

MASTER OF ARTS IN ENGLISH: CONCENTRATION IN LINGUISTICS

Admission to Program

In addition to the materials sent to the graduate admissions office, the applicant must submit the following items to the English Department in order to be considered for admission:

- a one-to-two page typed statement of purpose detailing why the applicant is interested in the linguistics concentration;
- one set of official transcripts from all colleges attended;
- one or two letters of recommendation;
- one writing sample.

Prerequisites: In order to be fully classified, students must have already taken the equivalents, or take at SF State the following:

- *Linguistics:* ENG 421, ENG 422, ENG 424, and ENG 425 (12 units).
- 10 units of a modern European language.
- One semester of a non-Indo-European language.

All linguistics courses must be taken for a letter grade, and students must have a 3.0 cumulative GPA in these courses with no grade lower than a B- to continue in the program.

Students whose native language is not English and whose B.A. was completed outside the United States must present evidence of a computer-based TOEFL score of at least 240 (Internet-based TOEFL: 95, paper-based TOEFL, 590) with a writing subscore of at least 4.5. (Internet-based writing score of at least 24). Applicants who do not meet this minimum TOEFL requirement will not be admitted; there is no conditional admission. A TOEFL score of 240 is considered to be very minimal; applicants who demonstrate stronger English proficiency with a higher TOEFL score (and higher writing subscore) will have a better chance of being recommended for admission to the program for the Master of Arts in English with Concentration in Linguistics.

In addition, non-native speakers of English must take the CMS Placement Test (CMSPT) for assessment of their English writing proficiency upon entry to the university. They may be required to take ENG 670 and/or other writing course(s).

Written English Proficiency Requirement

Level One

Students will be evaluated for Level One proficiency in writing based on the 500–700 word personal statement as well as the writing sample that are submitted as part of their application to the M.A. program. Students whose writing ability is not satisfactory will be required to take a graduate-level composition course such as ENG 670. This course may not be used to fulfill other requirements for the degree

Level Two

Satisfactory performance in ENG 895 or ENG 898.

English MA: Concentration in Linguistics – 30 Units

Core Requirements (15 Units)

Code	Title	Units
ENG 702	Introduction to Graduate Study of Composition, Linguistics, and TESOL	3
ENG 707	Topics in Language Analysis	3
ENG 728	Topics in Sociolinguistics ¹	3
ENG 733	Seminar in Student Teaching	3
Culminating Experience		3
Select one:		
ENG 895	Field Study or Applied Research Project & ENG 896EXM and Culminating Experience Examination	
ENG 898	Master's Thesis	

Concentration Requirements (15 Units)

Code	Title	Units
ENG 719	Seminar: Contemporary Semantic Theory	3
ENG 821	Syntax	3
ENG 824	Phonology and Morphology	3

Electives (6 units)

Code	Title	Units
ENG 433	Introduction to Phonetics	3
ENG 620	Introduction to Computational Linguistics	3
ENG 680	Applied Computational Linguistics	3
ENG 725	Seminar in Discourse Analysis	3
ENG 727	Linguistic Field Methods	3
ENG 737	Introduction to Corpus Linguistics	3

Culminating Experience Requirement

A field study or research project, or a Master's Thesis, must be successfully completed by all candidates for the degree. The field study or research project, which investigates and/or applies knowledge acquired in the student's program of study, must have the recommendation and approval of two faculty field study or research project advisors. All SF State specifications for completion of a field study or research project must be met. Students may take [ENG 895](#) once. Students who fail [ENG 895](#) will receive an Incomplete (I) grade; they may resubmit their project once for a passing grade. If their project fails a second time, they will be recommended for declassification. As part of the Culminating Experience requirement, students are required to present their projects at the end-of-semester graduate student conference.

During the second-to-last semester in the program, students are required to complete a form called the Advancement to Candidacy (ATC), which lists those courses they are using to fulfill the requirements for the Master of Arts in English with a Concentration in TESOL. Students must earn an overall GPA of 3.0 and a B- or better in all courses listed in that document.