEMENT TO CANDIDACY after successful completion of all graduate program degree requirements and after passing the doctoral qualifying examination. The student must file the appropriate paperwork with the Office of Graduate Studies and pay the candidacy fee in order to be officially promoted to Ph.D. candidacy. Additional details regarding the doctoral qualifying examination can be found at https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/qe_policy_approved_4-1-2011.pdf.

8 Preliminary Examination, Qualifying Examination and Dissertation Requirements

(a) Preliminary Examination

After at least 18 units of the course requirements have been completed and no later than the end of the 6th quarter of study, each student must present for evaluation by a faculty committee a research paper (henceforth, PRELIM PAPER), the evaluation of which constitutes a PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION (henceforth, PRELIM). This is to be an approximately 30 page report on a topic in linguistics. It should address a particular problem/issue, showing awareness of different methodological avenues for addressing this problem, and present a clear argument regarding this problem. The prelim paper will be evaluated by a PRELIM COMMITTEE, whose membership is discussed in section 6b. The committee will be constituted and the student will provide the members with a two-page abstract summarizing the plan for the paper no later than the end of the 4th quarter of study. All committee members are expected to read and comment on the PRELIM within four weeks. Upon failure of a committee member to comply with the 4-week deadline, the Graduate Advisor may reconstitute the committee which will then be conveyed to the Dean of Graduate Studies for approval. This policy does not apply to summer periods for faculty holding 9-month appointments. The committee will provide feedback on the plan and guidance, as needed, on the research and writing. The prelim committee can give the prelim paper a score of pass (P), pass Master's level (P-MA), or not pass (NP). If there is a score of NP or P-MA and the graduate advisor concurs, the student will be given the opportunity to revise and resubmit the paper no later than the end of the 10th week of the subsequent quarter, in which case s/he must be enrolled or in filing fee status. If there is no resubmission of a paper with a score of NP or the committee does not assign a score of P or P-MA after the evaluation of a resubmission, the graduate advisor will recommend to Graduate Studies that the student be dismissed from the program.

If a score of P-MA is the final score, either after evaluation of a resubmission or because there is no resubmission, the ultimate degree objective for the student in this program must be changed to

M.A., in order for the M.A. degree to be awarded, following the procedure discussed in section 13. A score of P or P-MA on the prelim exam satisfies the comprehensive examination requirement for the M.A. degree. The student earning this score may therefore receive this degree by filing the appropriate paperwork with the Office of Graduate Studies, provided that all other requirements have been met. A student who enters the Ph.D. program after having completed the M.A. degree in Linguistics discussed in the M.A. section of this document will have already passed this prelim exam, since the comprehensive exam of the M.A. program is the same thing.

(b) Qualifying Examination

i. General information

- Before advancing to candidacy for a doctoral degree, a student must have satisfied all coursework requirements for the degree, must have passed the preliminary examination discussed in section 8a, must have maintained a minimum GPA of 3.0 in all coursework undertaken, and must have passed the doctoral QUALIFYING EXAMINATION (henceforth, QE) before a committee appointed to administer that examination, as detailed in section 6c.
- All students must complete the course requirements before taking their QE, with the exception that they may be concurrently enrolled in one required course in the quarter in which the QE is taken.
- The QE has both written and oral components.
- A DISSERTATION PROSPECTUS and a doctoral QUALIFYING PAPER (QP) must be provided to members of the QE committee at least 10 days before the exam, which must be taken no later than the end of the 9th quarter after initial enrollment in the Ph.D. program or, for students who have completed the M.A. in Linguistics at UC Davis prior to enrollment in the Ph.D. program, no later than the 6th quarter after initial enrollment in the Ph.D. program.
- Passing the QE, as well as completing all required coursework, makes the student eligible for advancement to candidacy.

ii. Written Component of the QE

- The written portion of the exam consists of (a) the dissertation prospectus, which is a proposal of around 20 pages, and (b) the QP, which is a journal-length research paper on a different topic from the prelim paper (see section 8a). The prospectus should situate the student's dissertation research within the field of linguistics and describe the research aims, hypotheses or research questions, methodology, and progress to date. Both the QP and the dissertation prospectus are to be discussed in the oral exam.
- The QP is to be used by the QE committee to assess the student's ability to satisfy one of the key demands of an academic career in the field: production of publishable research papers. Since articles for publication are often produced in the context of collaborative research, this paper need not be sole-authored. However, in case the student is not the sole author, s/he must have played a substantial role in the research and writing and must provide the QE committee a statement detailing the precise contribution.

iii. Oral Component of the QE

- The oral portion of the qualifying exam is intended to demonstrate the student's critical thinking ability, powers of imagination and synthesis, and broad knowledge of the field of study.

- The student begins the oral portion of the QE with a short presentation (15-20 minutes), giving an overview of their personal academic trajectory, envisioned dissertation project and a summary of all research accomplished to date. The members of the QE committee may then ask questions concerning the information presented, the dissertation prospectus, and the QP, as well as questions that probe the relationship between the student's research and the general discipline of linguistics.
- The committee is to evaluate the student's qualifications for a respected position as an educator or leader as well as the student's preparation in linguistics and a special area of study within the field, based upon performance on specific parts of the examination, relevant portions of the student's previous academic record, and the student's potential for scholarly research as indicated during the oral examination.

iv. QE Outcome

The QE decision can be pass (P), in which case no conditions may be attached, fail (F), or not pass (NP). In the case of a NP, the committee may impose additional requirements that must be satisfied by the student within a specified timeframe in order to achieve a P or the student may attempt the QE one additional time, after which the only possible decisions are P or F. Additional details on policies governing the doctoral qualifying examination can be found at https://grad.ucdavis.edu/sites/default/files/upload/files/grad-council/qe_policy_approved_4-1-2011.pdf.

(c) The Dissertation

i. Exit Seminar

The dissertation follows Plan B with no exit seminar (see section 2).

ii. Dissertation: General Requirements

Filing of a Ph.D. dissertation with the Office of Graduate Studies is normally the last requirement satisfied by the candidate. The deadlines for completing this requirement are listed each quarter in the campus General Catalog (available online at the website of the Office of the Registrar or from the Bookstore). A candidate must be a registered student or in Filing Fee status at the time of filing a dissertation, with the exception of the summer period between the end of the Spring Quarter and the beginning of Fall Quarter. The PhD. Dissertation will be prepared, submitted and filed according to regulations instituted by the Office of Graduate Studies <http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/students/filing.html>. Satisfaction of this requirement must be verified by the Dissertation Committee Chair.

iii. Dissertation

The dissertation is a sole-authored book-length monograph on an appropriate topic in linguistics chosen in consultation with the major professor. The research conducted by the student must be of such character as to show ability to pursue independent research. The dissertation reports a scholarly piece of work of publishable quality that solves a significant scientific problem in the field and is carried out under the supervision of a member of program while the student is enrolled in the program. The dissertation must be submitted to each member of the dissertation committee at least one month before the student expects to make requested revisions; committee members are expected to respond within 4 weeks, not including summer months for nine-month faculty. Informing committee members of progress as writing proceeds helps the members to plan to read the dissertation and provide feedback within this time frame. The major professor or Graduate Advisor should intervene in cases where faculty are not meeting the required timeline. The dissertation must be approved and signed by the dissertation

committee before it is submitted to Graduate Studies for final approval. Should the student fall short of making satisfactory progress on the dissertation at any point in time, the Major Professor or the Graduate Advisor should submit an annual assessment, or one or more interim assessments, to Graduate Studies that describes the marginal or unsatisfactory assessment of the student's progress. Should the committee determine at any point that the student's progress is unacceptable for continuation in the program, even with substantial revisions to the work, the program may recommend to the Dean of Graduate Studies that the student be disqualified from the program.

9 Normative Time to Degree

The NORMATIVE TIME TO CANDIDACY is 9 quarters, and the NORMATIVE TIME IN CANDIDACY is 6 quarters. The NORMATIVE TIME TO DEGREE is therefore 15 quarters. However, if the requirements for the M.A. in Linguistics have been completed at UC Davis prior to enrollment in the Ph.D. program, the time to candidacy can be shorter.

10 Typical Timeline and Sequence of Events

Regardless of whether an entering PhD student is required to take one or more prerequisite courses or language courses, or chooses to enroll in a Designated Emphasis, coursework for the degree is normally completed by the end of the 9th quarter (6th quarter if admitted directly from UCD Linguistics MA program). Advancement to candidacy normally occurs in the 9th quarter (6th quarter if admitted directly from UCD Linguistics MA program).

The example below illustrates a typical sequence of events for a student in the language sciences area of emphasis. A student in the Multilingualism and Second Language Acquisition area of emphasis would follow a similar sequence of events, but with courses from the appropriate area of emphasis (see section 3). Students in teaching assistant or graduate research assistant positions would additionally enroll in LIN 396 (Teaching Assistant Training Practicum) or LIN 299 (Research) as appropriate.

	Fall	Winter	Spring
Year 1	LIN 200A Foundations of Linguistics I LIN 231 Advanced Syntactic Theory and Analysis PHI 237 Philosophy of Language LIN 201 Proseminar	LIN 241 Advanced Semantics LIN 250 Principles of Typological Linguistics LIN 205A Topics in Linguistic Theory and Methods LIN 201 Proseminar	LIN 212 Advanced Phonetics LIN 263 Discourse Analysis: Text in Context LIN 205B Topics in Linguistic Theory and Methods

Year 2	LIN 260 Variation in Speech Communities	LIN 275 Neurobiology of Language	LIN 282 Individual and Social Aspects of Bilingualism
	LIN 253 Speech Perception	LIN 251 Principles of Historical Linguistics	PSC 264 Topics in Psycholinguistics
	LIN 280 Theories of Second Language Acquisition	PSC 230 Cognitive Psychology	LIN 205C Topics in Linguistic Theory and Methods
	Advancement to MA Candidacy		Preliminary Exam completed
Year 3	LIN 299 Research Qualifying Exam Preparation	LIN 299 Research Qualifying Exam Preparation	LIN 299 Research Qualifying Exam Advancement to Candidacy
Years 4, 5	Dissertation Research and Completion		

11 Sources of Funding

Students in the Ph.D. program in Linguistics are normally supported by employment as an academic student employee, such as teaching assistant, associate-instructor, or graduate student researcher, possibly with some fellowship funding.

12 PELP, In Absentia, and Filing Fee Status

Information about PELP (Planned Educational Leave), In Absentia (reduced fees when researching out of state), and Filing Fee status can be found in the Graduate Student Guide: <http://www.gradstudies.ucdavis.edu/forms/>.

13 Leaving the Program Prior to Completion of the Ph.D. Requirements

Students who leave the program prior to completing the requirements for the Ph.D. may still be eligible to receive an M.A., if they have fulfilled all the requirements (see M.A. Program section). Students can use the Change of Degree Objective form available from the Registrar's Office: http://registrar.ucdavis.edu/local_resources/forms/D065-graduate-major-degree-change.pdf.

V. ADDITIONAL CAMPUS RESOURCES

Linguistics Graduate Student Association

The Linguistics Graduate Student Association LGSA promotes interaction and involvement among graduate students in the Linguistics Department and Graduate Program. A portion of the mandatory student fees paid by graduate students is returned to the LGSA through the Graduate Student Association. The LGSA assists the department in organizing orientation activities for incoming graduate students and organizes social activities throughout the year.

Center for Mind & Brain, UC Davis <http://mindbrain.ucdavis.edu/>

The CMB is a research and training unit dedicated to understanding the nature of the human mind from an interdisciplinary perspective. Scientists currently in the CMB, and those who will be recruited to join it, include those interested in a wide range of fundamental questions about how minds are organized. They address these questions using interdisciplinary approaches from social science (anthropology, economics, linguistics, philosophy, and psychology), biological science (behavioral and cognitive neuroscience, physiology), engineering science (biomedical and electrical engineering, computer science), and medical science (neurology, psychiatry and medical imaging). The mission of the CMB included investigation of a variety of questions, some of which include: How does a mind arise from the biology of the brain? What are the neural bases of cognition, personality and self-awareness? How can we characterize intelligence and creativity from an interdisciplinary perspective? What are the limits of nervous system plasticity in cognitive function and how does training influence cognitive-neural organization?

Intercampus Exchange

Students may wish to pursue course work in their chosen area of subject concentration at another UC campus; Berkeley, being close is a popular choice. This option is strongly recommended if you have completed your B.A. at Davis. Graduate students who have completed at least one quarter in residence at Davis are eligible to apply for this program. It should be noted that UCB is now on the semester system, and accordingly their terms do not coincide with UCD.

The intercampus exchange student has library, health center, and other student privileges on the host campus. In addition, there is a daily (Monday-Friday) bus service between Davis and Berkeley (see <http://taps.ucdavis.edu> for current schedule). This service \$5.50 each way and a bus ticket must be purchased in advance from the Cashier's Office in Dutton Hall, or in Berkeley from Parking and Transportation, Customer Service Office, 2150 Kittredge St. It is necessary to reserve a space online at <http://berkbus.ucdavis.edu>.

Applications for the exchange program may be obtained at the Office of the Dean of Graduate Studies, 252 Mrak Hall, and should be filed with the home Graduate Studies 3 weeks prior to the beginning of the quarter in which the student wishes to participate in the program. Separate applications must be made each quarter. You must obtain the signatures of the Graduate Advisor, the Chair of Linguistics, and the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Fellowships, Tuition Fellowships, Stipends

The Office of Graduate Studies awards a number of centrally-managed fellowships that range from small stipends of \$1,000 to packages that include full fee waivers and stipends of up to \$25,000. Competition for these awards is campus-wide. To be considered for one or more of these, new and continuing graduate

students should submit a fellowship application by January 15 for the following academic year. Initial announcement of fellowship and stipend awards is made by mid-March. Application packets are available online at <http://gradstudies.ucdavis.edu>. Please note that three letters of recommendation are needed in support of your application. The letters you submit with your M.A. or Ph.D. program application can be used to support your fellowship applications for both your first *and second years* of study.

In addition to these awards, Graduate Studies distributes a large portion of available fellowship monies to the various graduate programs in the form of Graduate Program Fellowship Allocations. Individual programs use these funds as best they see fit to allocate financial aid to their graduate students.

Because the Graduate Program Fellowship Allocation amounts given to Linguistics are not very large, and because of the fees required of graduate students, especially those who are not California residents, are high, the program generally uses its Graduate Program Fellowship Allocation to award tuition waivers to outstanding students, both new and continuing. The criteria used in determining these awards have been set forth by the UC Davis Graduate Council as follows:

Awards are made as a mark of honor, primarily on the bases of scholarship and promise of outstanding academic and professional contribution. In evaluating applications, consideration is given to the extent and quality of previous graduate work, evidence of ability in research or other creative accomplishment, evidence of intellectual capacity, and promise of productive scholarship. In general, favorable consideration will not be given to students with less than a 3.5 grade point average in upper division work if the applicant is beginning graduate study, or in such graduate work as completed if they have already undertaken graduate study. An applicant with a grade point average of less than a 3.0 will not be considered for a fellowship or graduate scholarship.

To be eligible to receive awards by the Department and fellowships centrally managed by Graduate Studies students must be making sufficient progress and in good academic standing as determined by the department faculty. Notifications of awards will be forwarded by the Coordinator.

Linguistics Department Awards

1. Nancy M. Webb Scholarship

There is a small endowed scholarship specifically available for Linguistics graduate students at UC Davis, the Nancy M. Webb scholarship. Nancy Webb was a linguist in UCD's Anthropology Department in the early 1970's, an assistant professor, who died young of cancer; her husband endowed this fund in her memory. An award is made annually, and you will automatically be considered for this scholarship if you fill out the regular fellowship application. If you wish to be considered for this award, please make sure that you submit the fellowship application by the January 15 deadline mentioned above.

2. Stephen G. Lapointe Research Award

This award honors Stephen G. Lapointe, Professor of Linguistics and Director of the Linguistics program at UC Davis from 1992-1999. Professor Lapointe, a prominent morphologist, was keenly interested in linguistic theory and in the careful analysis of data. This fund provides an annual research travel award to enable graduate students to present their research at scholarly meetings. These awards are competitive; interested student must apply to be considered. Guidelines and a call for proposals are issued annually.