

M.A. Comprehensive Exam Statement of Expectations Linguistics or TESOL

Students taking the MA Exam in Linguistics or TESOL are expected to demonstrate an understanding of:

- the basics of core linguistic theory and analytical tools—in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics—as well as in applied linguistics; [this last clause for TESOL exam only]
- the primary theorists in each of the above areas;
- the historical development of linguistics, including the major theoretical advances, especially from the 20th century to the present; and
- the research methods common in the field.

In addition, examinees will demonstrate their proficiency in:

- performing insightful structural analyses of unfamiliar languages based on appropriate data sets; and
- arguing cogently for particular linguistic analyses and/or theories.

MA exams will be evaluated based on the student's ability to demonstrate mastery of any or all of the above to the extent required by the particular questions on the exam, as well as by the student's ability to develop an organized and well-written scholarly essay.