Curriculum for the master's programme *English Language and Linguistics* (version 2015)

at the Faculty of Philological and Cultural Studies of the University of Vienna. Published in the Vienna University Gazette on 25.06.2015 and on 29.01.2016 (minor amendment).

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§ 1 Programme objectives and qualification profile

(1) The aim of the master's programme ***English Language and Linguistics*** at the University of Vienna is to convey consolidated knowledge of and research competences in English linguistics, especially in one of the alternative specialisations *Historical Linguistics*, *Functional and Cognitive Linguistics* or *Applied Linguistics*. Thus the programme aims at teaching the skills necessary to develop and realise the objectives, concept and methodology of a research project, as well as to present these adequately in English. As the language of instruction in the master's programme is English, the students learn how to treat complex issues in English.

(2) The graduates of the master's programme ***English Language and Linguistics*** at the University of Vienna are able to develop and address research questions independently beyond the bachelor's level. They gain detailed insights into the complex relativity of the English language and its features, and are qualified in three main areas: Linguistics, research competence and command of language. In detail this means:

- Insight into the biological, cognitive, social, cultural and historical relativity of language, using English as the example, as well as the relevance thereof in different professional fields. Excellent knowledge of the current status of research and the core questions and methodologies of English linguistics. Knowledge of phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical structures and pragmatic aspects of English, as well as of the theoretical foundations of its description.

- Well-founded knowledge of and skills in the formulation of research questions, methodologically appropriate treatment and adequate academic representation thereof. Well-founded preparation for more advanced academic work in the field of (English) linguistics.

- Excellent oral and written command of the English language at level C2 of the Common European Framework of Reference in academic and other text types (productive and receptive), as well as the ability to reflect on these using appropriate linguistic methodologies.

(3) All courses of the master's programme ***English Language and Linguistics*** are taught in English.

§ 2 Duration and scope

(1) The workload for the master's programme ***English Language and Linguistics*** is 120 ECTS credits. This corresponds to an intended programme duration of four semesters.

(2) The programme is complete when 84 ECTS credits have been earned in accordance with the provisions on the compulsory modules, 30 ECTS credits in accordance with the provisions on the master's thesis and 6 ECTS in accordance with the provisions on the master's defence.

§ 3 Admission requirements

(1) Admission to the master's programme **English Language and Linguistics** is subject to a bachelor's degree in a corresponding discipline, including degree programmes at a university of applied sciences, or another equivalent academic degree from a recognised national or foreign post-secondary educational institution.

(2) The bachelor's programme *English and American Studies* at the University of Vienna invariably fulfils the above requirements.

(3) For the master's programme **English Language and Linguistics** at the University of Vienna, language skills at C1 level of the European Framework of Reference* are required. Graduates of the bachelor's programme *English and American Studies* at the University of Vienna are invariably entitled to admission to the master's programme **English Language and Linguistics** at the University of Vienna without further requirements.

(4) If another degree is essentially equivalent, but individual supplements are required for full equivalence, additional courses and examinations corresponding to a maximum of 30 ECTS credits may be prescribed to achieve such full equivalence; these must then be completed during the master's programme.

§ 4 Academic degree

Graduates of the master's programme **English Language and Linguistics** are awarded the academic degree *"Master of Arts"* – abbreviated as MA. When used, this title should follow the graduate's name.

§ 5 Structure – Modules and allocated ECTS credits

(1) Overview

M-01 Compulsory module *Foundations*	15 ECTS
M-02 Compulsory module *Language*	10 ECTS
M-03 Compulsory module *Electives*	10 ECTS
M-04 Compulsory module *Specialisation*	30 ECTS
M-05 Compulsory module *Extension*	10 ECTS
M-06 Compulsory module *Research Support*	9 ECTS
Final phase:	

*For a list of acceptable examinations and minimum scores, please refer to the information for MA applicants at the department website: https://anglistik.univie.ac.at/studium/studienangebot/ma-english-language-and-linguistics/information-for-ma-applicants/.

Master's thesis	30 ECTS
Master's defence	6 ECTS
Total	**120 ECTS**

(2) Module descriptions

Compulsory module *Foundations*

M 01	Foundations (compulsory module)	**15 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Module outcomes	The students have the skills to reflect on relevant aspects of English linguistics, linguistic diversity as well as on different approaches and models within English linguistics in a theoretically well-founded manner. They have sound knowledge of the fields of phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. They are familiar with the core terms of linguistics and are able to apply their competences at the level of linguistic analysis. The students understand the diversity of linguistic methodologies and have gained experience in the application of selected methods adequate to the issues at hand.	
Module structure	VO Communication, Code and Culture, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (npi) AR Structural Analysis, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) AR Research Methods in Linguistics, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi)	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) and non-continuous assessment (npi) in this module (15 ECTS in total)	

Compulsory module *Language*

M 02	Language (compulsory module)	**10 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Module outcomes	Proceeding from C1/C2 level, the students have the skills to analyse and produce academic texts and texts from other, non-academic fields. They can identify the genre-specific features of academic and other professionally-relevant English texts and apply the insights gained in the production of their own texts.	
Module structure	UE English in a Professional Context, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) UE English for Academic Purposes, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi)	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (10 ECTS in total)	

Compulsory module *Electives*

M 03	Electives (compulsory module)	**10 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	none	
Module outcomes	On completion of the courses selected according to their main interests, the students have extended knowledge and competences in the fields of English studies and/or linguistics. This module with flexible content thus allows students to develop an individualised knowledge and skills profile.	
Module structure	Subject to current course offerings, students choose courses with continuous assessment (pi) and/or non-continous assessment (npi) comprising 10 ECTS credits in total. Eligible are: 1. Courses from the MA/master's programme Anglophone Literatures and Cultures (A 066 844), e.g. M1.2, M1.3 2. Linguistics courses (at MA level) from other departments/ universities The currently eligible courses from 1. are listed in the course directory. If other courses, as detailed in 2., are chosen, they have to be approved by the directorate of studies in advance.	
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) and non-continuous assessment (npi) in this module (10 ECTS in total)	

Compulsory module *Specialisation*

M 04	Specialisation (compulsory module)	**30 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	M-01	
Module outcomes	On completion of this module, the students have acquired a solid grounding in current issues, theoretical approaches and methodologies of English linguistics. The aim is for students to focus on one of the three thematic specialisations offered: Historical Linguistics, Functional and Cognitive Linguistics, Applied Linguistics. Specialisation: *Historical Linguistics* The students have a solid grounding in current issues, theoretical approaches and methodologies of historical and variationist English linguistics and have developed an understanding of language as a functional, socio-historically variable and dynamic evolutionary system. They are familiar with the cognitive, physiological and psycho-social principles underlying linguistic variability and know how to deal with texts of different regional, social and historical varieties of English appropriately.	

	Specialisation: *Functional and Cognitive Linguistics*
	The students have a solid grounding in current issues, theoretical approaches and methodologies of Functional and Cognitive Linguistics. They are able to understand language as an expression of communicative intentions and to explain linguistic expressions in their functional and cognitive relativity. They understand language as a dynamic, variable and functional-cognitive system and know how to apply the underlying concepts and (empirical) methodologies in the description and explanation of features of the English language.
	Specialisation: *Applied Linguistics*
	The students have a solid grounding in current issues, theoretical approaches and methodologies of English Applied Linguistics. They have detailed insights into the complex manifestations of English world-wide as well as into its socio-cultural status in plurilingual individuals and multilingual societies. They are able to mediate between linguistic theories and the perception of language-related problem complexes in society and to develop a scientifically sound, solution-oriented approach through explanatory models appropriate to the situation.
	Independent of the specialisation chosen, students know how to handle theoretical plurality in linguistics and how to relate specific methodologies and explanatory models to different theoretical approaches. They can assess which methodologies are appropriate to which questions and are familiar with up-to-date methods in linguistics, especially computer-supported methods. They are able to develop arguments that are consistent with theory independently, to undertake academic projects under supervision and to present their results orally and in writing, on- and offline, in a manner appropriate to the genre.
Module structure	SE Seminar, 10 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) FS Research Seminar 1, 10 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) Subject to current course offerings: FS Research Seminar 2, 10 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) or AR1 Advanced Course 1, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) and AR2 Advanced Course 2, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi)
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (30 ECTS in total)

Compulsory module *Extension*

M 05	Extension (compulsory module)	**10 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	M-01	

Module outcomes	On completion of the courses selected according to their main interests, students have consolidated knowledge and (research) competences in the fields of English studies and/or linguistics, which supplement and expand on the specialisation chosen in the compulsory module M-04. This module with flexible content thus allows students to develop an individualised knowledge and skills profile.
Module structure	Subject to current course offerings, students choose courses with continuous assessment (pi) and/or non-continous assessment (npi) comprising 10 ECTS credits in total. Eligible are: 1. Linguistic courses from the compulsory module M-04 courses; strongly recommended are courses from the specialisations not chosen in compulsory module M-04 2. Linguistic courses (at MA level) from other departments/ universities The currently eligible courses from 1. are listed in the course directory. If other courses, as detailed in 2., are chosen, they have to be approved by the directorate of studies in advance.
Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) and non-continuous assessment (npi) in this module (10 ECTS in total)

Compulsory module *Research Support*

M 06	Research Support (compulsory module)	**9 ECTS credits**
Prerequisites for participation	M-01, M-02	
Module outcomes	The students are aware of the positioning of linguistics on the intersections between natural and social sciences and the humanities and can assess which theories and methodologies are appropriate to specific issues. Furthermore, the students are able to identify the approaches relevant to their research area within the broader academic context. They also know how to develop cogent arguments that are consistent with theory and to present these in a manner appropriate to the genre. The students are able to treat a specific linguistic question in a theoretically coherent and methodologically well-founded manner.	
Module structure	AR Philosophy of Language Science, 5 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) Subject to current course offerings: SE Thesis Seminar, 4 ECTS, 2 SSt (pi) or SE Thesis Seminar, 2 ECTS, 1 SSt (pi) and SE Thesis Seminar, 2 ECTS, 1 SSt (pi)	

Assessment and award of credits	Successful completion of all courses with continuous assessment (pi) in this module (9 ECTS in total)

§ 6 Master's thesis

(1) The master's thesis serves as proof of the ability to deal with academic topics independently and with content-related and methodological competence. The task for the master's thesis should be selected so that it is feasible for the student to complete it within six months.

(2) The topic of the master's thesis must be chosen from the field of one of the compulsory modules. Should another subject be chosen, or if there is a lack of clarity regarding the categorisation of the chosen topic, the competent academic authority (i.e. directorate of studies) shall decide as to the admissability thereof.

(3) The master's thesis comprises 30 ECTS credits and is written in English.

§ 7 Master's defence

(1) The prerequisite for the admission to the master's defence is a pass in all prescribed modules and examinations as well as a positive mark on the master's thesis.

(2) The master's defence is a defence of the master's thesis including an examination on the scientific field of the thesis as well as an examination on an additional field which has to be chosen from the compulsory module *Specialisation* or the compulsory module *Extension*. The assessment is made in accordance with the provisions of the statutes.

(3) The master's defence comprises 6 ECTS credits (3 ECTS credits per field) and is held in English.

§ 8 Classification of courses

(1) The following courses without continuous assessment (npi) are offered as part of the programme:

VO – *Vorlesung* (Lecture)
Lectures serve the presentation of topics, subjects and methodologies in the master's programme, in critical consideration of different schools of thought. This challenging and content-bound communication of methodical thinking in the foreign language requires students to take a step beyond mere acceptance and reproduction and is concluded with a written examination.

(2) The following courses with continuous assessment (pi) are offered:

AR – *Arbeitsgemeinschaft* (Study group)
Study groups are research-oriented courses which are dedicated to specific academic problems within the discipline; the focus lies on reflecting on the interactive process of

methodology and theory. Credits are awarded for project work, which comprises both oral and written components as well as active participation in course discussions.

FS – *Forschungsseminar* (Research seminar)
Research seminars are research-oriented courses with a high independent workload on the part of the student. They are devoted to special scientific issues in the field and serve the development of theoretical, methodical and technical academic competences at an advanced stage of the programme. Credits are awarded for (collaborative) project work, which apart from active participation in course discussions also comprises intense periods of independent academic work (oral, written, on- and offline).

SE – *Seminar*
Seminars serve the development of theoretical, methodological and technical academic competences as well as the reflection and discussion of specific academic issues at an advanced stage of the programme. The focus is on independent academic work and appropriate presentation of the results (written and oral).

UE – *Übung* (Practical course)
Practical courses serve the acquisition, practice and perfection of knowledge, skills and abilities, especially in the field of language use. Depending on the focus of the course, credits are awarded for oral presentations, written tasks, tests and active participation in course discussions.

§ 9 Restrictions on participant numbers and registration procedure

(1) The general restrictions on participant numbers listed here apply to the following courses:

AR Study group: 25
FS Research seminar: 25
SE Seminar: 20
UE Practical course: 25

(2) The terms for course and examination registration as well as for the allocation of course places follow the provisions of the university's statutes.

§ 10 Examination rules

(1) Assessment and award of credits in courses
The course instructor must announce all pertinent details in accordance with the provisions of the university's statutes.

(2) Scope of examination
The subject matter and material relevant for the preparation of examinations must be in proportion to the scope of ECTS credits allocated. This also applies to module examinations.

(3)   Prohibition on double recognition and prohibition on double use

Credits for courses and examinations that have already been completed for the three-year bachelor's degree counted as a prerequisite for admission cannot be recognised again for the master's programme. Courses and examinations which have already been completed for a different compulsory or elective module cannot be used again in another module of the same programme. This also applies during recognition procedures.

(4)   Credits awarded for examinations have to be allocated to the appropriate module with the ECTS value announced in advance; distribution of such credits between several modules is not permitted.

§ 11 Entry into force

(1) This curriculum enters into force after its promulgation in the Vienna University Gazette on 1 October 2015.

(2) The changes to the curriculum as amended by the Vienna University Gazette, no. 60, part 12, enter into force on 1 October 2016.

§ 12 Transitional provisions

(1) This curriculum applies to all students who begin their degree programme from winter semester 2015/16 onwards.

(2) If, at a later stage of the programme, courses that were compulsory in the original degree programme or curriculum are no longer offered, the competent academic authority according to the organisational regulations of the University of Vienna (i.e. directorate of studies) shall decide which courses and examinations are to be completed in lieu of the original courses, acting ex officio (equivalence regulation) or upon application of the student.

(3) Students who have entered the master's programme English Language and Linguistics prior to that semester may at any time submit to the provisions of this curriculum of their own volition by simple notification.

(4) Students who at the time of entry into force of this curriculum were subject to the master's curriculum English Language and Linguistics (Vienna University Gazette on 16.06.2008, part 30, no. 198), in force prior to the adoption of this curriculum, are entitled to complete their programme until 30.11.2017 at the latest.

(5) The competent academic authority according to the organisational regulations is entitled to determine in general or in individual cases which of the completed courses and examinations are to be recognised for this curriclum.

On behalf of the senate:
The head of the Curriculum Committee
N e w e r k l a

Addendum

Recommended path through the programme:

Semester	Module	Course	ECTS	Total
1.	M-01 *Foundations*	VO Communication, Code and Culture	5	
		AR Structural Analysis	5	
		AR Research Methods in Linguistics	5	
	M-02 *Language*	UE English in a Professional Context Advanced	5	
	M-03 *Electives*	courses chosen according to module regulations	5	
				30
2.	M-02 *Language*	UE English for Academic Purposes	5	
	M-03 *Electives*	courses chosen according to module regulations, e.g. VO English Literature	5	
	M-04 *Specialisation*	SE Seminar	10	
		FS Research Seminar 1	10	
				30
3.	M-04 *Specialisation*	FS Research Seminar 2 OR AR1 Advanced Course 1 AND AR2 Advanced Course 2	10	
	M-05 *Extension*	courses chosen according to module regulations	10	
	M-06 *Research Support*	AR Philosophy of Language Science	5	
		Master's thesis	5	
				30
4.	M-06 *Research Support*	SE Thesis Seminar	4	
		Master's thesis	25	
		Master's defence	6	
				30
				120