San Diego State University
Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

**Master’s in General Linguistics**

**Degree Requirements**

**Pre-requisites:**

- **LING 501** Fundamentals of Linguistics
  
  *This course is a prerequisite to almost every graduate course we offer. Students who did not major or minor in Linguistics should take 501 during their first semester in the MA program. Students who majored or minored in Linguistics are waived from this requirement.*

- 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. Two Core Courses in Linguistics**

- LING 503 Functions of Language

  *And one of the following:*

  - LING 502 Language in Mind and Society
  - LING 551 Sociolinguistics
  - LING 552 Psycholinguistics

**B. Three Courses chosen from the following:**

- LING 610 Topics in Historical Linguistics
- LING 620 Advanced Formal Syntax
- LING 626 Pragmatics
- LING 696 Special Topics

**C. Seminar in General or Computational Linguistics** (only offered in fall)

- LING 795 Seminar

**D. Open electives needed to fill a 30-unit degree program**

**E. 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 and 30 units (10 courses) are needed to complete the M.A. program.
2. Pre-requisite courses (e.g., 501) taken as part of M.A. coursework can count toward the 30 units required of the M.A. degree.
3. 400-level courses do not count toward the M.A. degree.
4. Graduate-level linguistics courses are not offered during the summer.