

Academic Year 2025/26

Doctor of Philosophy (Integrated) in Phonetics and Phonology

Code: 8184F

Notes:

- (i) *These regulations are to be read in conjunction with the Regulations for Student Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (Integrated).*
- (ii) *A core module is a module which a student must pass and in which a fail mark may not be compensated; such modules are designated by the board of studies as essential.*
- (iii) *A compulsory module is a module which a student must take.*
- (iv) *All modules are delivered in Linear mode unless stated otherwise as Block, eLearning or distance learning.*

1. Programme structure

- (a) The programme is available for study in full-time mode.
- (b) The period of study for full-time mode shall normally be 4 years starting in September.
- (c) The taught element of the programme consists of compulsory and taught modules to a value of 180 credits selected with the advice and agreement of the Degree Programme Director. It is normally taken in year 1.
- (d) The research-based element of the programme consists of a written thesis of roughly 80,000 words and is written in years 2-4.
- (e) All candidates shall take the following **compulsory modules**:

Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2	Credits Sem 3	Level	Type	Mode
SPE8011	Fundamental Elements of Phonetics and Phonology	20	20			7	Core	
SEL8154	Issues in Phonological Theory I	20	20			7	Core	
SEL8691	Advanced Topics in Phonology	20		20		7	Core	
SEL8531	Research Methods for IPhD and MLitt Students	20	10	10		8		

- (f) All candidates shall take one further optional module to a value of **40 credits** from the following:

Theme	Code	Descriptive title	Total Credits	Credits Sem 1	Credits Sem 2	Level	Type	Core
Sociolinguistics	SEL8163	Language and Society	20	20		7		
Language Development	SEL8696	ToDLR: Topics on Developmental Linguistics Research	20	20		7		
Second Language Acquisition	ALC8026	Language Learning	20	20		7		
	SEL8690	Advanced Topics in Second Language Acquisition	20	20		7		

	SEL8701	Foundations in Second Language Learning and Teaching	20		20	7		
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Optional modules will only run if they recruit sufficient numbers and are not guaranteed to run.

With the approval of the Degree Programme Director and depending upon the academic background of the candidate alternative optional modules to those listed above may be selected.

2. Assessment Methods

Details of the assessment pattern for each module are explained in the module outline. Students must normally accumulate a total of 180 credits in year 1. Following the completion of 120 credits of taught modules, the progress of each student registered for the degree of Integrated PhD in Phonetics and Phonology will be reviewed by the Board of Examiners at the Interim Exam Board in late June. Students must pass, or be deemed to have passed: (i) 120 credits of taught modules with an average mark of at least 60 in order to progress to SPE8319: Phonetics and Phonology Research Project, Semester 3 of year 1. They will be allocated a first supervisor who will advise them on the summer project. Following the successful completion of the research project the progress of each student is reviewed at the Final Exam Board in late October. A mark of at least 60 on the Phonetics and Phonology Research project (SPE8319, 60 credits) is required in order for students to progress to the research phase of the programme (years 2-4). If the student fails SPE8319 or a mark lower than 60 is awarded, a second and final attempt will be permitted. No capping will be applied to this second attempt. Once progression has been confirmed, they will be allocated a second supervisor to oversee their PhD project. At the end of their second year, students are additionally required to present an outline of their research proposal to a panel. Progress panels are also held at the end of years three and four.

Postgraduate research students are responsible for making themselves familiar with the Guidelines for Research Students approved by Senate from time to time which are available to them each academic year.

3. Other

Exceptionally and on a case-by-case basis, a candidate who already holds a strong MA or equivalent degree in Linguistics or English language is eligible to apply for Credit Transfer Recognition of Prior Learning up to a maximum of 40 credits, normally equivalent to two 20-credit modules.

4. Exit Awards

In the case of students who have not demonstrated the potential to succeed on the full programme, or who choose not to continue on the full programme, at the end of 12 months, or where the progress of the student is deemed unsatisfactory at subsequent stages, they may be considered for the award of: (a) a PG Certificate in Phonetics and Phonology (if they have successfully passed 60 credits of taught modules), (b) a PG Diploma in Phonetics and Phonology (if they have successfully passed 120 credits of taught modules); (c) a Master's degree. In order to qualify for the award of a Master's degree, a student must have demonstrated achievement of all the learning outcomes of the degree to be awarded. The degree of MA in Phonetics and Phonology may be awarded on completion of 180 credits, to include SPE8319: Phonetics and Phonology Research Project.