Handbook of Master Programs

Department of Linguistics University of Rochester

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1 Introduction

Linguistics at Rochester is grounded in the traditional fields of formal linguistics. Faculty employ theoretical and empirical methodologies to examine data and topics in syntax, semantics, pragmatics, phonetics, laboratory phonology, and morphology in collaboration with faculty and students in allied fields. Our work incorporates contemporary issues and practices in these areas. Our masters programs are designed to integrate students into the state-of-the-art in linguistic research during the course of their program.

At Rochester, cross-disciplinary, collaborative work is particularly encouraged. In past years our main allied fields have been in computer science and the cognitive sciences, with strong connections in related departments, such as Biomedical Engineering, Philosophy, and departments at the Eastman School of Music. We are also a core member of Rochester's Center for Language Sciences (CLS), which provides research, training and collaboration opportunities for students and faculty involved in language research. Each of the Master's programs — MA in Linguistics, MA in Language Documentation and Description, and MS in Computational Linguistics — is designed to maximize the possibilities of this collaborative environment.

Linguistics graduate students are housed in the Department of Linguistics as their primary affiliation. Our graduate students have access to the departmental labs. The department houses a phonetics lab, an eye-tracking lab, a quantitative semantics lab, a computational linguistics lab, and a theoretical syntax and semantics lab. These labs provide space for student and faculty research.

2 Linguistics Masters Plans

The Department of Linguistics offers two general paths of study. Both programs are set up for those who want a background in linguistic analysis and methodology. **Plan A** is a research track for students who come with prior coursework in linguistics and a research project in mind. Plan A allows students to focus on a research project with a faculty member, and requires a thesis of original work presented at the end of the second year. **Plan B** is focused on providing students with a background in contemporary linguistics and linguistic subfields through coursework and a final Master's Essay. Students may not switch from Plan A to Plan B (or vice versa) without written approval from the associate dean of graduate studies.

Both Plan A and Plan B students must complete three *core courses*. For the Plan A students, two or three of the core courses may be replaced by the relevant advanced courses, in consultation with their advisor.

2.1 Plan B (Traditional Track)

Plan B is the traditional track for Masters 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 a Master's Essay during the final semester.

Students in Plan B will complete:

- Twelve credits of coursework during the first semester
- Twelve credits of coursework in the second semester
- Eight credits of coursework in the third semester.
- A master's **essay** during the final semester

Students in Plan B may have the option to get credit for their prior coursework in core areas, or completed research. Working with their advisor, a student may take an independent study on a topic in linguistics. Total credit for research, reading, and the master's essay may not exceed six hours.

2.2 Plan A (Research Track)

Plan A is set up for a student who will enter the program with a strong background prepared for engaging in research, in linguistic data collection and analysis. A potential Plan A student will have a research project in mind. Prior to applying for the program, they are strongly encouraged to identify and contact a faculty member who could supervise the research project. Students are accepted into Plan A in consultation with a faculty member. If interested in Plan A, in their application the student should indicate their intent to follow Plan A, discuss their research goals in their cover letter and submit a linguistics paper as a writing sample.

Students in Plan A will complete:

- Twelve credits of coursework during the first semester
- Eight credits of coursework and four credits of research in the second semester
- Four credits of coursework and four credits of research in the third semester
- A master's **thesis** during the final semester

Students in Plan A may enroll for up to eight credits of research to complete a thesis.

2.3 Prerequisites

Admission into our MA or MS programs is contingent on the prior completion of prerequisite courses ensuring the necessary background to take courses in our Masters programs. These courses are linguistics courses for the Linguistics MA degrees, and linguistics and computer science courses for the MS in Computational Linguistics. We consider the completion of these courses, or their equivalent, necessary to the success of students enrolled in our programs. Please consult the descriptions of the individual Masters programs in section 3 for information about prerequisite courses.

Keep in mind that these courses do not count towards a degree in our degree programs. They do not need to be taken at the University of Rochester, but they need to be equivalent to the prerequisite courses. For questions about course equivalency please contact the Director of Graduate Studies.

2.4 Teaching Assistantship Opportunities

Opportunities may arise for graduate students to serve as Teaching Assistants. Service as a Teaching Assistant is encouraged and may be done for credit. It has also been useful in the past to students in their 3rd semester for the purposes of maintaining their full-time status.

3 Description of Masters Programs

3.1 MA in Linguistics

Rochester's *MA* in *Linguistics* provides students with a foundation in core areas of the discipline of linguistics, with a focus on analytic thinking and data collection and analysis. Advanced courses allow the student to develop depth in one or more specific areas in its subfields. The *MA* in *Linguistics* prepares students for further work at the PhD level in formal linguistics or in one the many fields related to linguistics, or for employment in teaching or working in industry.

The curriculum for *MA* in Linguistics consists of courses in core areas in the field of contemporary linguistics, with a specialization in a subfield, for a total of 32 credit hours. The degree further requires a written Master's Essay (Plan B, see sections 2.1 and 6.1.2) or an independent research project and thesis (Plan A, see sections 2.2, and 6.1.1) 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 the fourth semester of their second year. Plan B students are also required to give an oral presentation of their master's essay. These presentations should be developed in consultation with the student's advisor.

Students entering program with a stronger background in Linguistics, including coursework in the core areas, and discussion with their advisor, may substitute appropriate advanced electives for core courses

3.1.1 Courses and tracks

All MA in Linguistics students must complete requirements in **Core Course** areas. Students are then free to complete course work in one of four subfields or **Tracks** and choose from **Advanced Electives** to fill our requirements for their program.

Core Courses: 12 Credits Choose three of the following core courses:

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 Masters in Linguistics students may choose a subfield or Track. Four Tracks are offered: Sound Systems (Phonetics/Phonology), Morphology, Syntax, Meaning (Semantics/Pragmatics).

Phonetics/Phonology:

LING 410: Introduction to Language Sound Systems

LING 426: Morphology

LING 427: Topics in Phonetics and Phonology

Morphology:

LING 426: Morphology

LING 405: Historical Linguistics

LING 420: Syntax or 428, Lexical Semantics or 410, Sound Systems.

Syntax:

LING 420: Grammatical Systems

LING 460: Syntactic Theory

LING 461, Phrase Structure Grammars or 462, Experimental Syntax (when offered)

Semantics/Pragmatics:

LING 425, Semantic Analysis

LING 465, Formal Semantics

LING 428, Lexical Semantics or 466, Pragmatics or 468, Computational Semantics

Advanced Electives: 8 Credits

Offered yearly:

LING 404: History of Linguistic Thought

LING 427: Topics in Phonetics and Phonology

LING 450: Data Science for Linguistics

LING 465: Formal Semantics, or LING 466: Introduction to Pragmatics

LING 460: Syntactic Theory, or LING 461: Phrase Structure Grammar, or LING 462: Experimental Syntax (when offered)

Offered in alternate years:

LING 405: Historical Linguistics

LING 428: Lexical Semantics

LING 468: Computational Semantics

LING 501: Methods in Linguistic Research

Computational courses for linguistic MA students: We also offer courses in computational linguistics for students in the MA in Linguistics and MA in LDD programs. These may be taken as an elective.

LING 461: Phrase Structure Grammars

LING 450: Data Science for Linguistics

LING 468: Computational Semantics

3.2 MA in Language Documentation and Description (LDD)

The Department of Linguistics offers a new 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. Language documentation encompasses a group of activities centered on the collection of naturally occurring as well as experimentally elicited primary data, such as audio and video recordings and written language data; language description uses this and other sources of data to analyze linguistic structures that underlie language and cognitive categories.

Coursework The Language Documentation and Description MA program (LDD) is a 32-credit program designed to be completed in two years, as either a non-thesis (Plan B) or thesis (Plan A) degree program.

3.2.1 Courses for MA in Language Documentation and Description

Core Courses: 12 Credits Choose three of the following core courses:

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 and Culture

LING 471: Field Methods in Linguistic Description 1

LING 472: Field Methods in Linguistic Description 2

Advanced Electives: 8 Credits Offered yearly:

LING 427: Topics in Phonetics and Phonology

LING 450: Data Science for Linguistics

LING 465: Formal Semantics, or LING 466: Introduction to Pragmatics

LING 460: Syntactic Theory, or LING 461: Phrase Structure Grammar, or LING 462: Experimental Syntax

Offered in alternate years:

LING 405: Historical Linguistics

LING 428: Lexical Semantics

LING 468: Computational Semantics

LING 501: Methods in Linguistic Research

Graduate seminars, one offered approximately each semester:

LING 510: Topics in Phonetics

LING 520: Syntax

LING 525: Graduate Semantics

LING 535: Formal Pragmatics

Students entering program with stronger background in discussion with their advisor may substitute appropriate advanced electives for core courses

3.3 MS in Computational Linguistics

The Computational Linguistics MS program at Rochester trains students to be conversant both in the analysis of language and in computational techniques applied to natural language. The curriculum consists of courses in Linguistics and Computer Science for a total of 32 credit hours.

Graduates from the Computational Linguistics MS program will be prepared for both further training at the PhD level in Computer Science and Linguistics and Computational Linguistics positions in industry.

Coursework The curriculum consists of courses in linguistics and computer science, in roughly a 50/50 mix, for a total of 32 credit hours. Four courses (16 credits) are required in linguistics and four courses (16 credits) in computer science. The degree further requires a culminating special written project on a topic relevant to the student's interest and in consultation with individual advisors.

3.3.1 Linguistics Courses

Prerequisites Students are required to have completed the following prerequisite course, or its equivalent.

LING 110: Introduction to Linguistic Analysis

Within linguistics, students will work with an adviser to create a "track" for their coursework in one of three areas:

Sound structure (LING 410, 427, 510)

Grammatical structure (LING 420, 460, 461, 462, 520)

Meaning (425, 465, 466, 468, 525, 535)

Students will be encouraged to take LING 450 and LING 501 as it suits their programs.

Required At least one of the following:

LING 410: Introduction to Language Sound Systems

LING 420: Introduction to Grammatical Systems

LING 425: Introduction to Semantic Analysis

Plus at least two from the following (these course may have prerequisites):

LING 427: Topics in Phonetics and Phonology

LING 450: Data Science for Linguistics

LING 460: Syntactic Theory

LING 461: Phrase Structure Grammar

LING 462: Topics in Experimental Syntax

LING 465: Formal Semantics

LING 466: Pragmatics

LING 468: Computational Semantics

LING 501: Methods in Linguistic Research

LING 520: Syntax

LING 525: Graduate Semantics

LING 527: Topics in Phonetics and Phonology

LING 535: Formal Pragmatics

3.3.2 Computer Science Courses

Prerequisites Students are required to have completed the following prerequisite courses, or its equivalents, for the Computational Linguistics program.

CSC 171: The Science of Programming

CSC 172: The Science of Data Structures

CSC 173: Computation and Formal Systems

MATH 150: Discrete Math

MATH 165: Linear Algebra with Differential Equations

Required Students must take two of the following three courses for the MS in Computational Linguistics.

LING 424: Introduction to Computational Linguistics

CSC 447: Natural Language Processing

CSC 448: Statistical Speech and Language Processing

Plus at least two of the following:

CSC 440: Data Mining

CSC 442: Artificial Intelligence

CSC 444: Logical Foundations of Artificial Intelligence

CSC 446: Machine Learning

4 Administrative Guidelines

Full details on all policies can be found on the ASE Grad Website: http://www.rochester.edu/college/gradstudies/policies/

4.1 Registration

A full-time graduate student is defined as a student who registers for at least 12 hours of credit for the semester, or doing work equivalent to that of an assistant who registers for at least 9 hours of credit for the semester. All students holding teaching or research assistantships must register for at least nine credit hours (but not more than twelve credit hours) in order to be considered full-time. Students not holding assistantships must register for at least twelve credit hours (but not more than sixteen credit hours) in order to maintain full-time status. Students are not required to maintain full-time status in order to complete the program; however, a lapse in full-time status may impact (i) eligibility for health insurance, (ii) the continuance of student loans, and (iii) visa status for international status.

Graduate students must register for 400 level courses when available (not 200 level, as these are designated for undergraduates). As a graduate student, pre-requisites are flexible, courses taken at other universities may not exactly correlate with UR courses. Graduate students are able to register for any 400 level course, but it should be determined by the advisor if they have the appropriate background/knowledge to successfully complete the course. If it is recommended by the advisor that they register for a 100 or 200 level course, they need to audit or sit-in on this course and get appropriate approvals to do so (see audit and unofficial attendance details below).

Registration must be completed within two weeks from the first day of classes, or a late registration fee will be charged.

4.2 Continuation of Registration

Matriculated graduate students must maintain continuous registration (Fall and Spring) until they are awarded degrees, withdraw from the degree program, or are dropped from the degree program by the University. Students maintain continuous registration by registering for credit courses or one of the following courses: 985, 895, 995, 899, 999 (continuation of enrollment status). This status is utilized as follows:

- It is considered full-time enrollment for all reporting purposes and satisfies government requirements for F-1 and J-1 international students to maintain full-time enrollment.
- It is for students who are not enrolled in full-time coursework but are, nonetheless, working full time on their degree requirements.
- It includes a relevant fee (often a dissertation fee), as well as other fees associated with full-time enrollment.
- Students are registered with specific reference to a faculty advisor, who is ultimately responsible for monitoring their full-time effort.
- The student has either completed all requirements for the degree other than the thesis or is enrolled in final coursework in addition to the work necessary for the degree requirements
- Students are eligible for federal loans.
- Students are eligible for University health insurance.

4.3 Dropping Courses

Dropping credit hours after the seventh week of a semester or retroactive after the conclusion of the semester is not permitted if the change affects the student's time status (i.e., if full-time status changes to part-time status) for that particular semester. That is, if a student drops a class another class must be taken as a replacement, or the student may lose status.

4.4 Taking Additional Classes not for Credit

Auditing a Class Auditing a course within Arts, Sciences and Engineering related to a degree program is permitted for full-time and part-time graduate students when suggested by the faculty advisor and approved by the course instructor. There is a fee to audit a course that is not covered by tuition scholarship. The audited course will appear on the student's transcript provided the student attends throughout the course. Auditing a course is worth zero credit hours and a grade is not issued. Students who do wish to receive credit for such a course may do so by (1) changing the registration in the office of the graduate registrar prior to the end of the sixth full week of classes in a given semester, and (2) paying the required tuition for the course. Note that once a course has been audited, it cannot be repeated for credit without prior approval of the Dean of Graduate Studies.

Unofficial Course Attendance Full-time graduate students and post-docs are allowed to sit in on graduate classes with the approval of the faculty member teaching the course. All other students (i.e., non-matriculated and part-time students) require permission from the Dean of Graduate Studies in order to sit in on classes. When such permission is granted, these students may not participate fully in the class. This means that non-matriculated and part-time students who sit in on a class may not take exams and may not receive an "unofficial" grade for the course. In no case will retroactive credit be provided to a student who sits in on classes.

4.5 Grades

Grades for graduate students are reported on one of two systems:

- 1. A (excellent), A-, B+, B (good), B-, C (poor), and E (failure)
- 2. S (satisfactory), E (failure)

The grade S may not be used for any student in a class in which the other students are graded on the A–E scale. Students who receive a C, E or two B-'s in courses or in research credits are automatically placed on probation.

Minimum grades for courses or research work carrying graduate credit are C or S. C is, however, considered to be a failing grade for any student who is on probation. Moreover, a student who receives the grade of C in each of two courses, or for eight hours of work toward the degree (even if in only one course), will thereby have raised the question of the adequacy of his or her academic performance. In those circumstances, the student's record must be reviewed by the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies in consultation with the student and the program director.

Students with B- also raise the question of their adequate performance in the program. Students who have received B- in a course may not take research credits. Exceptions may be allowed if the student presents a well-argued and written proposal to their advisor and the Graduate Program Director addressing the relevance of their proposed research credits to their Master's Essay and their degree in Linguistics.

The following grades are also assigned to courses: I, assignments not completed, and W, withdrawal from a course. Courses or research for which a student has registered and which are graded I (incomplete) must be completed within the time period stated by the professor. Matriculated graduate students in Arts, Sciences & Engineering should refer to Grading in the Arts, Sciences & Engineering section of the Official Bulletin on Graduate Studies. It is the responsibility of the student to complete the work; the professor may replace the grade of incomplete with IE (failure) or with a passing grade at any time. Retroactive dropping of credit hours after the conclusion of a semester is not permitted if the change affects the student's time status (i.e., if full-time status changes to part-time status) for that particular semester.

Students may received I (incomplete) as a grade for assignments given in a course. Incomplete assignments must be completed within the term for credit. Since the courses in Linguistics prepare a student for doing linguistic research and analysis, I's for assignments in a course may result in an I grade for the course. For courses in which a final paper or project constitutes a major part of their grade, an I for that project constitutes an I for the course.

4.6 Student self-reviews

Students are required to complete and submit a yearly self-review of their progress and performance in the program. In special cases reviews may also be requested at the end of the fall semester. The forms are available online here. These forms will be reviewed by faculty at the end of the term or year. Written feedback will be given to the students.

4.7 Academic Probation

Minimum grades for courses or research work carrying graduate credit are C or S. However, a student can get credit for only one C during the course of their graduate studies.

Getting placed on academic probation A student who receives the grade of B- in two courses, or the grade of C in one or more courses, or the grade of E in one or more courses will be considered to have an unsatisfactory record and will be automatically placed on academic probation. (Note: Students who receive their first and only C in their final semester are not subject to academic probation.) A student on academic probation may not be awarded a graduate degree. Students in extenuating circumstances may appeal to the Director of Graduate Studies (Department of Linguistics) and Dean of Graduate Studies (College).

Removal from academic probation A student will be removed from academic probation if the student completes 12 semester hours of graduate credit with no grade lower than B-. If the student receives a grade below B in two courses, the student is subject to removal from the program. In such a case, the student must petition the Dean of Graduate Studies to remain in the program. This petition must be approved by the program director or Department Chair, and it must include a discussion of the reason for the poor performance and a plan for improved academic performance.

5 Conduct

The Department of Linguistics encourages the free exchange of information and ideas, with the aim of promoting dialogue and providing a platform for the dissemination of knowledge reflective of the values of the language science community at Rochester. Disagreement and argumentation are welcome and important to discourse but must be done within the contingent rules of respectful behavior, which include, but are not limited to, tolerance of differences, reason and open-mindedness.

Unethical conduct Unethical conduct of any kind, including academic dishonesty or misconduct involving scientific or professional behavior, will be grounds for disciplinary action. The Graduate Bulletin reviews University rules and regulations in the section titled "Standards of Conduct for Graduate Students"—including those for academic honesty, as well due process in reviews considering disciplinary action.

5.1 Departmental Probation

The faculty may recommend that a student be placed on departmental probation instead of, or in addition to, college academic probation. Departmental probation may be recommended if a student is not making satisfactory research progress or is not, in the judgment of the faculty, otherwise meeting the departmental standards for potentially being awarded the MA, MS or Ph.D. degree. Additional criteria for placement on probation include, but are not limited to, a persistent and substantial pattern of:

- 1. Inconsistent attendance of classes.
- 2. Insufficient participation in classes designated by instructors as requiring such participation.
- 3. Discourteous or inconsiderate behavior, including verbal behavior, toward faculty, staff, peers, research participants, or consultants.
- 4. Lack of civility in classroom discourse.
- 5. Performance in professional activities that is below expectation for the student's level of training.
- 6. Behavior that interferes with effective functioning as a student, research scientist, or professional in training, including:
 - Unreceptiveness to supervisory feedback.
 - Difficulties in working collaboratively with supervisors or colleagues.
 - Chronic tardiness in meeting academic and professional responsibilities.

Removal from departmental probation Students placed on probation or for whom dismissal is recommended will receive a written report from the Department Chair or the Chair's representative. This report will include a statement of the reasons for the action, any applicable deadlines. For students being placed on probation, the report will include a statement of the conditions that must be met to be removed from that status.

If progress continues to be unsatisfactory, it may be recommended that the student be dismissed from graduate study.

Review of decision By written request to the Department Chair, students may request a review of a decision for departmental probation or for dismissal, or students may submit a written statement for inclusion in their file. Although it is the usual practice to place students on probation at least one semester prior to dismissal, the department faculty may move for immediate dismissal if the circumstances so warrant.

Reinstatement If students have met the conditions of their probation, the faculty will vote to reinstate them. A majority vote of the faculty is required for reinstatement. Students whose performance is judged satisfactory according to the above standards will receive an oral or written report of the evaluation from the Director of Graduate Studies or the Department Chair.

Faculty oversight In addition to this formal evaluation procedure, problems or difficulties concerning graduate students are generally considered by the appropriate group of faculty as they arise. This includes, at least and unless warranted otherwise, the student's advisor, the Director of Graduate Studies and Department Chair.

The department wishes its students to succeed in terms of academic performance, research ability, and placement in their chosen profession: Any student having academic difficulty or problems of any nature (financial, personal or professional) that impede their progress toward the degree is strongly encouraged to discuss them with their mentor/academic advisor, or with area faculty, and to seek out resource people in the Department or in the University who are able to provide help for those problems.

5.2 Use of Department and University equipment

The research labs and computers and equipment in the labs are the property of the Department of Linguistics and the University of Rochester.

Computers in the labs and equipment such as audio and video recorders, microphones, headphones, cables and adapters are **shared resources** and are offered to those working in the labs on research projects or are offered by a faculty member to those working under their research supervision.

For portable equipment, such as, but not limited to, digital recorders, students who take this equipment out of the labs are taking full responsibility for the borrowed equipment in their possession.

Students are required to adhere to all equipment usage instructions given to them by the faculty. Those who do not adhere to instructions will lose the privilege of using the equipment.

Responsibility While in a student's possession, the repair or replacement of any damage to or loss of equipment is the responsibility of the student.

6 Administrative Requirements for the Masters Degrees

6.1 Submission of Program of Studies (PoS)

Independently of what Plan (A or B) a student is in, each full-time master's student must submit a proposed program of study to the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies before the end of the second term. Each part-time master's student must submit a proposed program of study upon the completion of 12 hours of graduate credit or as determined by the school.

The Program of Studies (PoS) The PoS is expected to form a consistent plan of work pursued with a definite aim and includes a list of courses to be taken by the candidate. The PoS is to be formulated with the assistance of the faculty advisor and approved by the associate dean. Courses in another department closely related to, but outside the candidate's major field of interest, may in special circumstances be taken, in consultation with the candidate's advisor. The candidate is required to present a written proposal to their advisor and the Graduate Program Director explaining how these courses fit into the candidate's program of study. These courses should not ordinarily exceed 12 hours of credit, and the candidate must have had thorough undergraduate preparation for such work.

The PoS must include at least 20 hours taken at the University of Rochester as a matriculated student in a graduate degree program. Other than in approved combined undergraduate-graduate degree programs, no course completed before the candidate has received the bachelor's degree may be included in the graduate program.

The Department Administrator coordinates with the candidate and relevant faculty advisor to complete the PoS and submit it to AS&E Graduate Office on behalf of the candidate.

PoS's can be amended with Graduate Program Change Notice forms.

6.1.1 Plan A: Program of Study for the MA or MS Degree

Plan A requires the writing of a thesis (referred to in the University Handbook as a "dissertation") and the passing of an oral presentation on the thesis before the Department of Linguistics faculty, usually done in the fourth semester. The thesis and the research upon which it is based represent a minimum of 6 and ordinarily a maximum of 12 credit hours in reading/research. In certain cases, and with the prior approval of the associate dean of graduate studies, the credit for thesis research may exceed 12 hours.

Preparation of MS or MA Thesis The thesis must show independent work based upon material which may include data collected by the student for this thesis. It must present evidence that the candidate possesses the ability to plan a study (where relevant), to collect and/or organize and analyze data, and to present results in an orderly fashion before the faculty of the Department of Linguistics. The written thesis should be well organized and display the student's thorough acquaintance with the literature of the field.

Preparing Your Thesis: A Manual for Graduate Students is helpful in preparing master's thesis. Copies of the booklet are available from the office of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies or on the University's website: www.rochester.edu/theses.

Registration of MS or MA Thesis The thesis must be registered with the office of the associate dean of graduate studies and copies given to the members of the examining committee at least one week prior to the oral presentation or to the date set by the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

Final Oral Presentation for MS or MA Each candidate in Plan A must present their research before a committee of at least three members of the faculty. No candidate may appear for the final presentation until permission is received from the candidate's faculty advisors to proceed.

6.1.2 Plan B: Program of Study for the MA or MS Degree

The Master of Arts and Master of Science under Plan B are awarded for successful completion of 32 hours of graduate credit and writing of a Master's Essay. The Essay is done under the direction of the student's advisor. This Master's Essay may be presented before the faculty in the fourth semester.

Research credit Ordinarily, research credit is not part of a Plan B master's program; but, with the approval of the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies, up to six hours of research credit may be granted. Total credit for research, reading, and the master's essay may not exceed six hours.

Comprehensive Examination/Master's Essay Plan B programs of study require a comprehensive examination or Master's Essay, usually in the field of specialization, conducted under the supervision of the candidate's advisor. Candidates failing the general examination/essay may be allowed to take another examination or revise the essay during the following semester but not later than one year after the original examination. More than one repetition of the examination is not permitted.

Directed Study for the Master's Essay A Master's Essay must present evidence of the candidate's ability to present a well-organized and well-written report on a topic of significance in the field. The writing of this essay is under the supervision of one faculty member, and must be approved by one additional member designated by the Department Chair. The written essay must be completed and presented to the faculty at least two weeks before the end of the fourth semester or to the date set by the Associate Dean of Graduate Studies.

6.1.3 Re-Examination under Plan A or Plan B

A candidate who fails the final oral presentation or completion of the thesis may request reexamination not less than four months later. No candidate will be allowed to take the examination a third time without a recommendation from the Department of Linguistics and the approval of the Committee on Graduate Studies of the College.

6.1.4 Submission of Copies of Essays/Theses for Plan A or Plan B

The Department of Linguistics requires an electronic copy of any final essay/thesis and any data that was collected by the candidate as a condition of completion of the degree program.

6.2 Time Limit for MS or MA Degree

A candidate must complete all the requirements for the master's degree within five years from the time of initial registration for graduate study, and must maintain continuous enrollment for each term after matriculation

7 Department Administration

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