Info session:

MA English Language and Linguistics
A 066 812 [1]

Finishing in the old or changing to the new curriculum?

11 May 2017
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Finish or change? - The basics

• New curriculum for MA English Language and Linguistics since 1 Oct 2015

• Old curriculum expires at the end of this semester ⇒ 30 Nov 2017

• There are fixed deadlines for finishing your courses and writing your thesis

• If you cannot complete the MA in time, you need to change to the new programme

• If you change curriculum, you need to get any courses you passed in the old curriculum recognised for the new one

• There is a prescribed pattern for how this recognition process works
Info session

• Part 1: Old vs. new curriculum
  • What’s new in the new curriculum?
  • Advantages & disadvantages

• Part 2: Finishing in the old curriculum
  • Can I graduate in the old programme?
  • Deadlines & To Dos for completing the MA

• Part 3: Changing to the new curriculum
  • How do I change to the new programme?
  • Recognition procedure: How and what?
Part 1: Old vs. new curriculum

- What does the new curriculum look like?
- What are the differences between the two programmes?
- What are the advantages and disadvantages of each one?
Old vs. new curriculum: Overview

**Old curriculum:** MA ELL 066 812 [1]
valid for everyone who enrolled before Oct 2015

**New curriculum:** MA ELL 066 812 [2]
valid for everyone who enrolled since Oct 2015
Old vs. new curriculum: Changes

- **New Electives module** (M03, 10 ECTS) introduced
- **Central module shortened** (M04 Specialisation, now 30 ECTS, 3-4 courses)
- **No longer necessary to choose** between historical/descriptive and applied linguistics
  - But recommended to specialise in one of 3 areas (*Historical, Functional & cognitive, Applied*)
- No longer required to take **lectures on literature or cultural studies**
  - But possible to choose them for **Electives module** (M03)
- **Extension** module introduced (M05, 10 ECTS)
  - Choice between additional courses from M04 or other MA level linguistics courses
Old vs. new curriculum: Changes

• **Thesis seminar** reduced to 4 ECTS (or 2x 2 ECTS)

• Different **module structure** ...
  • STAN and *Research Methods* now part of M01 (scheduled for 1st semester)
  • *Philosophy of Language Science* moved to later module (M06)

• ... ⇒ different **course prerequisites**
  • STAN and *Research Methods* required before you can start with *Specialisation*

• For **more information**, see
  • Module overview (new curriculum)
  • *New curriculum (English version)*, *New curriculum (German version)*
Advantages & disadvantages

- Changing curriculum entails **administrative work**

± **Course offer** stays largely the same
  - Every course from the old curriculum can be recognised for the new one

+ New curriculum offers **more flexibility**
  - No need to decide on Applied vs. Historical/Descriptive linguistics
  - Addition of Electives and Extension module

- Different course prerequisites ⇒ **STAN** and **Research methods** become more important
  - Cannot continue with more advanced courses as long as they are not complete
Part 2: Finishing in the old curriculum

- Do I still stand a chance of finishing my MA in time?
- Which steps do I need to take?
- Which deadlines do I need to watch out for?
Finishing in the old curriculum

• Programme **expires on 30 Nov 2017** (= end of summer term 2017)
  • Latest possible date for MA **defensio**
  • All courses need to be complete by then, MA thesis must be finished and graded

• **3 things** you need to take care of before then:
  • Completing all courses
  • Getting your transcript / record of examinations in order
  • Finishing your **MA thesis** & defensio

• If you cannot complete everything in time, you will need to **change to the new curriculum**
Finishing in the old curriculum: Deadlines

• **Thesis topic registered** by: 15 June 2017
• **Applications for course recognition handed in** by: 15 July 2017
  - In case you took courses elsewhere that you can use for your MA here
• **All courses completed and graded** by: 31 Aug. 2017
  - Last chance to take lecture exams this June (1st/4th sitting)
  - Hand in seminar papers early enough (lecturers have 4 weeks for grading!)
• **Go see Monica Dirnberger about your Prüfungspass** by: 15 Sept. 2017
  - You can do this as soon as you have received your final course grade(s)
  - The earlier, the better!
Finishing in the old curriculum: Deadlines

• Thesis completed and ready to be handed in by: 15 Sept. 2017
  - Depending on your supervisor, a later date may be possible, but this is not guaranteed!
  - Make sure to talk to your supervisor about when you need to hand in your thesis!

• Latest possible date for defensio: 30 Nov. 2017
  - Registration: at least 2 weeks before the defense
  - If you schedule the defensio too late and don’t pass, you might need to change after all!

⇒ If you cannot finish all your courses at the end of this term, you will need to change to the new curriculum.

⇒ Finishing in the old curriculum is only recommended if you are well into writing your thesis!
Finishing in the old curriculum: 5 steps

1. **Go see Monica Dirnberger about your record of examinations** *(Prüfungspass)*
   - You need to have **completed all your courses**.
   - They have to show up in your transcript for the correct module (check M04/M05!)
   - You will need to bring a **copy of your transcript**, your **admission letter** (if you received one) as well as any official notices of course recognition *(Anerkennungsbescheide)*
   - Please do this as soon as possible, but on **15 September** at the latest.
   - Check Ms Dirnberger’s office hours / holidays during the summer!

2. **Hand in your thesis at the SSC**
   - Make sure to read up on how to do this: [Instructions for handing in MA theses](https://ssc-philkultur.univie.ac.at/) (in German)
   - Check their opening hours at [https://ssc-philkultur.univie.ac.at/](https://ssc-philkultur.univie.ac.at/)
   - Hand in by **15 September** at the latest, or talk to your supervisor about later deadlines.
3. **Wait (= Assessment and approbation of your thesis)**
   - Your supervisor has up to 8 weeks to grade your thesis.

4. **Register for the MA defensio at the SSC**
   - Before you can register, your thesis has to have been assessed and you have to agree on a date with your supervisor and co-examiner.
   - Let Monica Dirnberger know about this date, so that she can organise a chair.
   - Fill and hand in this form: [Registration for MA defensio](#)

5. **Defend your thesis**
   - At least 2 weeks have to pass between registering for the MA defensio and the defense itself.
   - Talk to your supervisor and co-examiner about what you need to prepare (presentation, reading list, ...).
Watch out: Don’t hand your thesis in too early!

- If you have already written your thesis, but won’t be able to finish everything else within the deadlines (courses, defensio, ...), **do not hand your thesis in yet**!

- Once the thesis has been handed in and graded, it may be that you **cannot get it recognised** if you have to switch to the new curriculum after all.
  - In that case, you would have to find a new topic and write a new thesis.

- Instead: **Change to the new curriculum first!**
  - To be on the safe side, enroll for the new MA first, get your courses recognised, register your thesis topic again, and hand in your thesis then.
Part 3: Changing to the new curriculum

• How do I change to the new programme?
• When should I take these steps, and in what order?
• What can I get recognised and how do I go about it?
Changing to the new curriculum

- If you **cannot finish your studies by 30 Nov 2017**, you will **automatically be switched** to the new system.

- You can change to the new curriculum **any time** before then
  - **Form for changing to the new curriculum (in German)**
  - Hand in this form at the SSS
  - SSS will forward everything to the Admission Office.
  - It may **take up to two weeks** before you are formally enrolled for the new curriculum

- **Recommendation**: If you know you need to change, do so **during the summer**!
  - Do so as soon as you have received all your grades for this term (ideally July/early August)
  - That way, you won’t have any problems with course registrations in September
Changing to the new curriculum: Recognition

• **IMPORTANT**: Even if you wait and the change happens automatically, **your courses will not be transferred**!

• You will need to get all the courses you passed in the old programme **recognised for the new one**.
  • Hand in this form at the SSS: [Application for course recognition](#)
  • It may take **up to 8 weeks** before the grades show up in your transcript.
  • You can hand in the form together with the form for changing curriculum, but the SSS can only start working on it once the change has been completed.

• Again, get this done **as early as possible**!
  • Otherwise you may have problems during registration because of missing course prerequisites.
Changing to the new curriculum: Recognition

• **Good news:** Every course from the old programme can be recognised for the new one.

• If you **completed all the courses in the old curriculum**, you will get the **entire new curriculum** recognised.

• There are **clear instructions** for which courses/modules from the old curriculum correspond to which courses/modules in the new programme.
  • When applying for course recognition, you need to **follow this list**.
  • The list will be **available on the department website**.
  • If you still have questions after checking the list, you can **ask the SSS for help**.
Changing to the new curriculum: Recognition

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<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>M01.2 Cultural Studies (2 SSt, 5 ECTS)</td>
<td>M03 Electives (10 ECTS)</td>
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<td>M04/M05 Seminar Course 1 (2 SSt, 10 ECTS)</td>
<td>M04.1 Seminar (2 SSt, 10 ECTS)</td>
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<td>M05 MA Seminar / Research Forum and Thesis Proposal (2 SSt, 10 ECTS)</td>
<td>M06a.2 Thesis Seminar (2 SSt, 4 ECTS)</td>
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<td>M05 Extension (5 ECTS)</td>
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*depending on whether you choose to complete 2 SE + 3 AR or 1 SE + 5 AR courses
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*Please note: Each SE or AR from M04/M05 can only be recognised once!
Are there any questions?

Thank you for your attention!