LINGUISTICS WITH A SPECIALISATION IN SYNTAX
MA / 2019/20 ENTRY

www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/
The Linguistics with a specialisation in Syntax MA is a research-oriented programme designed for students looking for a concentrated, advanced course in theoretical syntax, couched broadly within the Principles and Parameters approach to syntax and its offshoot: the Minimalist Program.

**Degree summary**

Students gain knowledge and understanding of current research in theoretical syntax and are prepared for independent research. On completion of the programme, they will be able to formulate appropriate research questions, find and evaluate relevant literature, develop and test new hypotheses, and produce cogent, structured and professionally presented reports.

The UCL Division of Psychology & Language Sciences undertakes world-leading research and teaching in linguistics, language, mind, and behaviour. More specifically, UCL Linguistics is one of the leading departments for research in theoretical linguistics in the UK and its staff include world-leaders in theoretical syntax, semantics, pragmatics, phonology, and experimental linguistics.

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 five compulsory pathway modules (75 credits), three optional modules (45 credits) and a dissertation/report (60 credits).

Please note that the list of modules given here is indicative. This information is published a long time in advance of enrolment and module content and availability is subject to change.

**PATHWAY MODULES**

Students choose three from the list below:

- Current Issues in Syntax
- Intermediate Generative Grammar A
- Intermediate Generative Grammar B
- Readings in Syntax
- In conjunction with the Programme Director, students select two from a list which includes the following:
  - Interfaces in Syntax
  - Advanced Semantic Theory
  - Advanced Phonological Theory A

**OPTIONAL MODULES**

A further three modules are selected, either from the list of non-obligatory core modules above or from the list of optional modules below:

- Advanced Phonological Theory
- Advanced Semantic Theory
- Linguistics of Sign Languages
- Animal Communication and Human Language
- Issues in Pragmatics
- Language Acquisition
- Neurolinguistics
- Phonetic Theory
- Pragmatic Theory
- Semantic Pragmatic Development
- Topics in Semantics and Pragmatics
- Sociolinguistics
- Stuttering
- Any statistical training outside the department

Further details are available at [www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/current-students/masters/linguistics-options-pgt](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/pals/current-students/masters/linguistics-options-pgt).

**DISSERTATION/REPORT**

All students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation 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 syntax. Graduates from our specialised Linguistics Master’s programmes 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 syntax.
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 Syntax at graduate level
- why you want to study Linguistics with a specialisation in Syntax 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.

There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. Further information can be found at: www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2019/20 ENTRY

// UK: £10,140 (FT), £5,060 (PT)
// EU: £10,140 (FT), £5,060 (PT)
// Overseas: £19,580 (FT), £9,850 (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 Students website. Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 26 July 2019
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/brexit