

**MA in Language Documentation & Description**

**Program Planning Worksheet**

Department of Linguistics

The Department of Linguistics offers an MA in the *theory and practice of language documentation and description* focusing on courses that provide training in linguistics and in the practice, methodology and technology of LDD. The curriculum for MA in Language Documentation & Description consists of the same structure as the MA in Linguistics, for a total of 32 credit hours. The degree can be completed as a thesis (Plan A) or non-thesis (Plan B) program.

**Core Courses (12 credits)**

Choose three of the following:

* LING 410: Introduction to Language Sound Systems
* LING 420: Introduction to Grammatical Systems
* LING 425: Introduction to Semantic Analysis
* LING 426: Morphology

**Track Courses (12 credits)**

* LING 470: Preserving Diversity in Language & Culture
* LING 471: LDD Field Methods I
* LING 472: LDD Field Methods II

**Advanced Electives (8 credits)**

Offered yearly:

* LING 404: History of Linguistic Thought
* LING 427: Topics in Phonetics & Phonology
* LING 450: Data Science for Linguistics
* LING 465: Formal Semantics OR LING 466 Pragmatics
* LING 460: Syntactic Theory OR LING 461: Constraint Based Syntax

Offered in alternate years:

* LING 405: Historical Linguistics
* LING 428: Lexical Semantics
* LING 468: Computational Semantics
* LING 501: Graduate Proseminar

**Program planning**

Complete this planning worksheet with your program advisor, keeping the above requirements in mind.

Student name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ URID: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Advisor: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Entry term: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Complete term: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Complete the appropriate semester-by-semester schedule below depending on whether you will be a Plan A or Plan B master’s student. Your choices don’t need to be final; this is only to put together an initial program of study based on meeting the program’s requirements and exploring your linguistic interests.

Also, these are sample schedules, so they may differ slightly depending on your specific situation. For example, you might have enough credits to avoid taking a placeholder course that’s in the outlines below.

**MA in Language Documentation & Description (Plan A: Thesis)**

Plan A master’s students conduct an independent research project and thesis on a topic relevant to the student’s interest and in consultation with individual advisors. Students in Plan A are required to give an oral presentation of their thesis research to the department in their final semester.

**Important notes:**

* LING 897 can only be taken once. To take LING 897 in your fourth semester and avoid the fee for LING 899, you could register for either five credits of research instead of four, one credit of independent study or internship, or one credit of Supervised Teaching (only if you’re a TA that semester). For more information about LING 897/899, see the placeholder policies on our website.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fall 1 | Spring 1 | Fall 2 | Spring 2 |
|  |  |  | LING 899: Master’s Dissertation |
|  |  | LING 495: Master’s Research in Linguistics (4 credits) |  |
|  | LING 495: Master’s Research in Linguistics (4 credits) | LING 897: Master’s Dissertation |  |

**MA in Language Documentation & Description (Plan B: Essay)**

Plan B is the traditional track for master’s students, providing students with a solid background in contemporary linguistics. Students in Plan B complete 32 credit hours of coursework during the first three semesters and write and present a Master’s Essay during the final semester.

**Important notes:**

* LING 897 can only be taken once. To take LING 897 in your fourth semester and avoid the fee for LING 899, you could either register for one credit of research, independent study, or internship, or you could register for one credit of Supervised Teaching (only if you’re a TA that semester). For more information about LING 897/899, see the placeholder policies on our website.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Fall 1 | Spring 1 | Fall 2 | Spring 2 |
|  |  |  | LING 899: Master’s Dissertation |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  | LING 897: Master’s Dissertation |  |