



(2019)

<p>1.0 Degree Title Please specify the two degrees for concurrent degree programs</p> <input type="text" value="M.A."/>	<p>2.0 Administering Faculty or GPS</p> <input type="text" value="GPS"/>
<p>1.1 Major (Subject/Discipline) (30-char. max.)</p> <input type="text" value="Linguistics"/>	<p>Offering Faculty & Department</p> <input type="text" value="Arts/Department of Linguistics"/>
<p>1.2 Concentration (Option) (30 char. max.)</p> <input type="text"/>	<p>3.0 Effective Term of Implementation (Ex. Sept. 2019 or 201909) Term</p> <input type="text" value="Sept. 2021"/>
<p>1.3 Complete Program Title (info from boxes 1.0+1.1+1.2+5.2)</p> <input type="text" value="M.A. Linguistics (thesis)"/>	

4.0 Rationale and Admission Requirements for New Program/Concentration

The new thesis option for our M.A. in linguistics is to complement the currently offered non-thesis program in linguistics. This addition will allow the Department of Linguistics to cope with changes in how MA students can be funded, given in particular the deregulation of tuition fees for international non-thesis MA students. The admission requirements for the new program are as for the existing MA (non-thesis) program. That is, applicants for the new program should normally have completed a B.A. with a specialization in linguistics, but applications are also invited from students with a background in other disciplines.

5.0 Program Information
Indicate an "x" as appropriate

5.1 Program Type	5.2 Category	5.3 Level
Bachelor's Program	Faculty Program (FP)	Undergraduate
x Master's	Major	Dentistry/Law/Medicine
M.Sc.(Applied) Program	Joint Major	Continuing Studies (Non-Credit)
Dual Degree/Concurrent Program	Major Concentration (CON)	Collegial
Certificate	Minor	x Masters & Grad Dips & Certs
Diploma	Minor Concentration (CON)	Doctorate
Graduate Certificate	Honours (HON)	Post-Graduate Medicine/Dentistry
Graduate Diploma	Joint Honours Component (HC)	Graduate Qualifying
Professional Development Cert	Internship/Co-op	
Ph.D. Program	x Thesis (T)	5.4 Requires Centrally-Funded Resources
Doctorate Program (Other than Ph.D.)	Non-Thesis (N)	Yes ___ No <u>x</u>
Self-Funded/Private Program	Other	
Off-Campus Program	Please specify	
Distance Education Program	<input type="text"/>	
Other (Please specify)		

<p>6.0 Total Credits</p> <input type="text" value="45"/>	<p>7.0 Consultation with Related Units Yes No X</p> <p>Financial Consult Yes No X</p> <p>Attach list of consultations.</p>
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8.0 Program Description (Maximum 150 words)

The M.A. in Linguistics; Thesis program provides training in the fundamentals of theoretical and experimental linguistics. The program culminates in the preparation of a thesis, which is written under the direction of a supervisory committee, and which is expected to report on original research outcomes of publishable quality.

9.0 List of proposed new Program/Concentration

If new concentration (option) of existing program, a program layout (list of all courses) of existing program **must** be attached.

Proposed program (list courses as follows: Subj Code/Crse Num, Title, Credit Weight under the headings of: Required Courses, Complementary Courses, Elective Courses)

M.A. Linguistics (thesis) (45 credits)**Thesis Courses** (18 credits)

LING 690 M.A. Thesis Submission (18 credits)

Required Courses (18 credits)

LING 601 Graduate Research Seminar 1 (3 credits)

LING 602 Graduate Research Seminar 2 (3 credits)

LING 630 Phonetics 3 (3 credits)

LING 631 Phonology 3 (3 credits)

LING 660 Semantics 3 (3 credits)

LING 671 Syntax 3 (3 credits)

Complementary Courses (9 credits)

3 credits from:

LING 635 Phonetics and Phonology 4 (3 credits)

LING 665 Semantics 4 (3 credits)

LING 675 Syntax 4 (3 credits)

3-6 credits in Linguistics at the 500, 600, or 700 level.

0-3 credits in a related field at the 500, 600, or 700 level, chosen in consultation with the supervisor and the GPD.

(See below for existing non-thesis program requirements.)

10.0 Approvals			
Routing Sequence	Name	Signature	Meeting Date
Department	<input type="text" value="Luis Alonso-Ovalle"/>	<input type="text" value="Luis Alonso-Ovalle"/>	<input type="text" value="22 July 2020"/>
Curric/Acad Committee	<input type="text" value="Michael Fronda, Assoc. Dean"/>	<input type="text" value="Michael Fronda"/>	<input type="text" value="October 26, 2020"/>
Faculty 1	<input type="text" value="Michael Fronda, Assoc. Dean"/>	<input type="text" value="Michael Fronda"/>	<input type="text" value="November 10, 2020"/>
Faculty 2	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Faculty 3	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
CGPS	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
SCTP	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
APC	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Senate	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Submitted by			
Name	<input type="text" value="Meghan Clayards"/>	To be completed by ES:	
Phone	<input type="text"/>	CIP Code	
Email	<input type="text" value="Meghan.clayards@mcgill.ca"/>		
Submission Date	<input type="text"/>		

REMINDERS:

*Box 5.4 – Must be completed; see section 6.5.4 within the New Program Guidelines at:

<https://www.mcgill.ca/sctp/guidelines>.

**All new program proposals must be accompanied by a 2-3 page support document.

EXISTING PROGRAM**M.A. Linguistics (non-thesis) (45 credits)**

The M.A. in Linguistics; Non-Thesis involves intensive coursework in year 1, followed by additional coursework and completion of a major research paper in year 2. This program is intended for students who wish to gain coursework and research experience in Linguistics beyond the B.A. level. After completion of the M.A., students may choose to continue on to a Ph.D. or pursue a career in a related field.

Program Requirements**Research Project (15 credits)**

LING 605 M.A. Research 1 (3 credits)
LING 606 M.A. Research 2 (3 credits)
LING 607 M.A. Research Paper (9 credits)

Required Courses (18 credits)

LING 601 Graduate Research Seminar 1 (3 credits)
LING 602 Graduate Research Seminar 2 (3 credits)
LING 630 Phonetics 3 (3 credits)
LING 631 Phonology 3 (3 credits)
LING 660 Semantics 3 (3 credits)
LING 671 Syntax 3 (3 credits)

Complementary Courses (12 credits)

3 credits from:

LING 635 Phonetics and Phonology 4 (3 credits)
LING 665 Semantics 4 (3 credits)
LING 675 Syntax 4 (3 credits)

6-9 credits in Linguistics at the 500, 600, or 700 level.

0-3 credits in a related field at the 500, 600, or 700 level

Department of Linguistics MA (thesis) option program proposal

February 12, 2021

Program description and rationale

We currently have an MA (non-thesis) option. The new thesis option for our M.A. in linguistics is intended for students who have sufficient background preparation to do a substantial research project. This will become our default admissions option as it is a better fit to the students that we admit. We generally only admit students who we think are capable of PhD work. However, we intend to keep the MA (non-thesis), at least for the time being, for exceptional cases where it could be a useful (administratively simpler) alternative, especially in cases where students backtrack from PhD to MA.

Target audience

Applicants for the new program should normally have completed a B.A. with a specialization in linguistics, but applications are also invited from students with a background in other disciplines if they have sufficient preparation. We also take students directly to the PhD who do not have an MA, as is common in our field. Students including those from a background other than linguistics may choose the MA over the PhD to decide if this is the right field for them, to make them more competitive PhD applicants, or to get specific training before applying to a PhD program.

Program structure

The structure of the MA thesis option will follow fairly closely the first year of our PhD training program, as does our non-thesis option. This follows the tradition of training in linguistics in which students complete courses in a broad range of areas in their first year and do them together as a cohort. Our cohort therefore includes both MA and PhD students. These required courses include all 4 of our '3-level' courses (e.g. Phonology 3) as well as one of the '4-level' courses (e.g. Semantics 4). They will also take 6 credits of additional complementary courses. As with the PhD students they will also attend Graduate Seminar 1 and 2 in their second year. Graduate Seminar is taught by the GPD and provides guidance on issues of professionalization such as making a CV and preparing for the job market. Finally, they will complete 18 credits of research culminating in the thesis.

Description of courses

One new course is being proposed. LING 690 M.A. Thesis Submission. This course will consist of research, writing and submission of the M.A. thesis on a topic approved by the thesis committee.

Learning outcomes

Students who complete our MA thesis program will be in a strong position to go on to PhD work in linguistics or a related discipline (e.g. psychology, education, communication sciences and disorders). They will have broad training in linguistics as well as skills to conduct independent research. They will also be prepared for work in non-academic positions requiring strong analytical and communication skills such as the public sector, not-for-profits and industry. We also expect some students will decide to stay at McGill to complete the PhD training in Linguistics and will be able to go directly into PhD 2. If students make this decision after the first year in the MA they have the option to apply to fast track to the PhD and the MA thesis project will transition to being the first evaluation paper. We have had several examples of this already with strong students in the MA non-thesis. We hope to attract more of these strong students once we transition to the MA thesis option as our primary option.

Peer Institutions

- **University of Toronto** and **University of Ottawa** each offer intensive 1 year MA(non-thesis) programs which don't allow the same amount of time to develop a research project as our proposal.
- **UBC** offers both a thesis and non-thesis MA. The thesis option has 24 credits of non-thesis course work which is comparable to our 27 credits of non-thesis classes. Their recruitment materials indicate that students interested in linguistics research should choose the thesis option, consistent with the goals of our new program.
- **University of Alberta** offers both thesis and non-thesis options for an MSc. The thesis option has 21 credits of non-research coursework.
- **Other programs** across Canada offer 2 year MA(mostly thesis) programs such as University of Victoria (thesis, 18 non-research credits), Simon Fraser (thesis, 21 non-research credits), University of Calgary (thesis, 18 credits non-research), University of Saskatchewan (thesis, 15 non-research credits) University of Manitoba (thesis, 18 non-research credits), Western (non-thesis, 21 non-research credits), Memorial University (thesis, 15 non-research credits).
- **In the US**, stand-alone MA programs are rare in top Linguistics programs (e.g. MIT, UMass, Stanford, UCLA). UC Santa Cruz (considered a peer program) has a thesis based MA requiring 27 non-research credits.