

THE DEPARTMENT OF LANGUAGE, LINGUISTICS & LITERATURE

MPhil/PhD Programmes

Introduction

The Department of Language, Linguistics and Literature offers the following MPhil/PhD programmes:

- MPhil/PhD French;
- MPhil/PhD Spanish;
- MPhil/PhD Linguistics; and
- MPhil/PhD Literatures in English.

Admission to the MPhil

The norm for admission to the MPhil degree is a First or Upper Second Class honours degree or its equivalent in the discipline. Alternatively, candidates for the MA degree who have successfully completed their coursework component with an average grade of 60% or more may be allowed to upgrade to the MPhil degree.

Admission is contingent upon whether candidates have a thesis proposal compatible with the expertise and resources available at Cave Hill.

Admission to the PhD

UWI graduates in possession of the MA degree by coursework and/or the MPhil degree in the discipline in which the average coursework mark is 60% or better may be accepted to register for the PhD degree. Graduates from other recognized tertiary institutions who hold equivalent qualifications may be allowed to register for the PhD degree.

Alternatively, students currently studying at UWI for the MPhil degree who have

- successfully defended a thesis Proposal of a scope and depth deemed worthy of an upgrade and
- consistently produced work of a standard, in the opinion of their Supervisor, to merit an upgrade, may be allowed to transfer to the PhD programme.

Such candidates will be required to successfully complete an Upgrade Seminar according to the guidelines prescribed by the School of Graduate Studies and Research.

Status

Candidates may enroll for the MPhil or PhD on a full-time or part-time basis. All candidates who are required to do coursework must register initially on a part-time basis. Candidates who are not required to do Coursework as well as candidates who have completed their courses may enroll full-time.

Coursework

Candidates admitted directly to the MPhil programme are required to do 4 courses (unless already taken

at the MA level) during their first year of study.

This coursework is intended to expand and strengthen disciplinary knowledge acquired at the undergraduate level and to facilitate more concentrated specialist work in the discipline.

Postgraduate courses in another discipline may be substituted, where appropriate and subject to approval, for up to two (2) prescribed Courses. Independent Reading Courses may also be substituted, in special circumstances and subject to approval, for up to two (2) prescribed Courses.

Independent Reading courses

Candidates for the MPhil degree pursuing Coursework may, only in special circumstances, substitute up to two (2) Independent Reading Courses. This is contingent upon the availability of staff to direct such courses as well as the approval of the Department. To this end, candidates should first identify and consult with a potential Director for the project.

Independent Reading Courses may be based upon extant courses (in which case the course content, the reading list, the methods of assessment, etc. may be slightly altered) or may be designed to suit the special needs of the candidate. Any such proposal must be related to the major focus or foci of the MA or MPhil degree of the discipline in question and / or should be compatible with the resources and expertise available in the Department.

In the case of the latter, students, in consultation with the proposed Director, must write a proposal providing the following information:

- **RATIONALE:** an explanation of how the material of the proposed course forms a coherent focus of study and an outline the objectives thereof.
- **ASSESSMENT:** a list of the format, number, and length of assignments to be submitted to the Director.
- **CONTACT SCHEDULE:** a statement of the frequency and length of time you and your Director will meet (e.g once per week for one hour).
- **READING LIST:** this list should follow the guidelines prescribed by the MLA HANDBOOK and should be divided into Required and Recommended readings.

You should submit the completed proposal to your proposed Director who will then formally pass it on, indicating his/her approval, to the Department's Coordinator of Graduate Studies.

STUDY PLANS / PROGRESS REPORTS

The candidate's Supervisor is required to submit a detailed progress report on the work accomplished by the candidate under his / her supervision once per semester. This Report indicates what remains to be completed and whether the candidate is on schedule. To these ends, normally in the first week of each semester, the Supervisor evaluates the work accomplished in the previous semester and, in cooperation with the candidate, sets out an agenda (in the form of a Study Plan) for the coming semester, in relation to which the student's progress is measured in the following Report. Any candidate whose progress is repeatedly reported to be unsatisfactory by his/her Chief Supervisor may be required to withdraw from the programme.

Thesis Proposal Requirements for MPhil candidates

- After completion of their coursework, candidates are required to present and defend a Thesis Proposal of acceptable scope and quality for the MPhil degree. Candidates exempt from coursework on the strength of courses taken prior to entry into the MPhil programme should defend their thesis proposal in their first year of study.

Thesis Proposal Requirements for PhD candidates

- Full-time candidates are required to present and defend a Thesis Proposal of acceptable scope and quality for the PhD degree by the end of their first year of study;
- Part-time candidates are required to present and defend a Thesis Proposal of acceptable scope and quality for the PhD degree by the end of the first semester of their second year of study.

The Thesis Proposal must follow the guidelines set out later in the University's Thesis Guide.

Seminar

Each candidate will present at least two (2) seminars (MPhil)/ three (3) seminars (PhD) before a panel consisting of members of staff in the discipline and other interested parties.

Thesis

MPhil candidates are required to research and submit a thesis (40,000 - 50,000 words, exclusive of notes and bibliography) on a topic approved by the Committee of Supervisors.

PhD candidates are required to research and write a thesis (80,000 words, exclusive of notes and bibliography).

Time Limits - MPhil

Full-time MPhil candidates will have up to three (3) calendar years to complete the degree requirements (Coursework and Thesis).

Full-time students who upgrade to MPhil from the MA programme must complete the degree requirements within two (2) calendar years of the start of the programme.

Part-time MPhil candidates will have up to five (5) years to complete the same requirements.

Time Limits - PhD

Full-time PhD candidates must complete the requirements for the degree within five (5) calendar years of the start of the programme.

Part-time PhD candidates have up to seven (7) years to complete the same requirements.

Award of Degree

The successful completion of the Coursework (where necessary), the compulsory Seminar Presentations,

and the Thesis will lead to the award of the MPhil or PhD degree.

LIST OF COURSES

LING 6801 Independent Reading Course I
LING 6802 Independent Reading Course II
LITS 6801 Independent Reading Course I
LITS 6802 Independent Reading Course II
FREN 6801 Independent Reading Course I
FREN 6802 Independent Reading Course II
SPAN 6801 Independent Reading Course I
SPAN 6802 Independent Reading Course II

GRSM 6000 MPhil Research Seminar 1
GRSM 6001 MPhil Research Seminar 2

FREN 6990 MPhil French Thesis
LING 6990 MPhil Linguistics Thesis
LITS 6992 MPhil Literatures in English Thesis
SPAN 6990 MPhil Spanish Thesis

GRSM 8001 PhD Research Seminar 1
GRSM 8002 PhD Research Seminar 2
GRSM 8003 PhD Research Seminar 3

FREN 8099 PhD French Thesis
LING 8050 PhD Linguistics Thesis
LITS 8000 PhD Literatures in English Thesis
SPAN 8099 PhD Spanish Thesis
