

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2024-25: MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition



Course facts

Mode of study	Full Time Only
Expected length	12 months

About the course

Applied linguistics is an interdisciplinary field which mediates between the theory of language and the practice of language learning and language use. It is also an overarching field that includes second language acquisition (SLA) and, as such, can shed light on the teaching and learning of a second or foreign language.

The MSc in Applied Linguistics and Second Language Acquisition is a popular course which will introduce you to key issues within the field of applied linguistics, with a focus on second language learning and teaching. The topics represented within the course draw from some of the related disciplines within applied linguistics such as psycholinguistics, education (language teaching/learning), linguistics, and sociolinguistics.

The MSc is taken full-time over one year and consists of six core taught modules and a research dissertation.

The core modules are:

- Foundations of SLA Theory
- First Language Acquisition & Bilingualism
- Vocabulary Acquisition
- Communication of Meaning
- Sociolinguistics
- Individual and Group Differences

All taught modules take place in Michaelmas and Hilary terms. In Trinity term the focus of study is the dissertation. In addition to the compulsory assessed modules in Michaelmas and Hilary terms, students attend non-assessed modules in research methods (including critical reading) and quantitative data analysis.

The course is designed to provide you with an opportunity to reflect and further develop your understanding of both theoretical and practical considerations in the field of language learning and teaching. It will encourage you to develop a broad theoretical base reflecting current research in applied linguistics and related disciplines. Additionally, this course makes links between the different disciplines which contribute to our knowledge of language learning and issues related to language pedagogy.

Supervision

For this course, the allocation of graduate supervision is the responsibility of the Department of Education and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Department of Education. Students may expect 10 hours' dissertation supervision over the academic year, including supervision meetings and time spent advising via email (but excluding time spent reading and feeding back on written work). Supervisors usually meet with their MSc students 3-4 times per term for between 30–60 minutes per meeting

Assessment

Students will complete six core modules each assessed by a written assignment, and a dissertation on a topic selected by the student and approved by the supervisor. The core modules are assessed at the end of each taught term, three in Michaelmas and three in Hilary. Assignment titles are released to students in the final week of term and are due for submission by the beginning of the following term. Work on the dissertation begins in Week One of Michaelmas term and is due for submission in August. Before dissertation research can take place, students are required to complete a course on research integrity, and, if their research involves children, a course on safeguarding. Understanding of these courses is assessed via an online quiz. Students must pass these before being permitted to conduct their dissertation research, but the grades do not form part of the overall award.

Changes to this course

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after you commence your course. These might include significant changes made necessary by any pandemic, epidemic or local

health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2024-25

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£16,780
Overseas	£33,970

Information about course fees

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you will need to choose a dissertation topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs yourself, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2024-25 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

Likely living costs for one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£315	£495
Accommodation	£745	£925
Personal items	£190	£320
Social activities	£40	£95
Study costs	£35	£85
Other	£20	£35
Total	£1,345	£1,955

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,835	£4,445
Accommodation	£6,705	£8,325
Personal items	£1,710	£2,880
Social activities	£360	£855
Study costs	£315	£765
Other	£180	£315
Total	£12,105	£17,595

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,780	£5,940
Accommodation	£8,940	£11,100
Personal items	£2,280	£3,840
Social activities	£480	£1,140
Study costs	£420	£1,020
Other	£240	£420
Total	£16,140	£23,460

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2024-25, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 5% or more each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of this document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask>).