

# PhD in Linguistics

## Purpose and Objectives of the Programme

The doctoral programme in Linguistics is designed for students who wish to undertake research in applied and theoretical linguistics in the areas of morpho-syntax, semantics and pragmatics, phonetics and phonology, first and second language acquisition, bilingualism, bi(dia)lectalism, multilingualism, sociolinguistics, teaching and education. Students may explore a wide range of topics related to multiple theoretical perspectives and the very latest developments in linguistics and language acquisition research in recent years such as formalist, functionalist and emergentist models of language; generative, psycholinguistic, cognitive, functional, sociocultural, sociolinguistic and educational perspectives of language acquisition and teaching. They may focus on cross-linguistic interference, language development and use, knowledge, comprehension and production associated with memory, cognition and emotion; cognitive processes involved in first, second, third language acquisition, psycholinguistic and neurocognitive underpinnings of language processing; language contact, maintenance and endangerment; different language acquisition contexts and conditions, child and adult language acquisition, heritage language acquisition and language attrition; metalinguistic awareness, speech perception and production, orthography, critical digital literacy; ideologies of language, language planning and policies, family language policy, home literacy environment, code-mixing, code-switching and intercultural communication.

## Duration of studies

6 semesters of study minimum / 16 semesters of study maximum. Total ECTS: **240**

## Admission Requirements and Application Submission Guidelines

The admission procedure for postgraduate students at the University of Cyprus takes place through the Graduate School which announces available programs and places. In addition to announcing the number of places available in each field of study and the application procedure, the eligibility criteria for candidates are also mentioned, as well as other required documents that must be attached to the application.

Applicants for admission to the PhD programmes of the Department of English Studies are expected to hold an MA in a relevant field of study from a recognized university in Cyprus or abroad. Further, all applicants are required to be proficient in the English language.

Applicants are required to submit their applications electronically, through the Online Application System of the Graduate School of the University of Cyprus that may be found in the following link:

[http://applications.ucy.ac.cy/postgraduate\\_appl/MNG\\_USER\\_en.login\\_frm](http://applications.ucy.ac.cy/postgraduate_appl/MNG_USER_en.login_frm)

Along with their electronic application form, applicants are required to submit the following:

- A full CV in English.
- Certified copies of degrees and academic transcripts. More specifically, applicants for the PhD programmes are required to submit a certified copy of their BA degree and their BA degree transcript. Further, they are required to submit a certified copy of their MA degree – or an official document certifying that they will have graduated before the start date of the PhD programme for which they are applying – and a certified copy of their MA degree transcript.

- A Personal Objectives Essay: A brief statement of interest (from 500 words, up to 2 pages), which describes the reasons why the applicant wants to join the particular postgraduate programme, his/her interests and plans for the future.
- A Preliminary Research Proposal: A preliminary research proposal (of approximately 1,500 words) that describes the applicant's proposed research topic.
- Writing samples in English (which, in the case of PhD applications, must include a copy of the applicant's MA thesis).
- Letters of recommendation: Applicants will be required to state the names and addresses of academics who will be called to submit their letters of recommendation directly to the University of Cyprus via the online system. For applications to the PhD programmes, three recommendation letters are required.
- Certificate of English language proficiency. More specifically, applicants are required to demonstrate their proficiency in English by submitting an IELTS exam score of at least 6,5, or its equivalent on the basis of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Applicants with degrees from English-speaking university programs are exempt from this requirement.

**Please note that applications and all other documents must be submitted in English.**

Candidates may also be required to participate in an interview in order to assess their suitability for the programme.

## Program Structure

- a) **Initial Period** (1st and 2nd semester). During the initial period the research committee of the student is set up and the topic of his or her research is defined.
- b) **Comprehensive Examination** (from 3rd to 5th semester). During this stage the student prepares for and takes the comprehensive examination, which is evaluated by the members of his or her research committee.
- c) **Thesis Proposal** (from 6th to 7th semester). Having received a pass mark for his or her comprehensive examination, the student proceeds with the writing of his or her thesis proposal which she or he defends in the presence of the members of his or her research committee.
- d) **Writing-up Stage** (8th semester up to 16th semester maximum). During the writing-up stage the student drafts the chapters of his or her doctoral dissertation and finalizes the manuscript taking into consideration his or her supervisor's feedback as well as the comments of other members of his or her research committee.
- e) **Ph.D. Dissertation Defence**. An examination committee is set up and the student is invited to give a public lecture and defend his or her dissertation in the course of an interview with the members of the examination committee.

## Requirements

REQUIREMENTS	ECTS
Master's degree (or successful completion of courses over 3 semesters)	60
4 Research stages	4 X 30 = 120
Comprehensive examination	15
Thesis proposal	5
2 Writing-up stages	2 X 10 = 20
PhD Dissertation Defence	20
<b>Total ECTS</b>	<b>240</b>