General Study Plan for Doctoral Studies in Linguistics

This text is a translation from Swedish. The official version of the General Study Plan (Dnr SU FV-4039-21) is in Swedish. In case of conflict, the Swedish text takes precedence.

1. Official approval

This general study plan for doctoral studies in Linguistics was approved by the Faculty Board of Humanities at Stockholm University on 27 February 2020 and was revised on 3 September 2022. The study plan has been valid from 3 September 2022.

2. Subject description

Linguistics is interdisciplinary in nature and includes the profiles general linguistics, computational linguistics, phonetics, sign language and multilingualism of the deaf and hard of hearing. Common to all profiles is the study of systematic patterns in language.

3. Programme objectives

Studies at the doctoral level in Linguistics can be completed either with a licentiate degree or a doctoral degree. A doctoral student in Linguistics may present a licentiate thesis as a step towards a doctoral degree. The licentiate intermediary is however not a compulsory element for a doctoral degree.

3.1 Degree of Doctor

A doctoral degree will be awarded when the doctoral student has completed doctoral studies worth 240 higher education credits within one subject of doctoral studies.

Knowledge and understanding

For a doctoral degree, the student must demonstrate the following:

- broad knowledge in, and a systematic understanding of, the field of research, together with deep and current specialist knowledge in a delimited part of this field; and
- familiarity with research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Skills and abilities

For a doctoral degree, the student must demonstrate the following:

- an ability to engage in scholarly analysis and synthesis, as well as in independent, critical review and assessment of new and complex phenomena, issues, and situations;
- an ability to identify and formulate research questions critically, independently, creatively, and with scholarly precision, as well as to plan and conduct research and other qualified tasks with appropriate methods and within specified time limits, and also to review and evaluate such work;
- an ability to make a substantial contribution to the development of knowledge through their own research in a thesis;
- an ability, in both national and international contexts, orally as well as in writing, to present and discuss research and research findings authoritatively in dialogue with the scholarly community and society in general;
- an ability to identify areas where further knowledge is required;

- the potential to contribute to social development and support the learning of others, both in the fields of research and education and in other qualified professional contexts.

Scholarly approach and capacity for judgement

For a doctoral degree, the student must demonstrate the following:

- intellectual independence and scholarly integrity, as well as an ability to make assessments of research ethics; and
- specialised insight into the potential and limitations of research, its role in society, and our responsibility for how it is used.

Academic thesis (doctoral thesis)

A doctoral degree will be awarded when the doctoral student has received a passing grade on an academic thesis (doctoral thesis) worth at least 120 higher education credits.

Additional information

For the subject Linguistics, a thesis worth 180 higher education credits is required.

3.2 Degree of Licentiate

A licentiate degree will be awarded when the doctoral student has completed a third-cycle programme worth at least 120 higher education credits in a particular subject, or when the doctoral student has completed at least 120 higher education credits of a programme leading to a doctoral degree, provided that the higher education institution has decided that such licentiate degrees can be awarded.

Knowledge and understanding

For a licentiate degree, the student must:

- demonstrate knowledge and understanding in the field of research, including current specialist knowledge in a limited area of this field, as well as specialised knowledge of research methodology in general and the methods of the specific field of research in particular.

Skills and abilities

For a licentiate degree, the student must:

- demonstrate an ability to identify and formulate research questions critically, independently, creatively, and with scholarly precision, as well as to plan and complete a limited research project and other qualified tasks with appropriate methods and within specified time limits, so as to contribute to the development of knowledge and to evaluate such work;
- demonstrate an ability to present and discuss research and research findings clearly, in dialogue with the scholarly community and society in general, orally and in writing, in both national and international contexts;
- demonstrate the skills required to participate independently in research and development and to work independently in other advanced contexts.

Scholarly approach and capacity for judgement

For a licentiate degree, the student must:

- demonstrate an ability to make assessments of ethical aspects of their own research;
- demonstrate insight into the possibilities and limitations of research, its role in society, and our responsibility for how it is used;
- demonstrate an ability to identify their need of further knowledge and to take responsibility for developing their knowledge.

Academic thesis

In order to obtain a licentiate degree, the doctoral student must have received a passing grade on an academic thesis worth at least 60 higher education credits.

Additional information

For the subject Linguistics, a thesis worth 90 higher education credits is required.

4. Eligibility and entry requirements

To be admitted to a doctoral programme, the applicant must

1. fulfil the general entry requirements and the specific entry requirements that the university has prescribed, and

2. be assessed to have acquired the relevant other abilities necessary to benefit from the programme. (Chapter 7, Section 35 of the Higher Education Ordinance)

The entry requirements must be fulfilled by the application deadline.

4.1 General entry requirements

A person meets the general entry requirements for courses and study programmes at the doctoral level if he or she has:

1. been awarded a second-cycle qualification;
2. satisfied the requirements for courses comprising at least 240 credits, of which at least 60 credits were awarded at master's (advanced or second-cycle) level; or
3. acquired substantially equivalent knowledge in another way in Sweden or elsewhere.

The university may permit an exemption from the general entry requirements for an individual applicant if there are special reasons.

Decisions to grant exemptions from the general entry requirements for individual applicants are made by the Faculty of Humanities Board following a request from the Department Board.

4.2 Specific entry requirements

An applicant meets the special eligibility requirements for doctoral studies in Linguistics if she or he has received a passing grade on course work of at least 30 higher education credits in Linguistics at the advanced level, including a thesis of at least 15 higher education credits.

Additionally, the applicant must document proficiency in the language of the planned thesis (according to 6.4 and 6.5 Swedish, English or Swedish Sign Language). Applicants with Swedish Sign Language as the planned language of the thesis must in addition be proficient in Swedish or English. Applicants with a research plan in Sign Language must be proficient in sign language plus Swedish or English. For English and Swedish, language proficiency includes the ability to read, speak[1] and write and for Swedish Sign Language to read, sign and produce a sign language text, preferably in Swedish Sign Language. Language proficiency is demonstrated through the research plan and other relevant parts of the application (e.g. theses, publications, grades, certificates and interview).

The eligibility requirements may also be met by an applicant who has acquired equivalent proficiencies either within Sweden or abroad.

Any equivalent assessment of eligibility is prepared and decided on in accordance with the department's local admissions regulations and the department's delegation of authority.

5. Announcement and admission procedures

Doctoral positions in Linguistics may be announced up to twice a year on the Stockholm University website, with application deadlines of 15 April and 15 October.

The Department Board at the Department of Linguistics decides upon admission of applicants to doctoral studies in Linguistics. The Department Board cannot delegate decisions concerning admission to doctoral studies to another body. The Department Board can only admit applicants who will be employed as doctoral students.

Decisions on admittance of applicants with private funding to doctoral or licentiate studies are made by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities.
Decisions on admission to doctoral-level education with funding other than doctoral student employment are made by the Board of the Faculty of Humanities, as are decisions on admission to doctoral-level education that are completed with a licentiate degree, upon request from the Department Board. If it turns out, after admission of a doctoral student with funding other than doctoral student employment, that the departmental board's assessment of study funding is incorrect, the departmental board is responsible for ensuring that regular funding can be maintained throughout the entire duration of the education.

A doctoral student who has previously been admitted to studies up to licentiate level only and wishes to complete a PhD must apply when a doctoral position is announced and will, if successful, be admitted only for the remaining time needed to complete a PhD.

The application documents are assessed in accordance with Stockholm University's admissions regulations for doctoral education and the local admissions regulations at the Department of Linguistics.

The application must include a cover letter, CV, project plan, diploma and other grades and certificates that are referred to, selected publications and contact details for referees. For further details on the application format, please refer to the relevant call.

5.1 Assessment and selection criteria

Selection from among applicants meeting the requirements is to be made with reference to their ability to benefit from the programme. The selection is made by Selection is made by a specially appointed

[1] Ability to speak applies to hearing applicants.

committee in accordance with local admissions regulations for doctoral level education in linguistics. The selection is made with regard to the following criteria shared by the Faculty of Humanities:

- Previous education in general. Assessment of both depth and breadth of previous education.
- Earlier scholarly production. Based on a Bachelor's thesis, a Master's thesis or other academic papers, the potential of the applicant to benefit from the education is assessed. The assessment should also take into consideration the aspect of time, that is, to what extent the applicant has shown the ability to meet his or her previous scholarly obligations within given time constraints. In addition, the extent to which the applicant provides evidence of developing academic proficiency is considered on the basis of comparison of earlier production. The scholarly production is judged with regard to critical and analytical ability, independence and creativity.
- Research plan. The applicant must enclose a research plan which should cover the research problem and an outline of the research project. The research plan is to be assessed according to its relevance, originality and feasibility within given time constraints (that is full-time work during a four-year period of doctoral studies).
- Availability of supervision.
- Ability to collaborate. The ability of the applicant to collaborate with others is to be determined by personal references, certificates or interviews.

When admitting and selecting applicants for doctoral studies in Linguistics, the Department Board will abide by the regulations of the Faculty of Humanities.

6. Programme content and structure

The study period for obtaining a doctoral degree is four years of full-time studies and the number of higher education credits is 240. The education consists of a course part of 60 credits and a thesis part of 180 credits. There is the possibility to complete a licentiate degree after 120 credits, of which 30 credits must consist of courses and 90 credits of a thesis.

The education is planned so that the studies require four years for a doctoral degree and two years for a licentiate degree for doctoral students who are full-time engaged in their own education at the doctoral level. This presupposes that doctoral students devote themselves entirely to their studies and use tuition and supervision efficiently. If a student requests it, they may be employed part-time, but not less than 50 per cent of a full-time employment, i.e. for a maximum period of eight years for doctoral degree and four years for licentiate degree. For part-time doctoral students, the study period is extended in proportion to the decreased activity rate.

All students admitted to the doctoral level in Linguistics must abide by the current general study plan. Collaborations in the form of cotutelle agreements, doctoral schools or externally funded projects can only affect the progression of studies on the individual level, as provided for by the individual study plan. The details of the studies are noted under 6.3 and in the individual study plan.

6.1 Individual study plan

Each active doctoral student in Linguistics must have an individual study plan. The individual study plan contains the university's and the doctoral student's commitments, a financing plan and a timetable for the doctoral student's education. The plan is established in accordance with the delegation of authority for the Department of Linguistics in consultation with the doctoral student and their supervisors.

The individual study plan must be revised at least once a year in consultation with the doctoral student and their supervisors and will be adjusted by the university as required.

For details regarding the preparation, management and follow-up of the individual study plans, see Chapter 6, Sections 29 and 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance, Regulations for education and examination at the doctoral level at Stockholm University, as well as the instructions of the Human Science Academic Area and the regulations of the Faculty of Humanities.

6.2 Supervision and other resources

At the beginning of the doctoral studies at least two supervisors shall be appointed for each doctoral student, one of them being designated as the main supervisor. Supervisors are appointed by the Department Board at the Department of Linguistics or – if the board decides – by the head of department or a special committee established for the purpose. If the assignment is given to the head of department, the head of department must have consulted with the teachers who serve as supervisors in doctoral education in linguistics before making a decision.

The main supervisor is always an employee at the Stockholm University. One of the supervisors must be an employee at the department where the doctoral student is admitted. Both supervisors must hold a PhD and at least one of them must be at least docent. The university arranges training for supervisors. At least one of the supervisors shall have undergone such training or be assessed by the Human Science Academic Area committee to have equivalent competence.

The main supervisor must ensure that the delimitation of the dissertation topic is carried out in such a way that the studies can be completed within the established normal study period.
The Faculty Board has established that at least 80 working hours annually should be allocated to supervision of each doctoral student. Of these, 30-40 hours ought to be contact time. The quantity of contact time and supervision may vary depending on how far the doctoral student has progressed in their studies. Both the division of time and responsibilities of the supervisors as well as the number of supervision meetings shall be specified in the individual study plan. For part-time doctoral students, the supervision time is adjusted to the pace of study.

The doctoral student must conduct his/her studies with the level of activity indicated in the individual study plan and contact their supervisors or the director of studies for the doctoral education in the event of any delays or problems.

A doctoral student is allowed to change supervisors on request. The request shall be submitted to the director of studies for the doctoral education. Decisions about changing supervisors are made in accordance with the delegation of authority for the Department of Linguistics.

The doctoral student has a right to supervision until the completion of their studies, unless the vice-chancellor, with reference to the Higher Education Ordinance chap 6 §30, decides otherwise.

If a doctoral student substantially neglects his or her commitments according to the individual study plan, the Vice-Chancellor shall decide that the doctoral student shall no longer be entitled to supervision and other resources for the education. Before such a decision is taken, the doctoral student and his or her supervisor shall be given the opportunity to express their views. The assessment shall be made on the basis of their reports and other available evidence. The assessment shall take into account whether the university has fulfilled its own obligations according to the individual study plan. The decision shall be in writing and justified.

A decision to withdraw resources according to Chapter 6, Section 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance may be appealed to the Higher Education Appeals Board.

If the resources for the education have been withdrawn in accordance with Chapter 6, Section 30 of the Higher Education Ordinance, the doctoral student may, upon application to the Vice-Chancellor, regain his or her right to supervision and other resources restored. The doctoral student must then demonstrate additional study results of remarkable quality and scope or in some other way, that he or she can fulfil his or her remaining commitments according to the individual study plan.

For further information on this, please refer to the Regulations for Education and Examination on the doctoral level at Stockholm University and Instructions for Individual Study Plans in the Human Science Academic Area.

For other resources, such as a workplace, funding for conference travel, etc., see the department's regulations.

6.3 Courses and examinations

Course work comprises full-time studies during two semesters, i.e. 60 higher education credits, and shall be designed such that parts of the objectives for the programme according to section 3.1 above are met. For a licentiate degree, the course component comprises 30 credits and shall be designed to fulfil part of the objectives set out in point 3.2 above. The courses should be designed to meet the objectives of the programme according to section 3 above.

Courses may be taken at the Department of Linguistics, at a partner institution or equivalent, or, if necessary, at another department/university. Course titles and organisation may therefore vary to some extent. If course credits are awarded for activities without a syllabus, the department's Guidelines for scoring and examination of the doctoral student's course work outside regular courses must be followed.

Compulsory courses for the doctoral degree 15 credits:

The compulsory course component comprises 15 credits in theory and method. Theory and method also includes theory of science and research ethics. The content can be spread over several courses.

Compulsory courses for the licentiate degree 7.5 credits:

The compulsory course component comprises 7.5 credits in theory and method. Theory and method also includes theory of science and research ethics. The content can be spread over several courses.

Other courses for the doctoral degree 45 credits:

Other courses shall be chosen so that the doctoral student acquires both broad knowledge and systematic understanding of the research field, as well as deep and up-to-date specialised knowledge in the research contexts that are most relevant to the doctoral student's own thesis work.

Other courses for the licentiate degree 22.5 credits:

Other courses shall be chosen so that the doctoral student acquires both broad knowledge of the research field and a systematic understanding of it, as well as deep and up-to-date specialised knowledge in the research contexts most relevant to the doctoral student's own thesis work

Other matters concerning the course component

Courses are chosen in consultation between the doctoral student and the supervisors and must be approved by the principal supervisor before work on them begins. Courses and forms of examination shall be specified in the individual study plan.

Doctoral students who teach within the framework of their departmental duties shall undergo training in teaching and learning in higher education. The training in teaching and learning in higher education is primarily counted as departmental duties, but may, at the request of the doctoral student and if there are special reasons, also be included in the course part of the programme, within other courses.

Course exams are graded either with Pass or Fail. The examiner shall be a teacher specially appointed by the department board.

6.3.1 Credit transfer of earlier education

Credits from previous second-cycle education, as well as knowledge and skills acquired in professional activities, of a maximum of 30 credits may be credited in third-cycle education in Linguistics, provided that the activities do not fall below the level of third-cycle education and provided that they are clearly connected to the intended thesis project and other planning of the programme to meet the degree objectives. Transferred credits may not be included in the entry requirements that were the basis for admission.

The decision on whether a previous education can be credited is made by the Department Board at the Department of Linguistics following a request from the doctoral student. The request is formulated in accordance with the department's guidelines and shall be processed by the department board in connection with decision upon an individual study plan following admission.

If credits from previous education are credited in doctoral education, the study time is reduced proportionally according to the principle of one week per 1.5 credits credited.

6.3.2 Other mandatory elements

The following mandatory elements without credits are included in the third-cycle programme in linguistics:

- Regular participation in text seminars for PhD students
- Annual presentation of ongoing thesis work at an appropriate seminar at the Department of Linguistics
- Halfway seminar at the Department of Linguistics
- Participation in research seminars according to the department's guidelines
- Final seminar (mock defence)

All activities must be documented in the individual study plan.

6.4 Doctoral thesis and public defence

An approved thesis of 180 credits is required for a doctoral degree. The topic for the doctoral thesis is chosen in consensus with the supervisors at the start of the doctoral studies. A point of departure for the consented topic is the research plan the doctoral student submitted in the application for doctoral studies.

The thesis shall demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to independently tackle the chosen research task in a scientifically satisfactory manner – be it within or outside the context of research project

collaboration – so that the relevant points of the degree objectives according to section 3.1 above are fulfilled.

The thesis is to be designed either as a uniform and coherent scholarly work (monograph) or as an assemblage of academic papers, written by the doctoral student alone or in collaboration with somebody else, including an extended overarching introduction and conclusion (compilation thesis).

Material from a licentiate thesis may be used in the doctoral thesis if clear reference is made to the previous work.

If the research is carried out as part of a collaboration, it must be possible to distinguish clearly the achievements of the doctoral student.

The research task and the results achieved are to be presented in such a way that the thesis qualitatively reaches a level commensurable with requirements for acceptance to a scholarly series or high-quality journal.

Criteria for a compilation thesis

Scientific peer-reviewed articles/publications that deal with a coherent set of problems and contain an overarching introduction – a so-called "kappa" – can also be approved as a doctoral thesis. A compilation thesis must consist of at least three longer scientific articles (3-5 articles are usually included). The number of articles is decided upon in consultation with the supervisor.

The articles included in the thesis must be 1) published in peer-reviewed scientific publications, 2) accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific publications or 3) submitted to a journal but not yet peer-reviewed.

At least two of the articles must belong to the first two categories, i.e. be published or accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific publications. Articles that are not peer-reviewed must be judged to be of such quality that they are considered publishable (assessment takes place through presentation at the final seminar).

The doctoral student must be the main or sole author of at least two of the articles. Previously published articles may not be changed in the compilation thesis (with the exception of errata).

All additions, problematisations and the overall final discussion must be included in the overarching introduction ("kappa"). The "kappa" must clearly state what is the doctoral student's contribution and what is the contribution of any co-authors.

In cases where the thesis consists of a previously approved licentiate thesis in its entirety, the doctoral thesis must also contain at least two articles (one of which must usually be accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific publication), as well as a connecting chapter that describes the licentiate thesis' place in the whole thesis.

The following further requirements must be met for approval of the thesis:

- The thesis is a result of independent scholarship which contributes significantly to the development of knowledge.
- The purpose of the thesis, the research questions and the appropriate methods are clearly specified and motivated.

- The method is applied accurately.
- Previous scholarship is described in such a way that it is clearly separated from the contribution of the doctoral student in the research field.
- The source material is described and the way the material has been delimited is specified and explained.
- The notes, references, tables and diagrams etc. are accurately employed according to high scholarly standards.
- The thesis is clearly and consistently organised.
- The thesis is acceptable in terms of language use.
- The results achieved are summarised, reflected upon and placed in relation to the development of scientific knowledge in a national and international context.

Language of the thesis

A thesis in a third-cycle programme in Linguistics shall be written in Swedish, English or presented in Swedish Sign Language.

A compilation thesis may contain a smaller part in a language other than the chosen thesis language (Swedish, English or Swedish Sign Language) provided that the publication channel is of very high relevance to the subject and stipulates a language other than Swedish, English or Swedish Sign Language. The decision to include this type of content is taken by the Board of Supervisors at the Department of Linguistics after having investigated and ensured, in consultation with the supervisor, that an opponent who is proficient in all the languages in question can be engaged. A note about this decision shall be included in the individual study plan.

A doctoral thesis written in Swedish must include a summary in English, a thesis written in English must include a summary in Swedish, and a thesis written in Swedish Sign Language must include summaries in Swedish and English. If a thesis with the profile sign language is written in Swedish or English, it is strongly recommended that a summary in Swedish Sign Language be added. If the thesis has parts in languages other than Swedish or English, it should contain summaries of these parts in both Swedish and English. The summary shall be sufficiently detailed to give a reader without knowledge of the thesis language a clear understanding of the purpose and main content of the thesis, the scientific method used and the results obtained. References should be made to the different chapters of the thesis. The doctoral student's principal supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the summary has the prescribed content. The assessment of the summary shall be included in the assessment of the entire thesis.

Each doctoral thesis must be accompanied by a brief English-language abstract of no more than 3500 characters including spaces. The abstract shall:
- state the title of the thesis, the language in which the thesis is written, the author(s) and the university and department,
- summarise the content of the thesis according to the outline: problems, methods and results,
- be provided with keywords and other information relevant to literature searches in automated information systems.

Defence of the thesis

Before the defence, the thesis is reviewed according to guidelines at the Department of Linguistics.

The doctoral thesis in Linguistics is examined and defended orally in Swedish or English or in sign language in Swedish Sign Language (interpreted to Swedish or English) at a public defence. The

examination is led by a specially appointed discussant (opponent). The thesis is assessed with either of the grades Pass or Fail by a grading committee appointed specifically for each thesis. The grading takes into account both the content of the thesis and the public defence of the thesis. The composition of the examining committee follows the Rules for Third-Cycle Education and Examinations at Stockholm University and the Guidelines for Disputation at the Faculty of Humanities, and includes at least one member of the committee employed at another university participating in the grading.

6.5 Licentiate thesis and licentiate seminar

For a licentiate degree, an approved thesis of 90 higher education credits is required. The topic for the licentiate thesis is chosen in consensus with the supervisors at the start of the doctoral studies. A point of departure for the consented topic is the research plan the doctoral student submitted in the application for doctoral studies.

The thesis shall demonstrate the doctoral student's ability to independently tackle the chosen research task in a scientifically satisfactory manner – be it within or outside the context of research project collaboration – so that the relevant points of the degree objectives according to section 3.2 above are fulfilled.

The thesis is to be designed either as a uniform and coherent scholarly work (monograph) or as an assemblage of academic papers, written by the doctoral student alone or in collaboration with somebody else, including an extended overarching introduction and conclusion, a so-called “kappa” (compilation thesis).

For material from a licentiate thesis to be used in the doctoral thesis, see 6.4 above.

If the research is carried out as part of a collaboration, it must be possible to distinguish clearly the achievements of the doctoral student.

The research task and the results achieved are to be presented in such a way that the thesis qualitatively reaches a level commensurable with requirements for acceptance to a scholarly series or high-quality journal.

Criteria for a compilation thesis

Normally, a compilation thesis shall consist of at least two scientific articles. The articles included in the thesis must be 1) published in peer-reviewed scientific publications, 2) accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific publications or 3) submitted to a journal but not yet peer-reviewed.

At least one of the articles must be published or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed scientific publication. Articles that have not been peer-reviewed must be judged to be of such quality that they are considered publishable (assessment takes place through presentation at a seminar).

The doctoral student must be the main or sole author of at least one of the articles and this must be published or accepted for publication. In the case of co-authored articles, it must be clearly stated in the overarching introduction (“kappa”) what the doctoral student's independent contribution is.

Scientific peer-reviewed articles/publications that deal with a coherent set of problems and contain an overarching introduction – a so-called “kappa” – can also be approved as a doctoral thesis. A compilation thesis must consist of at least three longer scientific articles (3-5 articles are normally included). The number of articles is decided upon in consultation with the supervisor.

The articles included in the thesis must be 1) published in peer-reviewed scientific publications, 2) accepted for publication in peer-reviewed scientific publications or 3) submitted to a journal but not yet peer-reviewed. Previously published articles may not be changed in the compilation thesis (with the exception of errata). All additions, problematisations and the overall final discussion must be included in the overarching introduction ("kappa").

The following further requirements must be met for approval of the thesis:

- The thesis is a result of independent scholarship which contributes significantly to the development of knowledge.
- The purpose of the thesis, the research question and the appropriate methods are clearly specified and motivated.
- The method is applied accurately.
- Previous scholarship is described in such a way that it is clearly separated from the contribution of the doctoral student in the research field.
- The source material is described and the way the material has been delimited is specified and explained.
- The notes, references, tables and diagrams etc. are accurately employed according to high scholarly standards.
- The thesis is clearly and consistently organised. The thesis is acceptable in terms of language use. The results achieved are summarised, reflected upon and placed in relation to the development of scientific knowledge in a national and international context.

Language of the thesis

A licentiate thesis in a third-cycle programme in Linguistics shall be written in Swedish, English or presented in Swedish Sign Language.

A compilation thesis may contain a smaller part in a language other than the chosen thesis language (Swedish, English or Swedish Sign Language) provided that the publication channel is of very high relevance to the subject and stipulates a language other than Swedish, English or Swedish Sign Language. The decision to include this type of content is taken by the Board of Supervisors at the Department of Linguistics after having investigated and ensured, in consultation with the supervisor, that an opponent who is proficient in all the languages in question can be engaged. A note about this decision shall be included in the individual study plan.

A licentiate thesis written in Swedish must include a summary in English, a thesis written in English must include a summary in Swedish, and a thesis written in Swedish Sign Language must include summaries in Swedish and English. If a thesis with the profile sign language is written in Swedish or English, it is strongly recommended that a summary in Swedish Sign Language be added. If the thesis has parts in languages other than Swedish or English, it should contain summaries of these parts in both Swedish and English. The summary shall be sufficiently detailed to give a reader without knowledge of the thesis language a clear understanding of the purpose and main content of the thesis, the scientific method used and the results obtained. References should be made to the different chapters of the thesis. The doctoral student's principal supervisor is responsible for ensuring that the summary has the prescribed content. The assessment of the summary shall be included in the assessment of the entire thesis.

Each doctoral thesis must be accompanied by a brief English-language abstract of no more than 2000 characters including spaces. The abstract shall:

- state the title of the thesis, the language in which the thesis is written, the author(s) and the university and department,

- summarise the content of the thesis according to the outline: problems, methods and results,
- be provided with keywords and other information relevant to literature searches in automated information systems.

Licentiate seminar

The licentiate thesis is examined and defended orally in Swedish or English or in sign language in Swedish Sign Language (interpreted to Swedish or English) at a public defence. The seminar shall be announced well in advance and the thesis shall be available at the department in good time before the seminar. At a licentiate seminar, an opponent and an examiner or a grading committee shall be appointed. Neither of these may be a supervisor of the doctoral student. If a grading committee is appointed, the examiner - who grades the thesis - must be included. The examiner must be a teacher holding at least a doctoral degree, specially appointed by the department board. The opponent and one of the supervisors have the right to be present at the meeting with the examiner and, where applicable, the assessment group, and to participate in the deliberations but not in the decision.

The licentiate thesis is assessed with either of the grades Pass or Fail. The grading takes into account both the content of the thesis and the public defence of the thesis.

7. Transition arrangements

Doctoral students who started their doctoral studies before the general study plan was valid, can request to transfer to this syllabus after consultation with the principal supervisor and with the director of studies. The request should be addressed to the Board of the Department of Linguistics. The individual study plan must be updated after the decision.

8. Further information

For further information on local regulations concerning the doctoral programme in Linguistics, see www.ling.su.se