

# Syntax Course of Study

## *Syntax MA Guidelines*

### Year 1:

**Autumn:** LING 507: Syntactic Theory I 4 cr  
LING 550: Phonetics 5 cr

**Winter:** LING 508 Syntactic Theory II 4 cr  
LING 551: Phonology 5 cr

**Spring:** LING 509: Syntactic Theory III 4 cr  
LING 580: Syntax seminar 4 cr  
OR LING 581: Morphology 5 cr

### Year 2:

**Autumn:** LING 580: Syntax seminar 4 cr  
LING 542: Semantics I 5 cr

**Winter:** LING 580: Syntax seminar 4 cr  
LING 700: Thesis 5 cr  
OR LING 479: Semantics II 5 cr

**Spring:** LING 700: Thesis 4 cr  
LING 532: Sociolinguistics 5 cr

### Some things to keep in mind:

- Syntax students should take the LING 507-509 sequence in their first year.
- We recommend taking a syntax seminar (LING 580) every quarter as soon as you are prepared. Seminars are the best way to get topics for MA theses or general papers, and to get the necessary breath to become a successful practicing syntactician.
- This sample roadmap does not include a language class. You need to take an exam demonstrating ability to read linguistic literature in another language before you begin writing your thesis.
- Independent study credits (1<sup>st</sup> year) or thesis credits (2<sup>nd</sup> year) may be added if you need 10 cr/qtr for TAsip.
- Some of the courses are also offered in the summer (often 432, 442, 449, 450, 451, 481).
- Grad School requires 36 cr total, of which 9 must be thesis credits

## *Syntax PhD Guidelines*

- You have one quarter after completing your MA to apply to the PhD program.
- Upon admission to the program, meet with your advisor to discuss the forming of the supervisory committee.
- **In your first quarter after admission to the PhD program, you are expected to form a supervisory committee and meet with your supervisory committee to establish a plan and a timeline for meeting the program requirements, identify the minor area and determine areas for general papers.**

Here is a sample program to show how you might schedule the required courses (one phonology, one semantics, additional seminars, minor specialization).

<b>Year 3:</b>			<b>MILESTONES/DEADLINES</b>
<b>Autumn:</b>	LING 580: Seminar	4 cr	<b>FORM A SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
	Elective, minor	5 cr	
<b>Winter:</b>	LING 580: Seminar	4 cr	
	LING 579: Semantics	5 cr	
<b>Spring:</b>	LING 580: Seminar	4 cr	
	OR Independ. Study, general	4 cr	
	OR LING 552: Phonology II	5 cr	
	OR LING 581: Morphology	5 cr	
<b>Year 4:</b>			
<b>Autumn:</b>	LING 580: Seminar	4 cr	
	Elective	5 cr	
<b>Winter:</b>	LING 580: Seminar	4 cr	
	Independ. Study, general	5 cr	
	OR LING 579: Semantics II	5 cr	
<b>Spring:</b>	LING 800: Dissertation	10 cr	<b>TAKE GENERALS EXAMS</b>
<b>Year 5:</b>			
<b>Autumn</b>	LING 800: Dissertation		<b>PRESENT DISSERTATION PROPOSAL TO SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Winter</b>	LING 800: Dissertation		
<b>Spring</b>	LING 800: Dissertation		<b>DEFEND DISSERTATION</b>
<b>Summer</b>			<b>CELEBRATE AND RELAX</b>

- You must complete the coursework requirement of 30 additional credits before taking the General Exam.
- Grad School requires 90 cr total for the PhD, of which 27 must be dissertation credits; 18 cr min must be 500+
- Make sure that you satisfy the breadth language requirement. The sample schedule above does not include a language class.
- You should concentrate upon taking syntax/semantics seminars and finding good topics for research, presenting at conferences/colloquia (two such presentations are required), and eventually publishing your work.
- You are expected to produce two quality papers for the general exam. We suggest you work on one general paper in Year 3, and the other one in Year 4. Since your area is syntax, satisfying the requirement that one of them must be in grammatical theory is not going to be a problem.
- You are expected to take *General Exam by the end of your 4<sup>th</sup> year in the program (12 quarters after starting the MA program)*. You must complete all the requirements (coursework, language requirement) except the dissertation before the General Exam can be scheduled.
- Within 6 months of the General Exam, you are expected to present a formal dissertation proposal to your committee along with a proposed calendar for the completion of the dissertation.