

New program: Honours in Language Studies (Linguistics)

24 October 2014

Choosing a topic

Think in advance about what you are passionate enough about to spend a whole year working on. Also think about who you would like to supervise it. Here are samples from previous years.

Kiya Alimoradian 2012 *'Makes me feel more Aussie': ethnic identity and vocative 'mate' in Australia*. downloadable at <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/9790>

Owen Edwards 2012 *Grammatical functions in Tolaki*. downloadable at <http://hdl.handle.net/1885/9388>

Other recent theses include:

Johanna Castles 2011. *Bridging the Linguistic Divide: Classroom-based Language Policy in Vanuatu*

Helen Leung 2011. *The Semantics of Cantonese Sentence-Final Particles: The cases of laa3 and laa1*.

Alexandra Muir 2012. *If the I's have it, is it the death of me?*

Virginia Dawson 2013. *Differential Argument Realisation in Tiwa*

Daniel Frost 2013. *Likelihood Ratio-based Forensic Voice Comparison on L2 speakers: A case of Hong Kong native male productions of English vowels*

Kathleen Jepson 2013. *Intonation and Information Structure in Torau*

Kyla Quinn 2014. *A description of the verbal morphology of Wartha Thuntai*

Entry requirements:

- A major in **Linguistics**, including 8 courses at 2000 and 3000 level
- “A weighed average mark of at least 70 per cent, calculated from the 36 units of courses with highest final marks, excluding 1000-level courses, from courses from the major”, the weighting being by unit value (ie a 12 unit course counts for double a 6 unit course);
- written approval of an identified supervisor for the thesis

For some linguistics topics on particular languages, it may be acceptable to have instead of a major in Linguistics,

- a major in **International Communication** (useful for students studying Asian languages)
- or
- **Four courses in Linguistics** AND an Advanced Minor in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, and Persian.

What this means in practice for Linguistics students

Entry:

8 courses in Linguistics at 2000 and 3000 level [NOTE: LING1001 is a prerequisite for most of these courses, but it will not count as part of the 8 courses.]

Students who do more than one 1000-level course: LING1001 and LING1002 or ASIA1001 will have to do a further 8 courses: = 10 courses.

Students who do LING1001 only will only have to do 9 courses .

Students are strongly encouraged to undertake as part of their coursework LING2003 (Syntax), LING2008 (Semantics) and LING2010 (Phonetics), because most people will expect Honours graduates in linguistics to be familiar with these basic building-blocks of linguistics.

Joint Honours

The new program should make it easier to do joint Honours in Linguistics and Languages or Literature provided that two supervisors can be found from the respective programs.

It should still be possible to do joint honours with other programs, provided agreement can be reached on the research methods and other courses, as well as the two supervisors.

Application

Talk with your Honours convenor (jane.simpson@anu.edu.au for Linguistics), and potential supervisor first. When you have their approval, apply online at: <http://cass.anu.edu.au/study-with-us/honours/application-admission-honours>

Due Date: 31 October 2014 (usually end of October).

Program

thesis 50% a 24 credit point thesis
coursework: 50% 12 credit points of “research methods” and 12 credit points of other courses. Students directly enrol in these

The courses are “shell courses”. Students will negotiate with their supervisor and the honours convenor as to how they will satisfy the requirements through combinations of existing courses and extra work.

Coursework I: (12 units) Research Methodology <i>Objective:</i> <i>To develop knowledge of research principles and methods</i>	12 units chosen from the following: LING4009 Selected topics in methodologies for researching language (12cp) LING4010 Selected topics in empirical approaches to linguistics (6cp) CLAS4006 Classics Methods and Evidence (12cp) ENGL4020 Researching and Writing the Thesis: A Workshop (6cp) ENGL4021 Creative Reading: Topics in Theory, Methodology and Interpretation (6cp) LANG4004 Research Tools in Advanced Language Studies (6cp)
Coursework II (12 units): Existing Thematic Courses <i>Objective:</i> <i>To develop a coherent and advanced knowledge of the underlying principles and concepts in the chosen discipline</i>	12 units chosen from the following: LING4011 Selected topics in theory and analysis in linguistics (12cp) LING4012 Selected topics in analysis of a subsystem of language (6cp) * Each of these courses may be taken twice with different topics
Exchange	With permission from the relevant Honours convenor and the CASS Associate Dean Students, students may substitute up to 24 units of Exchange for the 24 units of coursework.
Thesis	24 units – may be undertaken over both semesters