

APPLIED LINGUISTICS

Graduate Program Head	Tommaso Milani
Program Code	APLNG
Campus(es)	University Park (Ph.D.)
Degrees Conferred	Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Dual-Title Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics and African Studies Dual-Title Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies
The Graduate Faculty	View (https:// secure.gradsch.psu.edu/gpms/? searchType=fac&prog=APLNG)

The Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics helps prepare scholars who will conduct systematic examinations of individual and societal multilingualism in order to build and test theories of how linguistic systems develop, are acquired, used, and taught in global contexts. The Ph.D. degree program includes the foundational theory and research of linguistics, applied linguistics, second language acquisition, psycholinguistics, and sociolinguistics. It will prepare doctoral students to utilize a range of research perspectives, both qualitative and quantitative, e.g., sociocultural, historical, linguistic, stylistic, discourse analytical. Overall, the purpose of the research undertaken in graduate study in Applied Linguistics will be to illuminate, in all its complexity, the multiple dimensions of the study of language as a mode of social existence, communication, and cognition.

Admission Requirements

Applicants apply for admission to the program via the J. Jeffrey and Ann Marie Fox Graduate School application for admission (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/admissions/how-to-apply/>). Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-300 Admissions Policies (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>).

Applicants are required to submit official transcripts from all post-secondary institutions attended (<http://www.gradschool.psu.edu/prospective-students/how-to-apply/new-applicants/requirements-for-graduate-admission/>). In addition, scores from the Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) are required for applicants who have received a degree from an institution of higher education in the United States or abroad in which the medium of instruction is English. GRE scores are optional for applicants who have received a degree from an institution of higher education in which the medium of instruction is a language other than English. All applicants are required to submit:

- three letters of reference (at least two from faculty with whom the applicant has studied) evaluating aptitude for doctoral study
- at least one sample of scholarly writing (published or unpublished research paper, thesis, etc.)
- an academic statement describing their teaching and research experience and their specific professional goals and interests

The language of instruction at Penn State is English. English proficiency test scores (TOEFL/IELTS) may be required for international applicants. See GCAC-305 Admission Requirements for International Students (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/>

[gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students/](https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac-300/gcac-305-admission-requirements-international-students/)) for more information.

Applicants to the Applied Linguistics program must have a score of 600 or higher on the TOEFL paper-based test. In addition, international applicants are encouraged to submit a cassette tape recording on which they describe their career goals and the reasons for wanting to pursue doctoral studies at Penn State.

Degree Requirements

Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/>)

qualifying examination

In the third semester (a minimum of 18 credits) of graduate study, all students must satisfactorily complete a qualifying evaluation in which they are required to present a portfolio of work completed in their program of study. The portfolio will include a transcript of the student's academic record, a program plan, samples of scholarly work in Applied Linguistics and related areas, and a brief description of the proposed dissertation research, showing relevant course work completed and projected. Following submission of this portfolio, the student will meet with the members of his/her Ph.D. committee for an oral qualifying evaluation. The purpose of this evaluation is threefold:

1. to determine whether the student has achieved a level of learning and understanding sufficient to justify continuing in the program,
2. to discover what further study is required to bring the student to the competence required for the research being proposed, and
3. to secure approval of a program of course work and independent study to achieve the requisite competence. The particulars of each student's program of study and research are defined on the basis of the qualifying evaluation.

English Language Competence

During course work prior to the qualifying examination, students will be assessed for communicative competence in reading, writing, and speaking English. Should a higher level of competence be required, the student will be directed to the appropriate resources. International candidates will be advised that the passage of the minimal TOEFL requirement does not demonstrate the level of competence required for completion of the Ph.D. program.

Additional Language Competence

All students must demonstrate competence in reading relevant research literature in one language other than English and intermediate speaking competence in an additional language. The additional language competence requirements may be demonstrated in a variety of ways.

Ph.D. Committee Composition

The Ph.D. committee must meet all Graduate Council requirements (<http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-600/phd-dissertation-committee-formation/>). Members of the Graduate Faculty with courtesy appointments in LALS who are members of the Applied Linguistics Graduate Faculty may serve as the chair of the Ph.D. committee with approval of the Director of LALS.

Comprehensive Examination

All doctoral students must pass a comprehensive examination designed to assess mastery of and ability to synthesize and integrate theoretical

issues in Applied Linguistics. This examination is taken upon completion of all course work. The content and format of the comprehensive exam will be established by the members of the candidate's Ph.D. committee in accordance with degree requirements of LALS and consist of two course papers that are of publishable quality and two or three research papers based on questions developed by members of the Ph.D. committee. The original papers must be submitted by end of semester prior to that in which the student plans to take the comprehensive exam. The student will be given two months' time in which to complete and submit these exam papers. Within three weeks of submission of the exam papers, the student will take an oral exam based on the original research papers and the exam papers. Students who fail the examination on the first attempt may repeat it once. Students who fail the examination the second time will not be permitted to continue in the program.

Dissertation

Each doctoral candidate is required to conduct an original and independent research project representing a significant contribution to knowledge in the field of study. The project should be presented in a scholarly manner, show an ability on the part of the candidate to do independent research of high quality, and demonstrate considerable experience in using appropriate research techniques. The content and conclusions of the dissertation will be defended at the time of the final oral examination. A written dissertation proposal is required and must be approved at a proposal hearing by a majority vote of the candidate's Ph.D. committee. A majority vote is also required for approval of the completed written dissertation at the final oral defense. The dissertation must be accepted by the Ph.D. committee, the head of the graduate program, and the Graduate School.

Dual-Titles

DUAL-TITLE PHD IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS AND AFRICAN STUDIES

The goal of the dual-title degree in Applied Linguistics and African Studies is to enable graduate students from Applied Linguistics to acquire the knowledge and skills of their major area of specialization in Applied Linguistics while gaining the perspective from specialists in African Studies.

This program provides graduate students with a solid disciplinary foundation that will allow them to compete for the best jobs in their field. The dual-title PhD in Applied Linguistics and African Studies will enable these students to transform the traditional boundaries of their fields and become experts in African Studies and will add value to their status as candidates. Overall, the dual-title degree in Applied Linguistics and African Studies will build curricular bridges beyond the student's major field to provide a unique training regime for global scholarship.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The PhD in Applied Linguistics and African Studies is open to students who are admitted to the Applied Linguistics doctoral program and, subsequently, to the dual-title degree program in African Studies. Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in African Studies prior to taking the qualifying examination in their primary graduate program.

Applicants interested in the program should make their interest in the dual-title degree program known on their applications and include remarks in their essays that explain their training, interests, and career goals in an area of African Studies.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

To qualify for an African Studies degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Applied Linguistics program in which they are primarily enrolled as well as the requirements described below, as established by the African Studies committee. Within this framework, the final course selection is determined by the student and their African Studies and Applied Linguistics program advisors.

Upon a student's acceptance by the African Studies Admissions Committee, the student will be assigned an African Studies academic advisor in consultation with the African Studies chair. As students develop specific scholarly interests, they may request that a different African Studies faculty member serve as their advisor. The student and advisor will discuss a program of study that is appropriate for the student's professional objectives and that is in accord with the policies of the Graduate School, Applied Linguistics Department, and African Studies program.

The PhD in Applied Linguistics and African Studies is awarded only to students who are admitted to the Applied Linguistics doctoral program and to the dual-title degree in African Studies.

REQUIRED COURSES IN APPLIED LINGUISTICS

The basic coursework requirement for APLNG students entering with an MA degree is 37 credits (excluding 8 for doctoral dissertation writing), including one from a proseminar and four semesters with 9 credits each. Six of these credits can be double counted toward the AFR requirement.

Students taking the dual-title degree will have to enroll for an additional 12 credits in AFR putting the total for coursework at 49 credits. In this dual-title degree, students are expected to do coursework until Year 3. They concentrate on writing their dissertation in Years 4 and 5.

On rare occasions, the program may admit exceptionally qualified students entering the program with B.A. degree only. To satisfy the coursework requirements in both programs, these students will need 54 credits in APLNG and 12 credits in AFR beyond the 6 double counted APLNG credits. These students will be counseled to take advantage of summer credit options and will be permitted one or two semesters of 12 credits such that they may complete their comprehensive examinations in the 7th semester.

The minimum course requirements for the PhD in Applied Linguistics are listed below:

Code	Title	Credits
Foundations		
APLNG 580	Proseminar in Applied Linguistics	1
APLNG 582	Seminar in Approaches to Language Use	3
APLNG 591	Seminar in Second Language Acquisition	3
Research Methodologies		
Students are required to take a minimum of 12 credits, part of which includes the 6-credit course sequence APLNG 577 and APLNG 593:		12
APLNG 575	Language Ideology	
APLNG 576	Language Socialization across Home, School, and Community Contexts	
APLNG 577	Language Analysis	
APLNG 578	Computational and Statistical Methods for Corpus Analysis	
APLNG 581	Discourse Analysis	
APLNG 586	Analyzing Classroom Discourse	

APLNG 592	Qualitative Research in Applied Linguistics
APLNG 593	Experimental Research on Language

Additional Courses

In consultation with their academic advisor, students are required to take a minimum of 18 credits of additional courses: 18

APLNG 510	Health and Aging in Multilingual Contexts
APLNG 511	
APLNG 570	Second Language Reading
APLNG 571	Usage-Based Approaches to Second Language Learning and Teaching
APLNG 572	Communication in Second Language Classrooms
APLNG 512	Language and Adult Lifespan Development
APLNG 574	World Englishes: Pluralizing Policy, Pedagogy, and Proficiency
APLNG 575	Language Ideology

Africa-Related Course Work

APLNG 597	Special Topics
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REQUIRED COURSES IN AFRICAN STUDIES

To satisfy the conditions for the dual-title degree, the student must additionally complete the following African Studies requirements:

Code	Title	Credits
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Africa-Related Coursework

18 credits of Africa-related coursework at the 400 or 500 level, of which the following are required.

Students may choose from one of the two courses below:

AFR 501	Key Issues in African Studies
AFR 505	African Studies Methodology

A minimum of 6 credits from:

AFR 510	Post-Colonial Theory
AFR 512	Decolonial Methods for Interdisciplinary Research
AFR 520	Readings in African History
AFR 526	African Social and Cultural Systems
AFR 530	Perspectives on African Language Research in the Global South

Double counting is allowed, and up to 6 of the 18 credits may come from Africa-related courses in Applied Linguistics or other units, as approved by the student's Applied Linguistics and African Studies Program academic advisors.

No more than 6 credits may be taken at the 400 level, and no more than 6 combined credits may come from individual studies courses and/or foreign studies courses.

The choice of additional courses in African Studies is to be proposed by the student, subject to approval by the Applied Linguistics and African Studies advisors. The suite of selected courses should have an integrated, intellectual thrust that probes a thematic, national, or regional issue and that is complementary to the student's specialty in the primary program.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT

Communication and foreign language requirements will be determined by the student and the Applied Linguistics and African Studies Program

advisors in accordance with the existing Applied Linguistics language requirements.

Qualifying EXAM

The dual-title degree will be guided by the qualifying exam procedure of the Applied Linguistics graduate program. The qualifying exam for the dual-title degree may be given after at least 18 post-baccalaureate credits have been earned in graduate courses; it must be taken within three semesters (summer sessions do not count) of entry into the Applied Linguistics graduate program. The dual-title degree student may require one additional semester to fulfill requirements for the dual-title degree program. The qualifying examination may, therefore, be delayed by a semester. There will be a single qualifying examination that contains elements of the major discipline and African Studies.

The qualifying examination committee for the dual-title degree will be composed of graduate faculty from Applied Linguistics and at least one graduate faculty member from the African Studies Program. The designated dual-title faculty member may be appointed from Applied Linguistics if that person holds a formal appointment with the African Studies Program.

COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

The doctoral committee of a dual-title degree student must include a minimum of four faculty members, i.e., the chair and at least three additional members, all of whom must be members of the graduate faculty. In addition to the general Graduate Council requirements for Ph.D. committees, the committee must include at least one member of the African Studies Graduate Faculty. Faculty members who hold Graduate Faculty appointments in both Applied Linguistics and African Studies may serve in a combined role. If the chair of the Ph.D. committee is not a member of the Graduate Faculty in African Studies, the member of the committee representing African Studies must be appointed as co-chair.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAM

After completing all coursework, doctoral candidates for the dual-title degree in Applied Linguistics and African Studies must pass a comprehensive examination that includes written and oral components. Written components will be administered for a candidate's major Applied Linguistics subfield and African Studies. The Comprehensive Examination will be made up of two questions jointly composed by the student's committee under the direction of the chair of the student's PhD committee.

DISSERTATION AND DISSERTATION DEFENSE

Upon completion of the doctoral dissertation, the candidate must pass a final oral examination (the dissertation defense) to earn a PhD. Students enrolled in the dual-title program are required to write and orally defend a dissertation on a topic that reflects their original research and education in Applied Linguistics and African Studies.

Dual-Title Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies

Requirements listed here are in addition to requirements listed in GCAC-208 Dual-Title Graduate Degree Programs (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-208-dual-titles/>).

Graduate students with research and educational interests in Asian Studies may apply to the Applied Linguistics/Asian Studies Degree Program. The goal of the dual-title degree Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies is to enable graduate students from Applied Linguistics to acquire the knowledge and skills of their major area of specialization in

Applied Linguistics while at the same time gaining the perspective of Asian Studies.

In order to prepare graduate students for the competitive job market, this program provides them with a solid disciplinary foundation that will allow them to compete for the best jobs in their field. For such students the dual-title Ph.D. in Asian Studies will add value to their degree and their status as candidates. It will produce excellent linguists who are experts in Asian Studies as well. The dual-title degree in Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies will build curricular bridges beyond the student's major field so as to provide a unique training regime for the global scholar.

Admission Requirements

For admission to the dual-title Ph.D. degree under this program, a student must first apply and be admitted to the Applied Linguistics graduate program. Once accepted into the Applied Linguistics program, the student can apply to the Admissions Committee of the Asian Studies. The Asian Studies Admissions Committee reviews applications and recommends students for admission to the Asian Studies program to the Graduate School. Refer to the Admission Requirements section of the Asian Studies Bulletin page (<http://bulletins.psu.edu/graduate/programs/majors/asian-studies/>). Doctoral students must be admitted into the dual-title degree program in Asian Studies prior to taking the qualifying examination in their primary graduate program. Applicants interested in the program should also make their interest in the dual-title degree program known clearly on their applications and include remarks in their essays that explain their training, interests, and career goals in an area of Asian Studies.

Degree Requirements

To qualify for an Asian Studies degree, students must satisfy the requirements of the Applied Linguistics program in which they are primarily enrolled. In addition, they must satisfy the requirements described below, as established by the Asian Studies committee. Within this framework, final course selection is determined by the student, their Asian Studies adviser, and their Applied Linguistics program adviser.

Upon a student's acceptance by the Asian Studies Admissions Committee, the student will be assigned an Asian Studies academic adviser in consultation with the Asian Studies chair. As students develop specific scholarly interests, they may request that a different Asian Studies faculty member serve as their adviser. The student and adviser will discuss a program of study that is appropriate for the student's professional objectives and that is in accord with the policies of The Graduate School, the Applied Linguistics department and the Asian Studies program.

The doctoral degree in Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies is awarded only to students who are admitted to the Applied Linguistics doctoral program and admitted to the dual-title degree in Asian Studies. The minimum course requirements for the dual-title Ph.D. degree in Applied Linguistics and Asian Studies are as follows:

60 credits beyond the master's degree, including:

Code	Title	Credits
Required Courses		
APLNG 580	Proseminar in Applied Linguistics	1
<i>Foundations Courses</i>		
Select 6 credits, which may include but need not be limited to the following:		6
APLNG 591	Seminar in Second Language Acquisition	

APLNG 597	Special Topics	
<i>Research Methods</i>		
Select 6 credits, which may include but need not be limited to the following:		6
APLNG 593	Experimental Research on Language	
APLNG 597	Special Topics	
APLNG 581	Discourse Analysis	
APLNG 586	Analyzing Classroom Discourse	
<i>Asia-related Coursework</i>		
ASIA 501	Proseminar in Asian Studies I	3
ASIA 502	Proseminar in Asian Studies II	3
Select 9 credits at the 400 or 500 level ¹		9
<i>Electives</i>		
Select 6 credits in Applied Linguistics electives, in consultation with the applied linguistics adviser		6
Language Requirement		
All-skills proficiency in one Asian language AND intermediate speaking competence in an additional language other than English		
Total Credits		34

¹ As many as 6 may come from Applied Linguistics, as approved by the student's doctoral adviser and the Asian Studies Program director of graduate studies. The remaining credits can be taken in ASIA or in any department other than Applied Linguistics.

Particular courses may satisfy both the Applied Linguistics requirements and those of the Asian Studies program. Final course selection is determined by the student in consultation with their dual-title program advisers and their major program advisers.

Minor

A graduate minor is available in any approved graduate major or dual-title program. The default requirements for a graduate minor are stated in Graduate Council policy GCAC-218 Minors (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gcac/gcac-200/gcac-218-minors/>).

Student Aid

Graduate assistantships available to students in this program and other forms of student aid are described in the Tuition & Funding (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/funding/>) section of the J. Jeffrey and Ann Marie Fox Graduate School's website. Students on graduate assistantships must adhere to the course load limits (<https://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/gsad/gsad-900/gsad-901-graduate-assistants/>) set by the Fox Graduate School.

Courses

Graduate courses carry numbers from 500 to 699 and 800 to 899. Advanced undergraduate courses numbered between 400 and 499 may be used to meet some graduate degree requirements when taken by graduate students. Courses below the 400 level may not. A graduate student may register for or audit these courses in order to make up deficiencies or to fill in gaps in previous education but not to meet requirements for an advanced degree.

Applied Linguistics (APLNG) Course List (<https://bulletins.psu.edu/university-course-descriptions/graduate/aplng/>)

Learning Outcomes

1. Graduates will demonstrate command of historical and current developments in applied linguistics theory and the current literature relevant to a particular theoretical topic and research area in applied linguistics.
2. Graduates will demonstrate command of current developments in research methods in applied linguistics and ability to collect and adequately analyze data appropriate for addressing specific research questions.
3. Graduates will demonstrate ability to design and execute original, independent research projects to significantly advance theory and knowledge in applied linguistics.
4. Graduates will demonstrate ability to clearly and effectively report their research in both oral presentations and written formats using appropriate conventions of the discipline.
5. Graduates will demonstrate knowledge of and commitment to the professional and ethical standards of scholarly and professional work in applied linguistics.

Contact

Campus	University Park
Graduate Program Head	Tommaso M Milani
Director of Graduate Studies (DGS) or Professor-in-Charge (PIC)	Celeste S Kinginger
Program Contact	Nicole Marie Schwindenhammer 234 Sparks Building 371 Fraser Road University Park PA 16802 nmf119@psu.edu (814) 867-4284
Program Website	View (http://aplng.la.psu.edu/programs/ph-d-degree-in-applied-linguistics/)