LINGUISTICS WITH A SPECIALISATION IN SEMANTICS MA / 2017/18 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/pls
Linguistics with a specialisation in Semantics MA

The Linguistics MA with specialisation in Semantics is a research-oriented programme in formal semantics. The programme can prepare students for potential PhD research in semantics or overlapping disciplines, such as the syntax-semantics interface, pragmatic theory, psycholinguistics, and philosophy of language.

Degree summary

Students will gain knowledge and critical understanding of current research in semantics and of the formal tools it employs, preparing them for independent research. On completion of the programme they will be able to formulate appropriate research questions, evaluate current literature, and develop and test new hypotheses using appropriate formalisms.

- The UCL Division of Psychology & Language Sciences undertakes world-leading research and teaching in mind, behaviour, and language. UCL Linguistics is a leading department for research in the UK in semantics, with strengths at the interfaces with syntax, pragmatics and philosophy of language. Uniquely, our staff includes three experimental linguists with interests in semantics.
- Our work attracts staff and students from around the world. Together they create an outstanding and vibrant environment, taking advantage of cutting-edge resources such as a behavioural neuroscience laboratory, a centre for brain imaging, and extensive laboratories for research in speech and language, perception, cognition, and communication.
- Our world-class research is characterised by a tight integration of theoretical and experimental work spanning the full width of the linguistic enterprise and forms the bedrock of the department’s eminent reputation which is also reflected in other markers of excellence such as its editorial involvement with top journals in the field.

The teaching and assessment of this programme is strongly research-oriented. It is delivered through a combination of lectures, small-group teaching and a virtual learning environment. Some modules also involve workshops or practical classes. Assessment is through take-home and unseen examination, essays, presentations, assignments and the dissertation.

Degree structure

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury

Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of two obligatory core modules (30 credits), two pathway modules (30 credits), four optional modules (60 credits) and a dissertation (60 credits).

CORE MODULES
- Advanced Semantic Theory
- Semantics Research Seminar
- Pathway modules (students select two from the list below)
  - Current Issues in Syntax
  - Interfaces
  - Formal Methods in Philosophy
  - Semantic Pragmatic Development
  - Topics in Semantics and Pragmatics

OPTIONAL MODULES
- A further four modules are selected, either from the list of non-compulsory core modules above or from the list of optional modules below:
  - Advanced Phonological Theory A
  - Animal Communication and Human Language
  - Intermediate Generative Grammar A
  - Sociolinguistics
  - Issues in Pragmatics
  - Language Acquisition
  - Morphology
  - Neurolinguistics
  - Readings in Syntax
  - Syntax Research Seminar
  - The Linguistics of Sign Languages
  - Or any statistical training outside the department.

Further details are available at www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/current-students/masters/linguistics-options-pgt.

All students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation in linguistics (advanced level) of 10,000 words.
**Your career**

Although the degree can be an end in itself, this advanced programme is an excellent preparation for independent doctoral research in semantics. Graduates from our specialised Master’s programmes in Linguistics have a very strong track record of securing funded doctoral studentships at institutions and have in recent years gone on to research at MIT, Cambridge, UCL, University of Massachusetts in Amherst, and the Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona.

**Employability**

This Linguistics MA equips graduates with the necessary skills to carry out research in the specialised subject of formal semantics.
Entry requirements

Normally a minimum of an upper second-class Bachelor’s degree from a UK university or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard is required.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

why you want to study Linguistics with a specialisation in Semantics at graduate level
why you want to study Linguistics with a specialisation in Semantics at UCL
what particularly attracts you to the chosen programme
how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this rigorous programme
where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

This programme is aimed at applicants whose undergraduate studies included a significant number of modules in theoretical linguistics, cognitive science and/or philosophy of language and you should refer to these in your personal statement.

FEES AND FUNDING 2017/18 ENTRY

// UK: £9,840 (FT), £4,915 (PT)
// EU: £9,840 (FT), £4,915 (PT)
// Overseas: £19,010 (FT), £9,560 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 28 July 2017

Details on how to apply are available on the website at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

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EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum