



General Syllabus for Degree of Doctor in Linguistics

The syllabus was confirmed by the Faculty Board of Arts at Gothenburg University on 26 November 2015. It is complemented with the following documents, available via the website of the Faculty of Arts (www.hum.gu.se).

Instructions for Third-cycle Studies at the Faculty of Arts.

See Rules and Regulations for Third-cycle Studies at the University of Gothenburg – Rules for Doctoral Students for university-wide rules for third-cycle studies.

Title of qualification and teaching and research duties

Degree of Doctor in Linguistics. Linguistics studies the human language ability, human languages and language communication.

1. Objectives

1.1 General national objectives

According to the Qualifications Ordinance, Appendix 2 of the Higher Education Ordinance, the objectives for the Degree of Doctor are as follows:

Knowledge and understanding

For the Degree of Doctor, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field as well as advanced and up-to-date specialised knowledge in a limited area of this field, and
- demonstrate familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Competence and skills

For the Degree of Doctor, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the capacity for scholarly analysis and synthesis as well as to review and assess new and complex phenomena, issues and situations autonomously and critically,
- demonstrate the ability to identify and formulate issues with scholarly precision critically, autonomously and creatively, and to plan and use appropriate methods to undertake research and other qualified tasks within predetermined time frames and to review and evaluate such

work,

- demonstrate through a thesis their ability to make a significant contribution to the formation of knowledge through their own research,
- demonstrate the ability in both national and international contexts to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in speech and writing and in dialogue with the academic community and society at large,
- demonstrate the ability to identify the need for further knowledge, and
- demonstrate the capacity to contribute to social development and support the learning of others both through research and education and in other qualified professional contexts.

Judgment and approach

For the Degree of Doctor, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate intellectual autonomy and disciplinary rectitude as well as the ability to make assessments of research ethics, and
- demonstrate specialised insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society and the responsibility of the individual for how it is used.

1.2 Subject-specific and supplementary objectives

For completion of the degree of doctor in Linguistics at the University of Gothenburg, the following more specific requirements are included:

Competence and skills

For the Degree of Doctor, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate the ability to work as a researcher and academic tutor within linguistics, but also within professions that include advanced investigatory, preparatory and analytical work within public or private sectors.

Judgment and approach

For the Degree of Doctor, the third-cycle student shall:

- demonstrate deepened insight into research possibilities and limitations within linguistics, its role in society and its relation to other subjects. The third-cycle student shall also have acquired the ability to critically reflect over her or his activities from this perspective.

2. Entry requirements

Admission to the programme requires that the applicant fulfils the general and specific entry requirements provided in Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance.

2.1 General entry requirements

A person meets the general entry requirements under Chapter 7, Section 39 of the Higher Education Ordinance if he or she:

1. has been awarded a second-cycle qualification, or
2. has satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 higher education credits

of which at least 60 higher education credits were awarded in the second-cycle, or
3. has acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in some other way in Sweden or abroad.

2.2 Specific entry requirements

Admission to the third-cycle programme in Linguistics requires:

1. A minimum of 60 higher education credits in linguistics, phonetics, language technology, or speech and language therapy at second-cycle level, of which 15 credits comprise an independent project; additionally a minimum of 90 hecr in closely related subjects such as philosophy, cognitive science, communication or language subjects or equivalent knowledge.

or

2. a minimum of 90 higher education credits in linguistics, phonetics, language technology, or speech and language therapy, of which at least 30 higher education credits at second-cycle level, of which a minimum of 15 credits comprise an independent project or equivalent skills.

(These two entry requirements are a result of the two recommended study routes at second-cycle level; the student has either 90 higher education credits in philosophy, cognitive science, communication or language subjects at first-cycle level, followed by 60 higher education credits in linguistics, phonetics, language technology or speech and language therapy at second-cycle level. Alternatively, the student has 90 higher education credits in linguistics, phonetics, language technology or speech and language therapy.)

The types of Swedish and English skills needed to be able to benefit from compulsory parts of the course and to be able to actively participate in seminars and similar activities. If the third-cycle student does not speak Swedish as a first language, she or he is expected to obtain such knowledge so she or he can actively participate in the research environment.

3. Admission and selection

Admission to third-cycle studies in Linguistics is normally initiated by the Department announcing a call for doctoral studentships. Admission is conditional upon the studies being properly funded.

In selecting between applicants, their ability to benefit from the course or study programme shall be taken into account in accordance with Chapter 7 of the Higher Education Ordinance. To facilitate the selection process, the applicant must submit:

1. Theses, degree projects and any publications. These are assessed based on the following criteria: a) if they demonstrate originality and creativity, in addition to familiarity with previous and current research within the field, b) if suitable methods for data collection and analysis are provided, c) if the results are grounded in theory and method and d) if conclusions and discussions are of high academic quality.
2. A project draft in which the applicant stipulates a research domain that he/she would like to develop, justifies its relevance and discusses which theories, methods and materials would be relevant. The project draft is assessed on the basis of the following criteria: a) whether the draft displays the applicant's innovative abilities b)

whether the draft displays familiarity with previous and current research within the field, c) if suitable methods for data collection and analysis are provided, and d) whether the draft is judged to be reasonable, as regards its implementation at third-cycle level. The project draft also provides supporting information for assessing the Department's supervisor competence within the research domain stipulated.

Admission and selection are also conditional on the Department's supervisory resources within the doctoral student's research focus. Admission may also include an interview in addition to a review of qualifications submitted. Admission decisions are made by the Head of Department following preparation at the Department.

4. Programme disposition and content

The third-cycle programme in Linguistics comprises 240 higher education credits and leads to a Degree of Doctor. There is the option to obtain a Degree of Licentiate after 120 higher education credits providing the requirements specified in the general syllabus for a Licentiate degree in Linguistics are fulfilled.

The third-cycle programme consists partly of courses, which are examined incrementally, and partly of own research work, which is to lead to a scholarly thesis.

The student shall participate in seminar activities within the confines of her or his education. The doctoral student shall also participate in Department-wide activities, unless there are special reasons.

4.1 Courses

The programme consists of a course part comprising 60 higher education credits of which 30 comprise compulsory courses for the subject:

The following courses are compulsory:

Linguistic Methods (15 hecr) (Includes General linguistic methods 7.5 hecr and one elective methodology course worth 7.5 hecr, for example, Experimental methods, Linguistic field methods, Language description interview, Methods of formalization, Corpus linguistics or Statistics).

Classics in linguistic theory (7,5 hecr)

Ethics, society, lifelong learning and responsibility (2,5 hecr)

Presentation (written and oral) of own work at scientific conference and for society as a whole (5 hecr)

The basic course in teaching and learning in higher education (5 higher education credits) should be completed during the first year of the third-cycle studies. This course is compulsory if the third-cycle students will be teaching.

Other courses are chosen in consultation with supervisors.

If a doctoral student requests credit transfer from previous education, this shall be specified in the individual study plan (see 6.1).

4.2 Doctoral thesis

The doctoral thesis comprises 180 higher education credits. It can be designed as a monograph or a compilation thesis. A licentiate thesis can be included as part of a doctoral thesis, in a revised or unaltered form.

The doctoral student is expected to provide regular reports on her or his thesis work. This obligation is primarily fulfilled through presentation at Department seminars.

For more information, see *Instructions for Third-cycle Studies at the Faculty of Arts*

The doctoral thesis is defended at a public defence seminar. Both the content and defence are considered in the assessment of the thesis. The thesis is graded with one of the grades Pass or Fail.

5. Supervision

At least two supervisors shall be appointed for each doctoral student: one principal supervisor and one assistant supervisor. At least one of the supervisors must be employed at the University of Gothenburg, normally at the doctoral student's home Department. At least one of the supervisors must be qualified for appointment to a readership (Docent) and at least one of the supervisors must have completed supervisor training.

The doctoral student is entitled to supervision at least as stipulated by the standard adopted by the Faculty Board (see *Instructions for Third-cycle Studies at the Faculty of Arts*).

A doctoral student who so requests is entitled to change supervisors.

6. Individual study plan

An electronic individual study plan, which shall be finalised by no later than two months after commencement of studies, shall be drawn up by the doctoral student and supervisor, in consultation with the doctoral examiner, in connection with admission.

The individual study plan shall be reviewed at least once a year. The review shall clearly identify the doctoral student's progression.

6.1 Credit transfer

When the individual study plan has been established, the doctoral student may request that credits be transferred from past successfully completed second- or third-cycle education. Credits applied to fulfil the general or specific entry requirements may not also be applied towards the third-cycle degree, but must be replaced with another course. In addition, the following applies:

(i) A doctoral student who has successfully completed a second-cycle course that is included as a compulsory or elective course at third-cycle level may request that the course be replaced with another course of the same extent in the individual study plan. This does not affect the duration of the programme for the Degree of Doctor.

(ii) A doctoral student who has completed part of her or his third-cycle education while he or she was enrolled as a third-cycle student at another higher education institution or in another subject may request that the part be applied directly to her or his degree without replacements. This reduces the duration of the study programme for a Degree of Doctor in proportion to the

credits transferred.

6.2 Timetable and funding plan

The individual study plan shall include a timetable and associated funding plan for the entire period of study, up to the planned date for public defence of the thesis.

7. Transitional provisions

Doctoral students admitted before 1 January 2016 may, following consultation with supervisors and the doctoral examiner, request permission from the Head of Department to transfer this programme syllabus. The individual plan must then be updated.