



## **Curriculum for the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics**

Approved by the Faculty Council of the Faculty of Arts 17 December 2003 with adjustments approved in item 110/2004, under the provisions of section 3 in the Regulations for the degree of philosophiae doctor (PhD), as passed by the Board of Governors of NTNU 22 May 2003.

### **CURRICULUM OBJECTIVES (Section 2 in the Regulations)**

The objective of the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics is to promote independent scholarly work in a specialty field leading to a scientific dissertation at a high academic level. Additionally, PhD candidates will gain breadth and depth as a result of working with advanced theory and methodology, while at the same time viewing their selected field in a larger context.

### **EXTENT AND CONTENT**

The PhD programme in Language and Linguistics is a dissertation-oriented, three-year, full-time programme (180 ECTS credits) . It contains the following components:

- Dissertation work equivalent to 2 ½ years or 150 ECTS credits
- Coursework equivalent to ½ year or 30 ECTS credits

The PhD curriculum in Language and Linguistics also includes:

- participation in active research forums and environments, at a local, national, and international level.
- presentation of results, including scholarly publication of the PhD project.

These issues will be addressed in separate paragraphs below.

### **ACADEMIC FIELDS COVERED BY THE PhD PROGRAMME IN LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS**

The PhD programme in Language and Linguistics includes the following disciplines: English, French and German Linguistics, Scandinavian Linguistics, General Linguistics, Language and Communication Studies, Phonetics, Greek, Latin.

The programme is open to other candidates if the topic, the PhD proposal, and research questions are deemed appropriate (see separate paragraph on admission requirements below).

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Application procedure (Section 5.2 in the Regulations)**

Application to the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics is to be submitted on a separate form and sent to the Faculty of Arts by way of the appropriate department. If necessary, applicants may include, in addition to the attachments listed in section 5.2 of the Regulations, a CV, a confirmation of courses for which the candidate seeks approval as part of the programme's coursework, and documentation of any other relevant education or work experience.

Applications for admission to the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics are processed consecutively and admissions are generally granted continuously, but the Faculty reserves the right to establish deadlines if necessary or expedient.

### **Admission requirements (Section 5.1 in the Regulations)**

The applicant is generally required to hold a graduate degree (*hovedfag* or discipline-based master's degree) in a discipline covered by the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics.

Applicants with other formally approved education (graduate-level), may be admitted if the PhD proposal or other work proves equivalent in academic standing.

An applicant may be admitted to the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics without a graduate degree or other formally approved education if the applicant can verify equivalence in academic standing.

The Faculty will decide whether or not the applicant must pass courses/tests before admission.

### **The PhD proposal (Section 5.2 of the Regulations)**

A complete PhD proposal is considered essential for successful completion of a dissertation-oriented PhD programme.

Upon application to the PhD programme, the general requirement is submission of a 5 to 10 page research proposal.

For applicants employed in recruitment positions, the research proposal enclosed with the application for admission to the PhD programme is usually the same as the one that was assessed as a part of the scholarship application. Other applicants to the PhD programme are also required to enclose a research proposal.

In cases where the PhD project is part of a larger research project, a shorter individual proposal submitted along with the main project proposal may be accepted as a satisfactory basis for admission to the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics.

In view of the time limitations imposed on completion of the dissertation-oriented PhD programme, the proposal must be submitted as soon as possible after entering the programme. For applicants providing only a preliminary draft as basis for admission to the programme, a complete proposal must be submitted within 2 months after admission.

The PhD proposal should include information about the following items:

#### *Title and research questions*

The title must provide information about the topic of the dissertation. The research questions should define and delimit the topic in a precise way. The presentation of the research questions should be done in a concise way.

#### *Background of the project*

The applicant should document an appropriate understanding of the field of research, nationally as well as internationally. The originality of the project, its innovativeness and relevance to other research in the field should be evident from the proposal. The proposal

should indicate how the project may supplement previous research and contribute to new knowledge.

#### *Theoretical foundation*

The applicant must provide a short description of the theoretical framework for the research topic and provide an account of how theory may be applied in the exploration of the questions raised. The proposal has to offer adequate information to support the appropriateness of the choice of methods and theories with regard to addressing the research questions, or it must demonstrate that there is good potential to develop necessary methods and theory.

#### *Data/material and method*

The project's methodological point of departure and its scholarly or scientific approach should be presented and discussed. This means that the empirical basis of the project ( for example, original texts, secondary sources, fieldwork, interviews, statistical information, etc.) should be described, together with information about how the data will be collected and analysed.

#### *Presentation of results*

Plans for the communication of research outcomes, other than the dissertation, should be described.

#### *Progression and work schedule*

The proposal should include a work schedule that demonstrates how the project will be completed in the designated time, i.e. 3 years of full-time study including ½ year of coursework.

#### *Additional information*

The proposal should describe the applicant's professional background and qualifications, as well as plausible partners or research networks with which the applicant could be affiliated. Language skills are to be mentioned, if relevant to the project.

#### **Funding plan (Sections 5.2 and 7.1 in the Regulations)**

Normally, only applicants with full funding will be admitted to the programme, or applicants who hold academic positions with allotted time for their own research. Other applicants may be admitted if the application, proposal and recommendation from the department and supervisor endorse the applicant's ability to complete the PhD in the designated 3 years

PhD candidates in academic positions with roughly 50% time allotted for their own research will normally be allowed an extended period of up to 5 years.

#### **SUPERVISION (Section 8 in the Regulations)**

Supervisors in the PhD programmes of the Faculty of Arts must hold a doctorate, either earned in Norway or internationally at an equivalent academic level, or they must have earned the status of Professor as a result of an appraisal (re: resolution in HFd 140/2003)

#### **Rights and obligations**

The PhD candidate and supervisor are reciprocally responsible for keeping each other continuously informed about all important issues to ensure satisfactory supervision. The parties are obliged to actively address issues that may involve a risk that the supervision is not

carried out in accordance with the Regulations for PhDs at NTNU as well as the PhD agreement.

The *Supervisor*, in addition to the responsibilities laid down in the Regulations, is required to:

- give advice on the articulation and delimiting of topics and research questions.
- discuss, assess and suggest hypotheses and methods as well as suitable forms of data collection.
- provide assistance in finding relevant research literature.
- discuss the plan and strategy for the completion of the dissertation work.
- assist in introducing the candidate to relevant academic environments and networks.
- discuss results and their interpretation.
- provide the candidate with guidance on ethical questions that may arise while working on the dissertation.
- take joint responsibility with the candidate for work progression and continuously assess it in relation to the proposed schedule.

The PhD candidate is required to:

- actively participate in the academic community at the department where he or she resides, preferably by participating in one or more of the research groups.
- take joint responsibility with the supervisor to achieve satisfactory progress in the dissertation work.
- regularly present drafts of the dissertation-in-progress to the supervisor.
- uphold research ethics relevant to the field of study.

#### **RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS (Section 7 in the Regulations)**

For PhD candidates not employed by NTNU, separate agreements will be made that uphold residency requirement provisions of the Regulations so that the rights and obligations concerning supervision are provided for and ensuring that the candidate will contribute to the academic community of the PhD programme and the Department.

#### **PARTICIPATION IN ACTIVE RESEARCH ENVIRONMENTS (Section 4 in the Regulations)**

In addition to active participation in the PhD programme in Language and Linguistics, efforts will be made to facilitate travel to visit academic institutions abroad, if this is appropriate for the project, as well as to allow the candidate to actively participate in national and international academic conferences.

#### **DISSEMINATION OF RESULTS (Section 4 in the Regulations)**

The PhD programme in Language and Linguistics is dissertation-oriented. This means that scholarly presentation of results first and foremost will take place through the publication of the dissertation (monograph or collection of articles). Professional dissemination may also be executed by presentations of the PhD project, as chapters from the dissertation, papers at academic conferences, as well as publication of scholarly or scientific papers, feature articles, etc.

#### **REPORTING (Section 9 in the Regulations)**

The Faculty will determine a deadline for the submission of the annual report from the PhD candidate and the supervisor.

## **COURSEWORK COMPONENT (Section 7.3 in the Regulation)**

### **Objective**

The coursework component of the PhD programme is designed to ensure academic and methodological training at the highest level in order to qualify the candidate for the dissertation work and to ensure adequate diversity in the candidate's scholarly competence.

### **Content and extent**

The coursework component consists of four elements:

- Course in foundations of the humanities (7.5 ECTS credits)
- Course in theory/ method (7.5 ECTS credits)
- Discipline-related course (7.5 ECTS credits)
- Elective (7.5 ECTS credits)

## **Courses offered as part of the PhD coursework in Language and Linguistics**

### *Foundations of the Humanities*

Either

Code	Title	ECTS credits	Term
KULT8850*	Theories of Science	7.5	Spring/Autumn

\*See the Curriculum for the PhD programme in Interdisciplinary Cultural Studies

### *Theory/method*

Code	Title	ECTS credits	Term
SPRÅK8860	Qualitative and Quantitative Aspects of Method.	7.5	Spring

### *Disciplinary courses*

Code	Title	ECTS credits	Term
SPRÅK8872	Language Theory	7.5	Autumn

Electives (7.5 ECTS credits) include relevant courses offered at the local, national or international level. To be specially announced.

Director of the PhD programme: Professor Mila Vulchanova, Department of Modern Foreign Languages

### **Academic tools courses**

The Faculty will, upon request of PhD candidates and the PhD programmes, offer courses that provide training in the use of various academic tools. The following topics may be offered:

- Academic writing course
- Academic English for humanities scholars and social scientists
- Presentation techniques

- Project management

The courses will not be accepted as part of the required coursework load of 30 ECTS credits, but may count as supplemental credits.

### **Responsibility for implementation (Section 7.3 in the Regulations)**

The Faculty shall provide all PhD candidates with an offer of high quality scholarly and scientific training at an advanced level. This responsibility rests primarily with the PhD programmes.

### **Approval of the coursework component (Section 7.3 in the Regulations)**

- The director of the PhD programme will approve, upon recommendation from the supervisor, any replacement of the PhD programme's courses with courses from other PhD programmes in the Faculty of Arts.
- The director of the PhD programme approves, on recommendation from the supervisor, any replacement of the PhD programme's courses with courses from other PhD programmes at other Faculties of NTNU. If the supervisor and /or director recommend that the request of a PhD candidate should be rejected, the case will be transferred to the Faculty for final resolution.
- The Faculty will make adjustments for national, Nordic, or other international research courses as electives upon recommendation from the PhD programme director.
- Requests for exemptions from all or parts of the coursework component in accordance with section 7.3 of the PhD Regulations, fifth subsection, are to be submitted to the Faculty with recommendations from the supervisor and the director of the PhD programme.
- The Faculty will check the successful completion of coursework when the dissertation is submitted.

### **THE DISSERTATION (Section 7.3 in the Regulations)**

#### **Language**

The preferred language for the dissertation is Norwegian or English. If the candidate wishes to use another language, an application should be submitted upon admission.

#### **Length**

The length of a PhD dissertation in Language and Linguistics will vary according to topic, approach, and whether the candidate chooses to write a monograph or a collection of articles. Normally, the dissertation should not exceed 300 pages.