MA in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics

ENG 741 - Trends in Applied Linguistics [SHARED with MA TEFL]
Applied Linguistics is a discipline which was predominantly associated with language teaching and sought to bridge the perceived gap between theoretical findings of linguistics and language pedagogy. Even though this association still exists, the field is currently characterized by an enormous diversity of the areas it investigates. This course aims at presenting a survey of the current state of the field of Applied Linguistics by addressing questions such as: What problems can we solve or ameliorate through the mediation of Applied Linguistics? What aspects of linguistics can be applied to language related problems? What are the major research methods in Applied Linguistics?

ENG 742 - Research Methodology [SHARED with MA TEFL]
This course acquaints students with basic research methodology used in the humanities and social sciences. The course concentrates on procedures used in (a) library research studies, (b) naturalistic observation studies, (c) discourse analytic studies, and (d) experimental and correlational studies. The course also covers such areas as constructing research designs, preparing questionnaires and other experimental instruments, carrying out statistical analyses and preparing research papers in a formal style (such as the MLA, APA, and others).

ENG 743 - Principles in Linguistic Analysis I
This course is an introduction to one part of fundamental concepts of linguistics: it focuses on the disciplines of phonetics, phonology, and morphophonology. It aims to (i) introduce the students to the essentials of these areas of linguistic analysis and (ii) acquaint them with a range of current research issues. Competing theoretical models will also be studied with reference to a variety of different languages (with a focus on English). Finally practical work will also be incorporated in the course through various exercises and problem solving tasks which will have the ultimate practical goal of teaching students how to work out patterns in natural languages.

ENG 744 - Principles in Linguistic Analysis II – Required course
This course is an introduction to other fundamental concepts of linguistics, namely, grammar (syntax, morphology, morphosyntax) and meaning (semantics). It aims to (i) introduce the students to the essentials of these areas of linguistic analysis and (ii) acquaint them with a range of current research
issues. Competing theoretical models will also be studied with reference to a variety of different languages (with a focus on English). Finally practical work will also be incorporated in the course through various exercises and problem solving tasks which will have the ultimate practical goal of teaching students how to work out patterns in natural languages.

ENG 745 - First & Second Language Acquisition – Required course
This course introduces current developments in the linguistic study of language acquisition. It offers a general overview of Universal Grammar and the biolinguistic principles of language, and then proceeds to specific interests in first language acquisition (one’s native language) and second language acquisition. Tied closely to the latter will be issues arising for bilingual linguistic contexts and the difference between language acquisition and language learning.

ENG 746 - Topics in Linguistics – Required course
In this course, a member of the department will cover current issues in the area of his or her expertise. Choice of topics will vary from year to year, but research presented and discussed will be up-to-date with current developments. The course takes further aspects of areas of linguistic analysis taught in ENG 7xx or ENG 7xx (Principles of Linguistic Analysis I and II) with the aim of familiarizing students with advanced theoretical developments and pursuing their own research studies.

ENG 766 - Portfolio Development I (Pass/Fail)
Students will be asked to compile a portfolio with discussion and solutions arrived at for exercises in theoretical linguistics. The portfolio will also include on-going reports on studies or research carried out in other areas and incorporate the discussion of weekly reading groups where published articles in all areas of linguistics will be presented. Basic study skills include bibliographical research in library and on the internet, and how to cite properly.

ENG 767 - Portfolio Development II (Pass/Fail)
The compilation of the portfolio will continue in the second semester. Moreover, students will be guided to select several published articles within the areas of their interest and then proceed to review each article by summarizing the aims and objectives, identifying strengths and weaknesses, and evaluating the overall success of each article in meeting its objectives.

ENG 768 - Portfolio Development III (Pass/Fail)
The compilation of the portfolio will continue in the third semester and will also include brief papers written by the students. Additionally, students will be asked to identify areas within the field of linguistics for potential topics for their thesis. On the basis of these indications, students will be assisted by members of the department with expertise in these areas in exploring readings in the field to write up a thesis proposal.