

Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures

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Graduate study is offered in the Department of Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures leading to the degree of Master of Arts. Areas of study are French, German, and Spanish.

Admission Criteria

The Graduate Record Examination (GRE) is not required for admission to the M.A. program in Classical & Modern Languages and Literatures. International students are required to have a TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) score of 525 PBT (193 CBT or 70 iBT) or an IELTS (International English Language Testing Systems) score of 6 or better for consideration. In order to be considered for an assistantship, applicants must submit all materials, including the Application for Graduate Assistantship, by April 1.

Provisional Admission

A student who has not fully met the requirements stipulated by the University and the department for admission to graduate study may be granted admission as a degree-seeking graduate student with provisional status. Such a student must have as his or her initial objective advancement to regular status.

A provisional student must receive a 3.00 GPA on the first 9 hours of graduate-level courses on his or her program of study taken at Mississippi State University (courses with an S grade, transfer credits, or credits earned while in Unclassified status cannot be used to satisfy this requirement) in order to achieve regular status. If a 3.00 is not attained, the provisional student will be dismissed from graduate study. A provisional student is ineligible to hold a graduate assistantship.

Academic Performance

Continuous enrollment in the University or in a specific graduate program is dependent upon a satisfactory evaluation of academic performance and progress toward the completion of a specified degree. A student's progress is considered satisfactory unless judged to be unsatisfactory by the department and/or the dean of the college offering the program. Unsatisfactory performance may be defined as the failure to maintain a B average in graduate courses attempted after admission to the program, a grade of U, D, or F in any course, more than two grades below a B, failure of the preliminary/comprehensive examination, an unsatisfactory evaluation of a thesis or dissertation, failure of the research defense, or any other failure of a required component of one's program of study. Any one of these, or any combination of these, may constitute the basis for the termination of a student's graduate study in a degree program; individual programs have the right to establish their own criteria.

To be eligible for the preliminary/comprehensive examination, a graduate student must maintain an overall B average in all graduate courses attempted after admission to the program.

Graduate teaching assistantships, awarded on a competitive basis, are available. In order to be considered for an assistantship, applicants must submit all materials, including the Application for Graduate Assistantship, by April 1. For additional information, contact the Graduate Coordinator (p. 1).

Program of Study/Completion Requirements

Thesis and non-thesis options are available. A minimum of 21 semester hours in one language must be taken for the M.A.; this allows a student to work in a minor field, such as History, Education, the Teaching of English as a Second Language, and Foreign Language Methodology.

Master of Arts in Foreign Language - Thesis

FL XXXX	Graduate language courses in chosen area of study ¹	21
Additional graduate-level coursework		3
Research/thesis ²		6
Total Hours		30

¹ This allows a student to work in a minor field, such as History, Education, the Teaching of English as a Second Language, and Foreign Language Methodology.

² Requires an oral defense of the thesis.

Also required for the degree is a comprehensive oral examination based upon all coursework taken, a Departmental Graduate Reading List and an oral defense of the thesis. Knowledge of the Departmental Graduate Reading List is required of all master's candidates and will be tested in the comprehensive oral examination, which is a formal requirement for the degree. At least 12 hours of coursework must be 8000-level.

Master of Arts - Non-Thesis

The non-thesis option requires satisfactory completion of 33 semester hours in one language or 36 semester hours in two languages for students wishing a double major (18 semester hours in each language). Also required for the degree is a comprehensive oral examination based upon all coursework taken and a Departmental Graduate Reading List. Knowledge of the Departmental Graduate Reading List is required of all master's candidates and will be tested in the comprehensive oral examination, which is a formal requirement for the degree. At least 15 hours of coursework must be 8000-level.