MA in Linguistics (full time)

PROGRAMME INFORMATION

The **MA in Linguistics** offers advanced training in core areas of linguistics and provides four pathways for students to choose from: **conversion**, **general**, **formal** and **sociolinguistics**.

**Full-time students** will complete 180 credits in total comprising of at least 30 credits of compulsory modules, 90 credits of optional and additional compulsory modules (depending on the structure of the pathway), and a 60-credit dissertation.

Students on all pathways will take one 15-credit compulsory module in each Semester: **Trends in Linguistic Research** in Semester 1 and **Dissertation Proseminar** in Semester 2**.** Some pathways may have additional compulsory modules, as will be explained in the guidance section below.

The Linguistics programme offers the following pathways:

**Conversion**: suitable for students who have little or no undergraduate training in linguistics. Provides postgraduate level introduction to the main sub-fields of linguistics.

**General**: Suitable for students who have studied linguistics at undergraduate level, but who choose not to specialize in formal or sociolinguistics at this stage. An especially exciting option for students who wish to explore topics at the interface between the two (e.g. sociosemantics or formal approaches to variation).

**Formal**: suitable for students who have studied linguistics at undergraduate level, and who wish to specialize in syntax, semantics and/or morphology. Provides the opportunity to participate in events organized by the Formal Linguistics Research Group (e.g. a reading group, one-off workshops and London Semantics Day).

**Sociolinguistics**: suitable for students who have studied linguistics at undergraduate level, and who wish to specialize in sociolinguistics. Provides the opportunity to participate in events organized by the Sociolinguistics Research Group (e.g. reading groups, book clubs, training events and the Jenny Cheshire Lecture).

**Preparatory Reading, MA in Linguistics**

(\* indicates more introductory texts. We suggest that you start with these and then move on to some of the others depending on time and interest.)

Conversion pathway

\*Adger, D. (2019). *Language Unlimited: The Science Behind Our Most Creative Power*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ashby, P (1995) *Speech Sounds*. London: Routledge

Elbourne, P. (2011). *Meaning: A Slim Guide to Semantics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press

\*Fromkin, V., Rodman, R., & Hyams, N. (2013). *An Introduction to Language*. Wadsworth

Publishing. (Especiallly Chapter 1 ‘Morphology’, Chapter 3, ‘Syntax’ Chapter 4, ‘Phonetics’,

Chapter 5, ‘Phonology’)

Hayes, B. (2008). *Introduction to Phonology*. Wiley Blackwell.

Mesthrie, Rajend, Joan Swann, Andrea Deumert, and William L. Leap. 2009. *Introducing sociolinguistics,*2nd ed. Philadelphia: John Benjamins.

Meyerhoff, Miriam. 2011. *Introducing sociolinguistics*, 2nd edition. London: Routledge.

Specialisation in Sociolinguistics

\*Chambers, J. (2009). *Sociolinguistic Theory*, Revised edition. Oxford: Blackwell.

Duranti, A. (1997). *Linguistic Anthropology* (Cambridge Textbooks in Linguistics). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Johnstone, B. (2000). *Qualitative Methods in Sociolinguistics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Ladefoged, P., & Johnson, K. (2010). *A Course in Phonetics*. Boston, MA: Wadsworth.

Milroy, L. & M. Gordon (2003). *Sociolinguistics: Method and Interpretation*. Oxford: Blackwell.

Specialisation in Formal Linguistics

\*Adger, D. (2003). *Core Syntax*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Baker, M. (2002). *Atoms of Language: The Mind’s Hidden Rules of Grammar.* New York: Basic Books.

Chomsky, N. (2002). *On Nature and Language*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

\*Elbourne, P. (2011). *Meaning: A Slim Guide to Semantics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Heim, I. & Kratzer, A. (1998). *Semantics in Generative Grammar*. Oxford: Blackwell.

General pathway

Select from readings in sociolinguistics and formal linguistics as listed above.

For all pathways

Note: The following guides to research methods provide useful preparation for writing a dissertation in linguistics. Many chapters are relevant mostly for sociolinguistics and experimental research projects, but for guidance on research in formal linguistics, see the chapters on judgment data, fieldwork, and constructing and supporting a linguistic analysis in the Podesva & Sharma volume.

Litosseliti, Lia. 2018 (2nd ed). *Research Methods in Linguistics*. Basingstoke: Continuum.  
Podesva, Robert, and Devyani Sharma (eds.) 2013. *Research Methods in Linguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

For further guidance, contact Linnaea Stockall, Convenor of the MA in Linguistics, [l.stockall@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:l.stockall@qmul.ac.uk)

MODULE REGISTRATION

### **How do I register for my modules?**

You will register for your modules using [MySIS](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk/). The Module Registration Task will become available to you after you have completed the Pre-Enrolment task. Please log in and select the 'Module Registration' option. Your core or compulsory modules may have already been pre-selected for you and they cannot be changed.

Before you start making module selections in MySIS please read the guidance below.

When you come to select the elective modules that you want to take you will be able to review the description of a module within MySIS by clicking on the module name.

It is not possible to submit or approve a partial module selection, so make sure you have selected modules from both Semesters.

**Please submit your selections in MySIS by 19th September 2025**.

Your submission will be considered after this date in the School’s approval process and may not be confirmed until after the Induction Meeting, where you will also be allocated an academic adviser who can offer further advice on your choice of elective modules.

Some modules may become over or under subscribed, so you may be asked to change your selection at that time. You can request changes to approved modules within the first two weeks of Semester 1 using the same MySIS task.

To make this process easier, we will ask you to provide us with some reserve modules. When you submit your main selection of modules, MySIS will open a new screen for you to select your reserves. You will need to select the required number of reserve modules from each selection box to be able to complete the submission.

Please consider your reserve modules carefully and ensure they are modules you would be happy to take. We will make every effort to allocate you to your first-choice modules, but this may not always be possible.

**My pathway**

Please indicate your chosen pathway by completing a short online form for [MA Linguistics Pathways](https://forms.office.com/e/1kVk7gg8N2). This is an important step because we will use this to determine that your module selections meet with your programme regulations.

### **Guidance on making your selections**

Prof. Linnaea Stockall, MA Convenor, will run the following group advising info sessions on Teams. Come along to get more information and advice about choosing your pathway and modules and meet some of the other students on your program.

Choose the option that works best for you. No need to sign up in advance.

Tuesday September 2nd 10am-10:50am (UK Time). [Link to Join.](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzEzNzJmYTUtOWM2OC00OGQwLWE0NzAtZjU3NjI2ZGYwMWUz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22569df091-b013-40e3-86ee-bd9cb9e25814%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22e8c905d9-e3ce-40d1-a6e6-1cf4c8373303%22%7d)

Tuesday September 2nd 5:30pm-6:20pm (UK Time). [Link to Join.](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_YzEzNzJmYTUtOWM2OC00OGQwLWE0NzAtZjU3NjI2ZGYwMWUz%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22569df091-b013-40e3-86ee-bd9cb9e25814%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22e8c905d9-e3ce-40d1-a6e6-1cf4c8373303%22%7d)

I’ll also offer one on one advising meetings September 11-17th (on Teams). A separate email invitation to book these meetings will follow.

If you have any questions regarding your selections, and you can’t join one of the advising sessions, you can

contact the MA Convenor, Prof Linnaea Stockall via email ([l.stockall@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:l.stockall@qmul.ac.uk)) in advance of the 19th September deadline.

Please view the appropriate list of modules for your chosen pathway on the following pages before making your selections in MySIS.

**Module descriptions** are available from the QMUL Module Directory at [**www.qmul.ac.uk/modules**](http://www.qmul.ac.uk/modules).

**Module timetables** are published from 1st September at [**timetables.qmul.ac.uk**](https://timetables.qmul.ac.uk/default.aspx)**.**

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| **MA in Linguistics [Conversion Pathway]**  **2025-2026** | | | |
| * Full-time students will take all modules marked on the list below as Compulsory or Core. * You will **choose one 15-credit optional module in each semester** from the selection of modules below marked as Optional. * No more than two level 6 (L6) options may be taken as part of the overall programme. Places may be capped. | | | |
| **SEMESTER 1** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7027** | **Trends in Linguistic Research** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7205** | **Introduction to Phonetics** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7213** | **Introduction to Sociolinguistics** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| LIN7002 | Sociolinguistic Theory | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7020 | Ethnography of Communication | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7209 | Syntax | Optional | 15 |
| LIN6060 | Language and Health Communication | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| LIN6213 | Neurodiversity in Language Development and Cognition | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| **SEMESTER 2** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7005** | **Dissertation Proseminar** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7053** | **Applying Linguistics in the Real World** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7207** | **Introduction to Syntax** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| EAL7202 | Second Language Acquisition | Optional | 30 |
| LIN7007 | From Morpheme to Meaning | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7010 | Sociophonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7014 | Research Practicum | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7016 | Understudied Languages and Linguistic Theory | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7023 | Research Methods in Sociolinguistics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7207 | Introduction to Syntax | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7214 | Multimodality, media and language | Optional | 15 |
| **SUPERVISED PROJECT** | | Selection | Credits |
| LIN7006 | Dissertation in Linguistics | Core | 60 |
| **Please complete the** [**Pathway Form**](https://forms.office.com/e/1kVk7gg8N2) **and submit your selections using the Module Registration Task in** [**MySIS**](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk/) **by 19 September 2025** | | | |

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| **MA in Linguistics [General Pathway]**  **2025-2026** | | | |
| * Full-time students will take all modules marked on the list below as Compulsory or Core. * You will **choose 60 credits of optional modules (15 in Semester 1 and 45 in Semester 2)** from the selection of modules below marked as Optional. * No more than two level 6 (L6) options may be taken as part of the overall programme. Places may be capped. | | | |
| **SEMESTER 1** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7027** | **Trends in Linguistic Research** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7002** | **Sociolinguistic Theory** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7209** | **Syntax** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| LIN7020 | Ethnography of Communication – Foundations and Fieldwork | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7077 | Programming for the Humanities | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7078 | Analysing Language Datasets | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7205 | Introduction to Phonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN6060 | Language and Health Communication | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| LIN6213 | Neurodiversity in Language Development and Cognition | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| **SEMESTER 2** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7005** | **Dissertation Proseminar** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| EAL7202 | Second Language Acquisition | Optional | 30 |
| LIN7007 | From Morpheme to Meaning | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7010 | Sociophonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7014 | Research Practicum | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7016 | Understudied Languages and Linguistic Theory | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7023 | Research Methods in Sociolinguistics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7053 | Applying Linguistics in the Real World | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7075 | Language and AI: Advanced Programming | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7214 | Multimodality, media and language | Optional | 15 |
| **SUPERVISED PROJECT** | | Selection | Credits |
| **LIN7006** | **Dissertation in Linguistics** | **Core** | **60** |
| **Please complete the**  [**Pathway Form**](https://forms.office.com/e/1kVk7gg8N2) **and submit your selections using the Module Registration Task in** [**MySIS**](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk/) **by 19 September 2025** | | | |

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| **MA in Linguistics [Sociolinguistics Pathway]**  **2025-2026** | | | |
| * Full-time students will take all modules marked on the list below as Compulsory or Core. * You will **choose 60 credits of optional modules (30 in Semester 1 and 30 in Semester 2)** from the selection of modules below marked as Optional. * No more than two level 6 (L6) options may be taken as part of the overall programme. Places may be capped. | | | |
| **SEMESTER 1** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7027** | **Trends in Linguistic Research** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7002** | **Sociolinguistic Theory** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| LIN7020 | Ethnography of Communication – Foundations and Fieldwork | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7077 | Programming for the Humanities | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7078 | Analysing Language Datasets | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7205 | Introduction to Phonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7209 | Syntax | Optional | 15 |
| LIN6060 | Language and Health Communications | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| LIN6213 | Neurodiversity in Language Development and Cognition | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| **SEMESTER 2** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7005** | **Dissertation Proseminar** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7023** | **Research Methods in Sociolinguistics** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| EAL7202 | Second Language Acquisition | Optional | 30 |
| LIN7007 | From Morpheme to Meaning | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7010 | Sociophonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7014 | Research Practicum | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7016 | Understudied Languages and Linguistic Theory | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7075 | Language and AI: Advanced Programming | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7207 | Introduction to Syntax | Optional | 15 |
| **SUPERVISED PROJECT** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| LIN7006 | Dissertation in Linguistics | Core | 60 |
| **Please complete the** [**Pathway Form**](https://forms.office.com/e/1kVk7gg8N2) **and submit your selections using the Module Registration Task in** [**MySIS**](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk/) **by 19 September 2025** | | | |

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| **MA in Linguistics [Formal Linguistics]**  **2025-2026** | | | |
| * Full-time students will take all modules marked on the list below as Compulsory or Core. * You will **choose 45 credits of optional modules (30 in Semester 1 and 15 in Semester 2)** from the selection of modules below marked as Optional. * No more than two level 6 (L6) options may be taken as part of the overall programme. Places may be capped. | | | |
| **SEMESTER 1** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7027** | **Trends in Linguistic Research** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7209** | **Syntax** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| LIN7002 | Sociolinguistic Theory | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7020 | Ethnography of Communication – Foundations and Fieldwork | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7077 | Programming for the Humanities | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7078 | Analysing Language Datasets | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7205 | Introduction to Phonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7213 | Introduction to Sociolinguistics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN6060 | Language and Health Communication | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| LIN6213 | Neurodiversity in Language Development and Cognition | Optional | 15 (L6) |
| **SEMESTER 2** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| **LIN7005** | **Dissertation Proseminar** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7007** | **From Morpheme to Meaning** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| **LIN7016** | **Understudied Languages and Linguistic Theory** | **Compulsory** | **15** |
| EAL7202 | Second Language Acquisition | Optional | 30 |
| LIN7010 | Sociophonetics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7014 | Research Practicum | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7023 | Research Methods in Sociolinguistics | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7053 | Applying Linguistics in the Real World | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7075 | Language and AI: Advanced Programming | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7207 | Introduction to Syntax | Optional | 15 |
| LIN7214 | Multimodality, media and language | Optional | 15 |
| **SUPERVISED PROJECT** | | **Selection** | **Credits** |
| LIN7006 | Dissertation in Linguistics | Core | 60 |
| **Please complete the** [**Pathway Form**](https://forms.office.com/e/1kVk7gg8N2) **and submit your selections using the Module Registration Task in** [**MySIS**](https://mysis.qmul.ac.uk/) **by 19 September 2025** | | | |