San Diego State University  
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages  
**Master’s in General Linguistics**  
Degree Requirements  

**Pre-requisites:**
- Most 600-level courses require completion of undergraduate courses in phonology, syntax, and/or semantics. Students should take these courses at SDSU if not taken as undergraduate coursework.  

**A. Five core courses (16 units) in Linguistics**
- LING 501 Fundamentals of Linguistics (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 503 Functions of Language (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 600 Professional Development in Linguistics (1 course, 1 unit)  
- LING 795 Seminar in Linguistics (2 courses – 6 units, one of which has to be with General Linguistics content offered in the Fall semester)
  
  And **one** of the following:
  - LING 502 Language in Mind and Society (1 course, 3 units)  
  - LING 551 Sociolinguistics (1 course, 3 units)  
  - LING 552 Psycholinguistics (1 course, 3 units)  

**B. Three courses (9 units) chosen from the following:**
- LING 602 Advanced Study of Language, Mind and Society (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 610 Topics in Historical Linguistics (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 620 Advanced Formal Syntax (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 626 Pragmatics (1 course, 3 units)  
- LING 696 Special Topics (1 course, 3 units)  

**C. Open electives (6 units) needed to fill a 31-unit degree program**

**D. Completion of M.A. Comprehensive Exams (Plan B) or a thesis (Plan A)**

*Students who choose a thesis must enroll in LING 799A, usually in the last semester of the program.*

Keep in mind the following:
1. Courses are 3 units each with an exception of Ling 600 which is only 1 unit; 31 units (11 courses) are needed to complete the MA program.  
2. 400-level courses and Ling 505 (Graduate Writing) do not count towards the M.A. degree.  
3. Graduate-level linguistics courses are not offered during the summer.