

English language and linguistics

Essentials

Taught programme MA degree

Applied Linguistics

Research programmes

MPhil, PhD English

Related programmes

MA and Postgraduate Diploma in English Language Teaching (ELT) (p96)

Admissions requirements

For information on overseas qualifications that meet the admissions requirements, refer to pages 156-157

MA

Either a first- or upper second-class undergraduate honours degree in a Linguistics and/or English Language or a Modern Languages programme involving a significant linguistic component, or a first- or upper second-class undergraduate honours degree in any subject plus substantial work experience (two years full time or equivalent) in a language-related profession (eg language teacher, language support assistant, translator)

MPhil and PhD

A Masters degree in English language or linguistics or a related area

English language requirements

IELTS 7.0, with not less than 6.5 in each section. Internet TOEFL with 100 overall, with at least 21 in Listening, 22 in Reading and 27 in both Speaking and Writing. For more information and alternative English language requirements, refer to page 156

Fees

Refer to pages 158-159 for information on fees

Further information

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www.sussex.ac.uk/linguistics

Graduate studies in linguistic theory and language practice: from the language of literature to the discourse of graffiti



- The School of English at Sussex is an environment for excellence and offers outstanding opportunities for postgraduate study of English language and linguistics at MA or MPhil/PhD level.

- You will work with active, enthusiastic and dynamic researchers who are committed to high-quality teaching and your intellectual development.

- Research supervision is provided for a wide range of subject areas by supervisors committed to the development of knowledge, understanding and scholarly excellence.

- Postgraduate programmes in linguistics attract students of different nationalities, cultures and walks of life. You will find yourself in a lively and dynamic research community situated in an energetic and cosmopolitan location.

Taught programmes

MA in Applied Linguistics 1 year full time/2 years part time

This MA focuses on the implications and applications of linguistic ideas. It introduces key concepts in linguistic theory and the application of these theoretical perspectives to the understanding of the relationship between language and society, language and psychology, and the use of language in domains of private, public and professional discourse.

This MA may be of particular appeal to students with an interest in first- or second-language teaching and includes practical elements covering data collection, handling and analysis. Among others, the programme attracts those who are already working in the field of language teaching who wish to obtain a high-quality advanced qualification in order to further their career opportunities.

Career opportunities

Most of our graduates have gone on to careers in education and education management, particularly relating to the teaching of primary language skills, English as a second or foreign language or bilingual education. Some go on to further study in linguistics and related fields.

Programme structure

Autumn term: you take Language Description and Analysis, and *either* Language Variation or Second-Language Acquisition and Research.

Spring term: you take Researching Language in Use, and one of the following options, subject to availability: Advanced Practical Teaching

- Discourse and Communication Analysis
- First-Language Acquisition
- Practical Teaching Techniques and Observation
- Principles and Practice in ELT
- Teaching Young Learners
- Using Technology in the ELT Classroom
- World Englishes.

Assessment

The programme is assessed by term papers, a language analysis paper and a research report, plus a dissertation of 15,000 words.

Research programmes

The School of English offers research supervision in a wide range of subdisciplines of English language and linguistics. There is active research in the following areas: applied linguistics and English language teaching (ELT/TESOL), descriptive grammar and theoretical syntax, discourse analysis, first- and second-language acquisition, lexicology and lexicography, phonetics and phonology, semantics and pragmatics, and sociolinguistics.

Our doctoral students work on a variety of areas of research, using approaches including corpus linguistics, ethnographic methods, field linguistics, and film and literary analysis. We are happy to receive proposals on any language or any variety of English.

We offer supervision in the description and analysis of any language. Recently we have supervised work on Kuwaiti Arabic, Azeri, Tunisian Berber, English, French, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Judeo-Espanyol, Kenyang, Korean, Setswana, Vietnamese and Yoruba.

Recent thesis titles

May and can in French-English interlanguage

Multiple verb constructions in Korean

The impact of Yoruba prosody on the intonation of Nigerian English

Examples of current areas of PhD research

A descriptive grammar of the Hadari Kuwaiti dialect of Arabic

The argumentative function of metaphor

Thinking-for-speaking about motion in Tunisian

Career opportunities

Many of our graduates have gone on to academic careers, with teacher, lecturer and tutor being popular roles.

Faculty research interests

Faculty research interests are briefly described below. For more detailed information, visit www.sussex.ac.uk/linguistics

Also refer to the English language teaching (ELT) subject entry on page 96 and visit www.sussex.ac.uk/languages

Melanie Green Descriptive grammar; comparative syntax; descriptive linguistics of Hausa and other African languages.

James Greenough Refer to the English language teaching (ELT) subject entry on page 96.

M Lynne Murphy Lexical semantics; the adjective category; lexical relations; cross-cultural pragmatics.

Roberta Piazza Sociolinguistics; pragmatics and linguistic stylistics; discourse analysis; Italian literature and film.

Christian Uffmann Phonological theory; language contact; creoles; loan word adaptation; phonetic and phonological variation in English.

Simon Williams Refer to the English language teaching (ELT) subject entry on page 96.