### 2021-2023



NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE, DIVISION OF LANGUAGE -LINGUISTICS

# [MA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND TRANSLATION]

**Specialization:** 

**LINGUISTICS: THEORY AND APPLICATIONS** 

# STUDY GUIDE

## **INTRODUCTION**

The MA Programme "English Language, Linguistics and Translation" focuses on Linguistics and its applications, mainly in the English language, as well as the Translation and Interpreting from and to English.

The purpose of the program is to introduce postgraduate MA students to research in the fields of

- a) Linguistics and its applications
- b) Translation and Interpreting from and to English

The programme aims at thoroughly studying linguistic theory and its applications in the fields of linguistic analysis, electronic corpora, digit literacy, and educative linguistics that concern the English language.

The programme also aims at thoroughly studying translation theory and research, translation practice (focusing on a wide variety of genres) and interpreting. The program focuses on modern technological tools for linguistic analysis and research.

The program awards a Postgraduate Degree [Δίπλωμα Μεταπτυχιακών Σπουδών (ΔΜΣ)], equivalent to M.A. (Master of Arts) in the following specializations:

- a) M.A. in Linguistics: Theory and Applications
- b) M.A. in Translation Studies and Interpreting

The study guide provides information about the scientific profile of the programme, the content of studies and the structure of the programme. The programme evolves and adjusts to instructors' and students' experience. The General Assembly of the Department carries the responsibility for constant evaluation and overall assessment of the programme. The programme offers each one of the specializations at a time. The present Study Guide concerns the specialization of "Linguistics: Theory and Applications".

The Steering Committee of the MA programme "English Language, Linguistics and Translation"

# DEPARTMENT AND MA PROGRAMME ADMINISTRATION

CHAIR Aspasia Velissariou
DEPUTY CHAIR Angeliki Tzanne

DIRECTOR OF THE LANGUAGE-

LINGUISTICS DIVISION

DIRECTOR OF THE LITERATURE-

**CULTURE DIVISION** 

Vassiliki Markidou

**Nikolaos Sifakis** 

# Steering Committee of the Programme "English Language, Linguistics and Translation"

| DIRECTOR        | Maria Sidiropoulou |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| DEPUTY DIRECTOR | Angeliki Tzanne    |
| MEMBERS         | Nikolaos Lavidas   |
|                 | Trisevgeni Liontou |
|                 | Elly Ifantidou     |
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REGISTRY Office 709 (7<sup>th</sup> floor)

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Department Site http://www.enl.uoa.gr

MA Programme site http://en.enl.uoa.gr/postgraduatestudies/ma-(Specialization: "Linguistics: programmes/english-language-linguistics-

Theory and Applications") and-translation.html

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**





#### **Refounding the MA**

following the publication of Decision No. **707/24-5-2018** by the University Senate regarding the approval of a Regulation of a Postgraduate Study Programme of the Department of English Language and Literature titled "English Language, Linguistics and Translation", Greek Government Gazette 1729/17-5-18, Vol. 2 and 2359/20.06.2018, Vol. 2 - \*Law 4485/17, Law 4521/18].

#### Programme attendance

The duration of studies of the MA leading to a Postgraduate Degree is three (3) academic semesters, including the MA dissertation semester. Classes are taught in English.

The maximum time allowed for completing the programme is three (3) academic semesters. Every student is entitled to suspension of studies or of dissertation writing, through a written petition. Suspension is granted by the Assembly, provided that the student has the necessary documentation confirming the need for suspension (such as health-related conditions). In the event of study suspension, the student attends the respective semester of the next study programme of the same specialization, whenever it may be offered, and s/he resumes her/his studies from that point onward. Students may suspend their studies only once. Individuals who have filed for suspension do not retain student benefits until they re-enter the programme. The suspension period does not count towards the maximum allowed duration of studies.

Ninety (90) ECTS are required for the MA Degree. Classes offer sixty (60) ECTS and the dissertation thirty (30) ECTS.

Attendance is obligatory and students need to achieve an adequate score at exams and/ or assignments of each course. The dissertation is written in the third semester of studies.

#### **Programme funding**

Running costs of the MA Programme "English Language, Linguistics and Translation" will be covered by: the budget of the University, the budget of the Ministry of Education, Research and Religious Affairs, donations, other benefits, bequests, various sponsorships by public or private bodies, funds from research programmes, funds from the European Union or other international organizations, part of the department's Special Account for Research Grants (SARG) revenue and any other legal source.

#### **Runtime of the Programme**

The MA will run for a decade; starting from academic year 2018-2019 for five years and five more years should the criteria of interior and exterior assessment be met, according to par. 8, article 32 and par. 6, article 44 of Law 4485/2017.

#### Infrastructure of the Department

A fully equipped Library, a Multimedia Laboratory for the Processing of Speech and Text and a Centre for Self-Access Learning and Material Development is at the disposal of students catering for their needs.

#### Library of the School of Philosophy

MA students may borrow books subject to the borrowing regulations of the Library of the School of Philosophy and consult journals after filling out the special form for book borrowing. For more information, please visit http://phil.lib.uoa.gr/.

#### Multimedia Laboratory: Speech and Text Processing (room 723)

The Laboratory caters for the students' need to practice and apply the theoretical knowledge they obtain during the programme: more specifically on teaching and learning English, use of new technologies in foreign-language education, EFL corpora, lexicography, translation (conventional or electronic).

#### Self-Access Learning and Material Development (room 905)

The Self-Access Learning caters to the needs of MA students regarding: attending seminars pertaining to the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) in research, teaching and learning, online research, systematic production of learning materials (electronic or conventional) for undergraduate modules, collecting and organizing research materials, developing eversions of the MA, writing research assignments.

#### **MA student amenities**

#### Study consultant

The steering committee of the MA assigns a member of the academic staff to serve as a study consultant for every student. Students may reach out to the consultant in the event of an issue arising during their studies or consult them for the academic activities they wish to engage in.

#### Internet and work/ cooperation area

All MA students are free to use the computers in the Multimedia Laboratory, the Self-Access Learning Centre and the Library, as well as the connection to the Internet accessible through these premises, for their research and all other necessities of the MA.

#### E-mail address

All postgraduate students are given an e-mail address from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (NKUA) Computer Centre. To ensure they receive one, students may visit the Secretariat of the Department (Room 411).

#### **Conferences and workshops**

The Department organizes various events such as international conferences, colloquia, lectures by highly esteemed Greek or foreign scientists, artists and creators. MA students are advised to participate in the aforementioned events. At the same time, they should also keep up to date with new scientific activities and developments in Greece or abroad and participate at conferences and events.



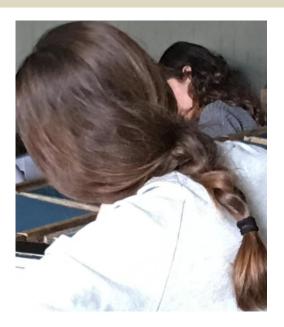
| Other amenities                    |     |   |
|------------------------------------|-----|---|
|                                    |     |   |
| Scholarships                       | YES | Please visit http://www.enl.uoa.gr/ypotrofies-klhrodothmata.html for more information on available scholarships                     |
| Student ID card                    | YES | Provided as a standard procedure - although not imposed by law  |
| Student discount on fares          | YES | According to regulation and the Senate decision, a discount is available for the minimum duration of studies increased by two years |
| Health booklet                     | YES | Same as "Student ID card"   |
| Free meals                         | YES | Same as "Student ID card"   |
| Free textbooks                     | NO  | No provision for free textbooks   |
| Participation in legal instruments | YES | Participation in the Department's General Assembly regulated by relevant laws   |

According to Law 3685/08, Article 2, students must elect 2 representatives to speak on their behalf in all collective instruments of the Department and the University. Representatives are entitled to and must attend the General Assembly of the Department.

#### Useful addresses and telephone numbers: Public institutions

| HELLENIC NATIONAL ACADEMIC RECOGNITION INFORMATION (HELLENIC NARIC – $\Delta$ OATA $\Pi$ )   | 54, Ag. Konstantinou Str., 10437 Athens. Tel. 210 5281000, www.doatap.gr                   |
|--|--|
| MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  | 37, Andrea Papandreou Str., 15180<br>Marousi.<br>Tel. 210 344 2000, www.ypep.gr            |
| State Scholarships Foundation (IKY) State scholarships for post-graduate studies, abroad and in Greece.  | 41, Ethnikis Antistaseos Str., 14234 Nea<br>Ionia, Athens.<br>Tel. 210 3726300, www.iky.gr |
| NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS.  Department of Postgraduate Studies and Research   | 7, Paleon Patron Germanou, 10561 Athens. Tel. 210 3689919                                  |
| NATIONAL AND KAPODISTRIAN UNIVERSITY OF ATHENS.  Legacy Directorate. Department: Scholarships & Prizes (scholarships funded by legacies and bequests donated to the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens, for post-graduate studies, abroad and in Greece) | 6, Christou Lada, 10561 Athens. Tel. 210 3689131/4   |

### **SPECIALIZATIONS** in the MA programme



#### 1. MA Specializations

#### SPECIALIZATION 1: LINGUISTICS: THEORY AND APPLICATIONS

The MA specialization "Linguistics: Theory and Applications" aims at introducing students to conducting research on the English language with various technological tools (research methods, corpora), to studying linguistic applications which are affected by the use of technology (e.g. psycholinguistic research), to developing basic skills in using computational and statistical techniques of linguistic data analysis, to analyzing the language of technology (e.g. digital speech analysis) as well as to studying learning English as an L2 via apps and/or technology.

#### SPECIALIZATION 2: TRANSLATION STUDIES AND INTERPRETING

The MA specialization "Translation Studies and Interpreting" aims at introducing students to studying meaning transfer between Greek and English in various genres and contexts, focusing on research-oriented approaches to translation, interpreting, in real-life situations. Topics are research methodology in translation studies, translation theory and practice, psycholinguistic aspects of translation, translation topics, globalization and language contact, theory and practice of interpretation in various registers and technological aspects of translation practices.

#### 2. Entrance to the programme

Student selection is based on Law 4485/2017 and on current Postgraduate Programme Regulations.

#### A) Invitation – Requirements and necessary supporting documentation

Following the decision of the English Language and Literature Assembly, an invitation is publicshed on the website of the Department yearly, in June for all students interested in studying on the MA. All applications, along with the necessary documentation, are submitted to the secretariat of the Department (School of Philosophy building, Room 414) within the announced deadline. For further questions and clarifications, please reach out to the Secretariat.

All prospective students need to submit the following documentation:

- 1. An application form (application form available online at http://www.enl.uoa.gr/hlektronikes-yphresies/hlektronika-entypa.html).
- A full CV (please fill in the special form available online at http://www.enl.uoa.gr/hlektronikes-yphresies/hlektronika-entypa.html).
   In cases of disability, also provide relevant certificate from the Primary Health Committee.
- 3. Authenticated copy of original certificate or a study completion attestation by the Secretariat of the Department.
- 4. Authenticated copies of other related higher education qualifications.
- 5. Full record of university course grades.
- 6. Recognized academic studies from  $\Delta$ .O.A.T.A. $\Pi$ . for students with foreign institute certificates (or an attestation that they have submitted all necessary documents to  $\Delta$ .O.A.T.A. $\Pi$ .).
- 7. Two recommendation letters in a special form (available online at the website of the Department) in separate, sealed envelopes.
- 8. For category b) and c) of article 3 (Greek Government Gazette 2359/20.06.2018, Vol. 2)¹candidates, an attestation of knowledge of English (C2 level).
- 9. (For foreign candidates only) additional attestation of knowledge of Greek (B1/B2 level).
- 10. Authenticated copies of other language certificates (excluding Greek and English), if available.
- 11. Samples of related scientific activity (e.g. publications in journals, presentations in conferences etc.), if available, as well as proof of related work experience.
- 12. Papers composed and graded during undergraduate or related postgraduate studies.

Application and documentation legality is examined by the Secretariat and the Steering Committee. Candidates who are deemed as eligible under law and the Postgraduate Studies Regulation will be invited to the written examination.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> "(b) Candidates with a degree from a foreign university (on a similar discipline that covers the main areas of Linguistics); (c) Candidates with a degree from other departments of Greek universities (who have covered the main areas of Linguistics)."

#### B) Criteria for candidate selection

Selection criteria are:

- 1. Written performance (70%), and if succeeded, oral performance in the entrance examination (30%).
- 2. BA grade "Very Good". Lower grade may be accepted if candidates have taken a "Very Good" grade at courses or BA dissertation which display skills relevant to the Postgraduate Program, or if they have acquired a second degree, another postgraduate title, a detailed research paper or research experience.
- 3. The following qualifications are appreciated and taken into account with respect to the final mark of the oral examination (5% of the oral examination mark):
- a. Grades of undergraduate courses relevant to postgraduate specialization.
- b. Experience with scientific projects relevant to the postgraduate programme (e.g. seminars, participation in research projects, publications, etc.).
- c. Excellent knowledge of the English Language is mandatory. Good knowledge of other languages is appreciated;
- d. Recommendation letters;
- e. Relevant professional experience and knowledge of new technologies.

The Steering Committee suggests a list of selected candidates on the basis of the above criteria, and submits it to the General Assembly of the Department for approval. Candidates with the same passing grade are accepted to the program. The final list of accepted candidates is public-shed on the official webpage of the Department. Accepted candidates will have to register within a 20 days' time period, from the date of the General assembly meeting which approved the suggested list of accepted candidates.

#### C) Written and oral exams

The written and oral exams are held in the building of the School of Philosophy on the date that the Registrar's office announces on the Department website (www.enl.uoa.gr → Announcements). The exams for both Specializations are held in English. Information about the structure and duration of the written and the oral exam is provided below, in Section 5.

#### 3. Exams and evaluation of postgraduate students

Instruction is held in two study semesters, in the fall and spring, each one of which runs for at least 13 weeks of teaching and three weeks of exams. Potentially missed classes are replaced. The date and time of the make-up class are posted on the website of the MA Programme. Exams take place during January/February for the Fall semester and in June for the Spring semester, for all the classes that include exams. There is **no re-sit** exam period September. Assignments should be strictly delivered within their deadlines.

Attendance is mandatory. The postgraduate students may have up to two justified absences in every subject per term, on medical reasons for which they have to collect the necessary confirmation from public hospitals, or because of serious personal reasons along with a personal statement. In case of surpassing the limit, because of special and exceptional reasons, the student has to submit an application to the Steering Committee with all the relevant documentation for approval, which sets the matter in the Department Assembly. In case the application is rejected, the student leaves the program.

The evaluation of postgraduate students and their performance assessment takes place at the end of semester with written or oral exams or assignment papers during the semester. The method of assessment is determined by the instructor. The passing mark scale is from 6 to 10 and is delivered to the Administration within 20 days after the end of the exam period. The final grade of the MA program is the average mark of a) the grades of the courses completed in the 1st semester, b) the grades of the courses completed in the second semester and c) the grade of the dissertation.

Programme completion requires collecting ninety (90) ECTS.

As defined in the Regulation of the MA Programme, if students fail one or more courses, they may fail the whole Programme; the student should then ask to be examined by a three-party committee, whose members have the same or relevant specialization and who are selected by the Department Assembly The instructor is excluded from the three-party exam committee (par. 6, art. 34, N. 4485/2017). If the student is examined through a written assignment, the assignment is re-assessed by the three-party exam committee.

The Dissertation is written in the 3<sup>rd</sup> and last semester of the Programme. The student submits an application with a recommended title and a recommended supervisor, with an abstract of the recommended topic attached. The Steering Committee assigns the student a supervisor, and upon completion of the dissertation, it forms a three-member examining committee (including the supervisor) for its approval. Candidates have to support their dissertation in front of the examining committee (par. 4, art. 34, N. 4485/ 2017).

All the instructors of the MA program can be supervisors or members of the three-party examining committees (see article 10 of the Regulation about the anticipated by the Law categories of instructors).

#### Postgraduate dissertation

Successful completion of the program includes the submission of a Dissertation (3<sup>rd</sup> semester of Studies) within the suggested deadline to be set by the Steering Committee. The language of the postgraduate Dissertation is English.

The students choose their topic from a wide range of thematic areas that are recommended by the instructors and come up with a specific title, an abstract of the recommended dissertation and a recommended supervisor, according to the procedure described above. The topic of the Dissertation should be original and have a research orientation.

The dissertation, which is awarded 30 ECTS, should conform to the criteria below, according to which it will be assessed: it should

- Be original
- Between 15.000-20.000 words
- Focus on the topic as already described in the abstract
- Be designed and organized according to the academic essay standards
- Display accuracy and content clarity
- Display the student's ability to think critically
- Exhibit the students' broader understanding of the research area the dissertation topic falls into, and the input of a more specific theme in it
- Exhibit adequate citations in the main body of the text. The reference list at the end should be presented according to the international standards.

The candidates follow the instructions regarding the form of the dissertation (suggested cover and form guide can be found in the Registry of the MA Programme).

The thesis is submitted in three copies -one for the supervisor and one for each one of the two other member of the exam committee- to the registry, within the deadline set at the start of the 3rd semester.

Please note that

- Dissertations that miss or surpass the suggested word limit range are not accepted.
- There can be no extension to the dissertation submission deadline, unless there are serious medical reasons (and only if medical documents are submitted).
- Plagiarism is a sufficient condition for a student to be crossed out from the MA Programme (see article 8 of the Regulation).

For the approval of the dissertation the student defends it in the presence of the examining committee. The final grade of the dissertation is an average of the assessment mark suggested by the three members of the examining committee. If the dissertation is assessed as non satisfactory (if it is marked by one examiner with a grade below 6, or if the examiners think that the dissertation needs improvement, they can ask for it, or suggest a thorough revision within the period of 1 month.

The grade of the dissertation is submitted to the Registry of the Department when the marking procedure is completed. The student resubmits the dissertation (with the improvements) in its final form in one copy at the Registry of the Department. Dissertations, after approval by the examining committee, are necessarily posted at the website of the Department (art. 34, par. 5 N. 4485/17). Furthermore, an electronic submission of dissertations follows at the Digit Depository "PERGAMOS", following the Senate of EKPA decision.

#### 4. MA student rights and obligations

- MA students are entitled to the same rights and amenities as first degree students, except for
  the right to free textbooks. The Department ensures access to textbooks and lectures for
  disabled students and/or students with other special needs (par. 3, art. 34, Law 4485/2017).
  The NKUA Accessibility Unit also allows for student facilities (remote communication with
  fellow students, professors and administrative staff of the Institution), work stations at the
  library, provision of accessibility tools, etc.
- 2. All MA students are free to use the computers of the Multimedia Laboratory, the Self-Access Learning Centre and in the Library of the School. Students are also provided with an institutional email address from the NKUA Computational Centre.
- 3. MA students attend seminars, lectures, educational visits, conferences, colloquia and other scientific events related to the MA topic, hosted by the Department of English Language and Literature or other Departments and institutions.
- 4. Every student is assigned a Study Consultant who is selected among the teaching personnel of the MA Programme. Consultants closely monitor the students' progress, notifying teachers should any problem arise.

- 5. On a Steering Committee suggestion, the Assembly of the Department of English Language and Literature may decide to discontinue a student's attendance if
  - Their attendance is poor (only two justified absences are allowed per course for medical reasons, as specified in article 7 of the Regulation)
  - They have failed the examination of a module/modules (including the examination by the three-member Committee) and have not completed the Programme
  - They exceed the maximum study duration
  - They break existing regulations according to the relevant Disciplinary Board code
  - Ex officio, after an application to the Department
  - If they commit a plagiarism misconduct, for violating the intellectual property law when writing a paper (Law 2121/93).

More specifically: Plagiarism is the intentional or unintentional verbatim or paraphrased copying of parts of a text (irrespective of their size) from any print source (e.g. articles, books, newspapers, magazines, other students' papers) or online source, without a full bibliographical reference to the source. Any third-party interference to the content or the structure of a paper (with no relevant reference) or the assigning of a paper for writing by a third party is also considered plagiarism. Plagiarism is a serious misconduct of academic ethics and leads to sanctions which, depending on the severity of the misconduct (to be determined by the Assembly of the Department), may vary from the student receiving a failing mark for the paper, failing the course or permanently leaving the MA Programme. This applies for essays/papers of particular courses and MA dissertations.

- 6. At the end of each semester, MA students are asked to assess each module and teacher (par. 1, Art. 44, Law 4485/2017). Furthermore, students are also asked to assess the Programme as a whole. All assessments are done through special digital questionnaires available on the website of the Department and are filled out anonymously and submitted at: https://survey.uoa.gr/portal/surveyList?status=1&programType. The results of the overall assessment are announced on the website of the Department.
- 7. To obtain the Postgraduate Studies Degree (PSD), students need to pass all modules of both semesters as well as get a passing grade on their MA dissertation. The final grade of the PSD will be defined as follows: **Excellent:** Grades 10-09, **Very Good:** Grades 08-07, **Good:** Grade 06.

The graduation ceremony takes place during Assembly meetings of the Department of English Language and Literature at the University premises, in the presence of the Director or the Deputy Director of the MA Programme, the Head of the Department or the Deputy Head of the Department and, if possible, a representative of the Dean of the School of Philosophy.

Graduates of the MA Programme "English Language, Linguistics and Translation" are granted a Postgraduate Studies Degree in the following fields:

- A) Linguistics: Theory and Applications
- B) Translation Studies and Interpreting

- 8. Foreign MA students who have not had their first cycle of studies recognized by the Δ.Ο.Α.Τ.Α.Π. centre according to Law 3328/2005 (A' 80), during the duration of their studies, will not be eligible to receive a Degree.
- 9. MA students may apply for a MA Supplement to be issued by the Department.
- 10. ERASMUS students from overseas subcontracting universities may enroll in the MA "English Language, Linguistics and Translation" and receive an attestation of their participation in courses and the completion of their studies (relevant criteria, conditions and processes of the MA Regulation will apply).

#### 5. Written and Oral Exams

Every specialization selects the prevalent candidates after examining their typical and substantial qualifications, as well as for their performance in written and oral exams. The exams are held at the building of the School of Philosophy on the dates the Registry announces on the Webpage (see Announcements:

http://www.enl.uoa.gr/anakoinoseis-kai-ekdhloseis/anakoinoseis-metaptyxiakon.html)

#### **5.1 WRITTEN AND ORAL EXAMS:**

Oral and written exams aim at assessing the general knowledge of the candidates in the wider area of linguistic theory, as well as the candidates' ability to comprehend and produce academic discourse. The candidates are expected to answer written and oral questions as described below:

A) The written exam, with overall duration of 2 hours, involves comprehending a scientific article and producing scientific discourse.

In this part of the exam, a scientific text is given to the candidates from the wider field of theoretical or applied linguistics. The candidates are expected to (1) answer comprehension questions and respond to a writing production question in developing and justifying their opinion about the topic of the text and (2) provide short answers to questions about basic concepts of linguistics (see Suggested Bibliography) (70 grades).

B) Students who have successfully passed the written exam are invited to an oral examination, which assesses their potential in developing and conversing on topics from the wider field of theoretical or applied linguistics, using an appropriate scientific discourse (30 grades).

Both exams will be held in English.

#### Suggested bibliography

- Aitchison, J. (2001). *Language Change: Progress or Decay?* (3<sup>rd</sup> edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Baker, M. (1992/2011). In Other Words. London: Routledge.
- Blaxter, L., Hughes, C. & Tight, M. (2010). *How to Research* (4<sup>th</sup> edition). Philadelphia: Open University Press.
- Brown, P. & Levinson, S. C. (1987). *Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press. Originally published as Universals in language usage: Politeness phenomena. In E. Goody (Ed.) (1978), *Questions and Politeness: Strategies in Social Interaction* (pp. 56-289). New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Culpeper, J. (2011). *Impoliteness: Using Language to Cause Offence*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ishihara, N. & Cohen, A. (2010). *Teaching and Learning Pragmatics: Where Language and Culture Meet*. London: Longman.
- Kalantzis, M. & Cope, B. (2012). Literacies. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Mey, J. L. (2001). *Pragmatics: An Introduction* (2<sup>nd</sup> edition). Oxford: Blackwell Publishers.
- Richards, J. C. (2001). *Curriculum Development in Language Teaching*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Saeed, J. I. (2015). Semantics (4th edition). West Sussex, UK: Wiley-Blackwell.
- Yule, G. (2017). The Study of Language. (6th edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

#### **5.2. SAMPLE ENTRANCE EXAMS 2019-20**

Reading comprehension of a research article and academic discourse production.

#### **WRITTEN EXAM**

#### Answer BOTH Question 1 (Part A and Part B) and Question 2.

#### **QUESTION 1**

#### **PART A: Reading comprehension**

Read the article provided\* and, from the multiple choice items below, choose the most appropriate option:

- \*(the journal article is available at: https://www.degruyter.com/document/doi/10.1515/lingvan-2015-1005/html)
- 1. There is consensus in previous studies that grammaticalization research
- (a) has shown that there are regularities of language change;
- (b) has rejected the existence of a direction of language change;
- (c) has revealed the role of reanalysis in language change;
- (d) cannot offer insights into linguistic structures.

- 2. According to most theorists of grammaticalization, semantic change as observed in grammaticalization
- (a) is irrelevant to pragmatic mechanisms;
- (b) is directly related to mechanisms such as implicature;
- (c) is related to metaphor only;
- (d) cannot be explained until now, because we do not have the required experiments.
- 3. The authors believe that language change research and experimental pragmatics
- (a) can teach us much about all levels of linguistic analysis;
- (b) have answered all complex explanatory questions about the main characteristics of languages;
- (c) can offer historical data of language change;
- (d) can gain much from being in contact.
- 4. The main challenge of the collaboration of historical linguistics and experimental pragmatics is
- (a) to test experimentally hypotheses about historical mechanisms that affect the pragmatic interpretation of several linguistic elements;
- (b) to test experimentally hypotheses about the pragmatic mechanisms that affect language change;
- (c) to falsify predictions about the processing of utterances;
- (d) to falsify hypotheses about the structure of conversation.
- 5. Experimental Pragmatics can
- (a) test theories on language change;
- (b) discover new pragmatic phenomena, on the basis of psychological experiments;
- (c) develop new pragmatic theories;
- (d) test theories on language acquisition.
- 6. According to studies on scalar implicatures, the utterance *Some dogs eat shoes* allows for the narrower interpretation
- (a) "Some but not all dogs eat shoes";
- (b) "Some and perhaps all dogs eat shoes";
- (c) "All dogs eat shoes";
- (d) "Dogs do not eat shoes".
- 7. Regarding metaphors, Experimental Pragmatics has shown that
- (a) metaphoric interpretations are easy to suppress;
- (b) the processing of metaphors is exceptional;
- (c) the processing of metaphors requires exceptional resources;
- (d) there are no differences between the processing of metaphors and the processing of literal interpretations.
- 8. According to Hopper and Traugott, it is difficult to define the notion of economy, because
- (a) we have not investigated the processing of metaphor yet;
- (b) we have not investigated the processing of metonymy yet;
- (c) we do not know much about the way speakers interpret and produce utterances;
- (d) we do not know much about what takes effort in interpreting utterances.

- 9. Pragmatic experiments will tell us
- (a) which theory of language change is the correct one;
- (b) how utterances are processed;
- (c) why languages do not change;
- (d) why listeners require extra effort when analyzing innovative constructions.
- 10. Historical linguistics and experimental pragmatics have proposed that
- (a) understanding utterances may involve various types of inferential mechanisms;
- (b) understanding utterances is not related to inferential mechanisms;
- (c) understanding the intended meaning may require listeners to arrive at a narrowed reading;
- (d) understanding the intended meaning may require listeners to arrive at a broadened reading.

#### **PART B: Writing**

- (i) Assume that you have authored the article provided. The editors of the volume in which it appears have asked you to write an abstract for it. Write a short abstract of 275 (minimum)-325(maximum) words.
- (ii) In no more than 250 words, briefly discuss what you think the main contribution of the article is to current linguistic knowledge and provide a brief *critical evaluation* of the article.

#### **QUESTION 2**

Read the following items carefully and choose the right answer.

- 1. Which *property of human language* enables us to take one word apart (for example, the word <at>)?
- (a) reflexivity
- (b) arbitrariness
- (c) cultural transmission
- (d) duality
- (e) informative signals
- (f) communicative signals
- 2. "but" in the utterance "It is midnight but the pubs are open." conveys a(n)
- (a) presupposition
- (b) conversational implicature
- (c) conventional implicature
- (d) image
- (e) humouristic effect
- (f) inference
- 3. Choose the two words that contain a bound stem.
- (a) fearless
- (b) receive
- (c) kindness
- (d) durable
- (e) towns
- (f) unprecedented

4. What is the basic syntactic structure of *The young linguist loved all complicated explanations*.?

| (a) S VP (b) VP N (c) NP VP (d) V NP (e) Art N (f) Art N V  |      |
|---|------|
| <ul> <li>5. Choose the two phrases that could NOT be generated by NP → Art (Adj) N?</li> <li>(a) medieval ports</li> <li>(b) a recent development</li> <li>(c) a theory</li> <li>(d) the old ideas</li> <li>(e) a small cinema</li> <li>(f) a loft apartment with view</li> </ul>   |      |
| 6. What is the thematic role of you in "Did you hear those dogs barking most of the night (a) agent (b) goal (c) source (d) experiencer (e) theme (f) location  | t?"? |
| 7. How many <i>anaphoric expressions</i> are there in the following extract?  The XPL190 offers fine equipment. It comes with a DVD-ROM drive and a 6 GB hard disk laptop has a weight of only 1.5 kg. Its 14"-display shows very bright colors with clear conbatteries last two hours.  (a) 2  (b) 3  (c) 4  (d) 5  (e) 6  (f) 7   |      |
| <ul> <li>8. Choose the two statements that contain hedges.</li> <li>(a) Well how about going for a coffee now?</li> <li>(b) A victory is a victory.</li> <li>(c) Helen decided to get something to eat.</li> <li>(d) The back part was sort of pink with blue spots.</li> <li>(e) The fact that she's young isn't relevant at all.</li> <li>(f) I'm not sure, but you can check that later in the newspaper.</li> </ul> |      |

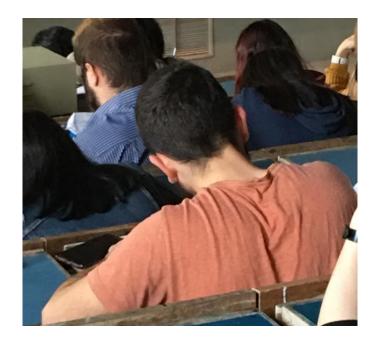
- 9. What are isoglosses based on?
- (a) standard languages
- (b) dialect boundaries
- (c) minority speakers
- (d) bidialectal speakers
- (e) bilingual speakers
- (f) social classes
- 10. Which term describes an individual's personal use of language?
- (a) sociolect
- (b) style-shifting
- (c) idiolect
- (d) covert prestige
- (e) jargon
- (f) slang

#### **ORAL EXAMS**

In oral exams, candidates are assessed through their response to questions related to the relevant specialization. They may also be asked to discuss their answers to the questions of the written exam.

#### 6. Attendance

Attendance to courses is **mandatory**. MA students are allowed a maximum of two justified absences per semester module for medical reasons (public hospital attestations to be submitted) or for serious personal reasons, through a written personal declaration. In case of a student exceeding the two absences due to extreme circumstances, they may submit a petition with all necessary documents to the MA Director who will raise the issue in a General Assembly meeting. Should the petition be rejected, the student attendance will be discontinued.



| 2021-2023 MA PROGRAMME LINGUISTICS: THEORY AND APPLICATIONS |  |  |      |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|------|--|--|--|--|--|
|   | Course   | Instructor                                   | ECTS |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Semester                                 |  |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1   | Research methodology                                     | A. Tzanne<br>M. Georgiafentis                | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2   | Translation and intercultural communication              | A. Korda                                     | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3   | Electronic corpora and linguistic analysis               | T. Liontou                                   | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semester                                 | •  |      |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4   | Historical linguistics and diachronic corpora            | N. Lavidas                                   | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5   | Pragmatic competence in<br>English as a foreign language | M. Sifianou                                  | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6   | Issues in linguistics                                    | E. Ifantidou<br>L. de Saussure<br>T. Wharton | 10   |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> Semester                                    |  |  |      |  |  |  |  |  |
|   | Dissertation writing up                                  |  | 30   |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |      |  |  |  |  |  |

#### 7. Student assessment

Student assessment in MA modules is determined by the instructor and is referred to in the course description. As a general rule, the overall mark of a module is based on the aggregation of independent graded sources (for example, research papers submitted during the semester, written or oral exams, oral presentations and other research or educational activities). The grade for each module, and the dissertation, is based on a 6-10 scale (6 being the minimum passing grade and 10 being the highest) and is to be submitted to the Secretariat of the Department. The overall student performance is determined by the average grade of the Dissertation which is added to the average grade of the individual modules.

#### 8. MA programme assessment

The Programme assessment is constant for the emerging conclusions to be used towards improving the Programme. Intermediate assessments are conducted every semester in instructor meetings per MA specialization, as well as through an overall discussion in a Language and Linguistics Division meeting. A final assessment is conducted after the end of the programme. Assessment pertains to:

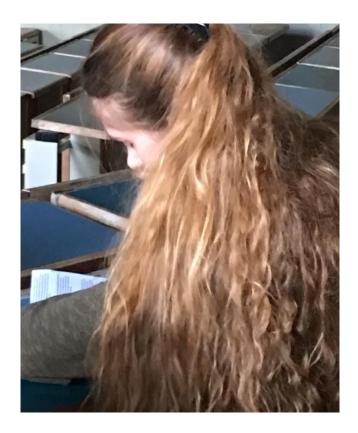
- MA instructors who (a) assess their students through a special questionnaire which is submitted to the Secretariat and (b) gather once per semester to deliberate on the students' comments and proposals.
- Students who fill out questionnaires to assess (a) each module at the end of semester and (b) the programme as a whole after its completion. Course assessments are submitted to the Secretariat and/or online.
- The members of the Department Assembly, based on the report conducted by the Steering committee at the end of the programme through the assessments of the students regarding the programme.

#### 9. Exam period

Fall semester exams, for courses which are assessed by a written examination, are held in January or February and spring semester exams are held in June. There is **no re-sit exam** period in September. Should a student fail an exam, their stay at the MA programme will depend on what their overall performance has been up to that point.

#### **Research presentation**

Students who write interesting, original and well-structured dissertations are asked to defend their work in a Colloquium organized by the Department related to the specialization, for promoting the scientific work of MA students, which is a priority in the Department of English Language and Literature.



### **DESCRIPTION OF COURSES**

SPECIALIZATION "LINGUISTICS: THEORY AND APPLICATIONS" (2021-2023)

#### Research methodology

This course is concerned with the process of research from the inception of a research project to the completion of the oral and written presentation of the results to an academic audience. The course aims at familiarizing students with the process of research by inviting them to conduct individual research papers.

The course consists of three parts. The first part presents the main features of the research process and delves into the genres of Article Review and Research Proposal. The second part of the course focuses on research methods and discusses quantitative and qualitative methods in linguistics research (for example, questionnaires, interviews, experiments, ethnography, case studies). The third part of the course is concerned with the writing up of a research project and aims to familiarize students with issues related to the structure and organisation of the written and oral presentation of their research. In particular, students are introduced to the techniques of writing up all parts of a research paper concerning both content (Introduction, Literature Review, Methodology, Presentation of Results and Discussion, Conclusion) and final presentation format (Cover Page, Table of Contents, Acknowledgements, Appendices, References) of

the paper. In addition, students are familiarized with the techniques of presenting their research project in both informal seminars and academic conferences.

Students are evaluated on the basis of (a) their research papers, in which they present their research project in written form, (b) the presentation of their projects to the instructors of the course and their fellow students, and (c) a poster which they design for the presentation of their work in an academic conference.

Instructors: Dr. Angeliki Tzanne & Dr. Michalis Georgiafentis

#### Translation and intercultural communication

The course intends to examine issues pertinent to cultural variation relating to pragmatics and translation. With language being the main tool in the hands of translators, students will be exposed to a variety of linguistic approaches in the field of Translation Studies to contest the close relationship with intercultural communication. Gradually, it will be shown that translation practice draws on intercultural communication and it provides independent evidence of it. A vast array of factors are going to be the focus of our attention, e.g. the text-type to be translated, the type of audience to read the ST and the TT [their age, cultural background, gender, nationality, etc.], the perception of the audience's own identity, the cultural Other, the communicative purpose of translation, etc. Theories of culture are far from homogenous and their definitions reflect the richness of research that has been conducted so far.

The course aspires to be as interactive as possible with students' contributions seen as the main route of exploration. Assessment is based on written projects and oral presentations.

Instructor: Dr. Diamantoula Korda

#### **Electronic corpora and linguistic analysis**

The advent of computers has brought about significant changes to the study of language. In fact, the concept of language and the way we study it have changed dramatically since electronic corpora have become widely available to the research community, while the ability to store language data on computer systems and gain access to them through various software interfaces has paved the way for the emergence of modern corpus linguistics. The course is designed to provide students with the basic knowledge of corpus linguistics that will enable them to analyze and interpret language data in written or orthographically transcribed form for their own research purposes while raising their awareness of how corpus evidence can be used in order to develop a better understanding of the different forms and functions of the English language. To this end, students are first introduced to the theoretical principles underlying corpus linguistics and the existing methods of exploring language use in authentic context. Following that, students are presented with a range of available corpus resources such as different types of online corpora and tools available for analyzing corpusbased data. Through problem-based tasks, students are given the opportunity to explore online resources and evaluate their usefulness for linguistic analysis alongside using corpus data in more applied contexts in order to identify suitable materials for language teaching purposes, investigate sociolinguistic phenomena, or even try to verify existing linguistic theories as well as to develop their

own hypotheses about the many different aspects of language use that can be investigated through corpora.

The course consists of a series of lectures delivered in a lively workshop format, supplemented by practical work on analyzing and critically evaluating available corpus-based linguistic data for teaching or research purposes. By developing an understanding of the nature of electronic corpora, students are expected, upon completion of the course, to be able to conduct their own small-scale studies of linguistic analysis. Students are evaluated based on a final research project and a 15-minute presentation of the project but also on their overall active participation in class discussions and their involvement in various activities during the semester. The course reading material consists of selected book chapters, journal papers, multimedia resources and worksheets. Lecture notes and assigned bibliography are made available through the e-class of the course. The course is evaluated by means of anonymously submitted students' questionnaires.

Instructor: Dr. Trisevgeni Liontou

#### Historical linguistics and diachronic corpora

This course examines the construction and use of corpora as valuable tools in the study of linguistic diachrony. The aim of the course is to introduce students to the study of language change through the use of diachronic corpora.

In the first part of the course, we examine whether particular linguistic theories can succeed in analyzing language change. We emphasize the importance of data-driven research and discuss the advantages and disadvantages of both the model of Grammaticalization and the Principles and Parameters model.

The main part of the course explores how quantitative methods applied to diachronic corpora can be used to model the time course of language change. Historical linguistics is by definition strongly related to corpora: the texts of a historical period form a corpus of data, and we can base historical linguistic research only on texts. Diachronic corpora are textual resources that represent several periods of time. The rise of interest in diachronic corpus linguistics over the past few decades has resulted in an unprecedented number of corpora of various types that have facilitated the study of language change. For example, resources such as the HELSINKI, BROWN, and ARCHER corpora have revealed the details of several aspects of the diachronic development of English.

We will focus on diachronic treebanks, that is, on diachronic corpora with morpho-syntactic annotation and the examples of the PROIEL-family of treebanks and the PENN-PARSED corpora (other treebanks for historical linguists include *The Ancient Greek and Latin Dependency Treebank, The Index Thomisticus Treebank, The Corpus of Historical Low German, The Icelandic Parsed Historical Corpus*, and *The Parsed Old and Middle Irish Corpus*). An annotated diachronic corpus is the result of several decisions that should be informed by linguistic theory. These decisions concern the annotation scheme, tools for annotation, ease of use, and preservation of the electronic corpus. The course provides an opportunity to gain practical experience in using electronic corpora and analyzing diachronic data.

Assessment: A final research paper and weekly assignments and quizzes of various types.

Instructor: Dr. Nikolaos Lavidas

Pragmatic competence in English as a foreign language

Pragmatic competence is a key component of communicative competence and has been broadly defined as speakers' ability to employ different linguistic means appropriately when interacting in a particular socio-cultural context. The development of pragmatic competence is particularly

important in the context of foreign language learning.

The course focuses on the pragmatic competence of students of English as a foreign language in terms of both the acquisition and the use of pragmatic elements. In other words, it focuses on the ways in which students of English as a foreign language acquire and use appropriately pragmatic elements, such as speech acts (e.g., requests and compliments). In addition, issues of

im/politeness will be considered as they form an integral part of pragmatic competence.

More specifically, we will be concerned with the following:

1. The concept and components of pragmatic competence.

2. Pragmatic regularities of English and their comparison with those of Greek.

3. Differences between native speakers of English and students of English as a foreign language regarding the use of pragmatic elements.

4. Pragmatic awareness and acquisition of pragmatic elements.

5. Approaches to the teaching of Pragmatics in the foreign language.

6. Approaches to the understanding and teaching of Politeness in the foreign language.

The aim of the course is to provide students with a) a theoretical background on the importance and the role of pragmatic competence in language learning and teaching and b) methodological guidelines for teaching the pragmatics of English and designing appropriate and effective

teaching materials.

During the semester, students will be actively involved in the analysis of language data and

presentations of relevant theoretical research.

Students will be assessed on the basis of oral presentations and a final project but also on their overall participation in class discussions and their involvement in the various activities during the

semester.

Instructor: Dr. Maria Sifianou

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#### **Issues in linguistics**

The course examines specific issues and methodologies of linguistic analysis relating to linguistic theory and its applications. Emphasis lies on how theoretical models apply with the aim of the systematic analysis of linguistic data. In addition, the possibility of provisioning for applied fields, such as teaching or lexicographic practices, may be explored.

In particular, the course aims to familiarize students with problems and methods of analysis in current pragmatic theory as they relate to issues of language development and use. In particular, it aims to address comprehension and inferential processes activated by use of creative metaphor, expressives, presuppositions, and raises the question of whether the interpretation of so-called 'weak' communicative effects should be analyzed in terms of truthevaluable, propositional content or some form of non-propositional effects.

Initial emphasis is placed on theoretical frameworks which describe and explain how metaphors are understood in L2, and what means of testing can be used to assess metaphors for research and instructional purposes. From here the course moves on to consider theoretical and experimental work on, firstly, the interpretation of expressives (including affective prosody) in L1 and, secondly, presuppositions, cognitive biases in language use and shallow processing. The course concludes where it began, with more of the theoretical and empirical dimensions to the study of metaphors in context.

The course is offered in the form of seminars, during which students are involved in the analysis of linguistic data, the critical assessment and discussion of theoretical and empirical issues that are introduced in class and design of testing tools for research or instructional purposes. To this end, weekly readings and essay topics are recommended at the beginning of the course. Students are evaluated via an essay on the analysis and applications of pragmatic phenomena introduced during the course and a 15 minute-presentation of their analysis.

The course is evaluated by means of anonymously submitted questionnaires.

Instructors: Dr. Elly Ifantidou, Dr. Louis de Saussure & Dr. Tim Wharton



University Campus, Zografou

MA IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS AND TRANSLATION

**Specialization:** 

**LINGUISTICS: THEORY AND APPLICATIONS** 

**STUDY GUIDE**