

# FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY™

## Graduate Programs—PROGRAM CHANGE REQUEST

UGPC APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 UFS APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 CATALOG \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT: ENGLISH

COLLEGE: ARTS & LETTERS

PROGRAM NAME:  
 ENGLISH MASTER OF ARTS

**EFFECTIVE DATE**  
 (PROVIDE TERM/YEAR)  
 SUMMER 2016

PLEASE EXPLAIN THE REQUESTED CHANGE(S) AND OFFER RATIONALE BELOW AND/OR ATTACHED:

The Department of English is proposing to 1) make LIN 6107: History of the English Language (HOTEL) an optional course instead of a requirement and 2) waive the foreign language requirement for students who take LIN 6107 (in other words, add LIN 6107 as a language requirement).

Rationale:

- 1) We are making LIN 6107 an optional course in order to give students more flexibility to take classes in their area of concentration.
- 2) We would like to revise our language requirements by adding another option for students, the formal study of the workings of language as language or LIN 6107. If graduate students are in a field where they need a foreign language, we will advise them to take Reading for Research or one of the other options for foreign language acquisition. HOTEL will be an option for students whose field does not necessarily need a foreign language. We are not eliminating the foreign language requirement but rather offering an additional option. LIN 6107 is a course that expects students to pay explicit attention to how language works; it teaches a scientific approach to language. We thus believe it makes sense to add this as a "language option." Students who opt to take LIN 6107 as their language requirement can also count this course toward their degree.

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:

Sika Dagbovie-Mullins 297-3830

Consult and list departments that might be affected by the change and attach comments.  
 Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Studies

*Approved by:*

Department Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College Curriculum Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_  
 UGPC Chair: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Graduate College Dean: \_\_\_\_\_  
 UFS President: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Provost: \_\_\_\_\_

*Date:*

3/18/16  
 3/18/16  
 3/18/16

Email this form and syllabus to [UGPC@fau.edu](mailto:UGPC@fau.edu) **one week before** the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.

**Current Catalog description:**

General Degree Requirements 1. Principles and Problems of Literary Study (ENG 6009), required during the first term of graduate study or as soon thereafter as possible. 2. History of the English Language (LIN 6107). 3. Literary Criticism 1 or 2 (ENG 5018 or 5019). 4. Thesis or comprehensive exam (6 credits). Graduate students in the English M.A. program must demonstrate research proficiency through the formal study of one language other than English in one of the following ways: 1. Successfully completing a Reading for Research (FRE/GER/SPN 5060) course offered by FAU's Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature. 2. Passing two semesters of the same foreign language at the intermediate level (2220 and 2221). 3. Passing a test in a foreign language, as determined by the department.

**Revised Catalog description:**

General Degree Requirements 1. Principles and Problems of Literary Study (ENG 6009), required during the first term of graduate study or as soon thereafter as possible. 2. Literary Criticism 1 or 2 (ENG 5018 or 5019). 3. Thesis or comprehensive exam (6 credits).

Graduate students in the English M.A. program must demonstrate research proficiency through the formal study of one language other than English or take LIN 6107: History of the English Language that introduces them to the workings of language as language. Students can fulfill this requirement in the following ways: 1. Successfully completing a Reading for Research (FRE/GER/SPN 5060) course offered by FAU's Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature. 2. Passing two semesters of the same foreign language at the intermediate level (2220 and 2221). 3. Passing a test in a foreign language, as determined by the department, 4. Successfully completing LIN 6107: History of the English Language. Students who opt to take LIN 6107 as their language requirement can also count this course toward their degree.

To: Dr. Eric Berlatsky  
Chair, Department of English

From: Dr. Marcella Munson  
Chair, Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature



Date: February 4, 2016

Re: Proposal to Modify Foreign Language Requirement for the English MA and MFA

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This memo is to certify that the Department of Languages, Linguistics, and Comparative Literature does not object to the proposal to modify the foreign language requirement for the English MA and MFA to include LIN 6107 "History of the English Language" as an option for completion of this requirement.

Please note that our department's certification of this proposal is based on the following mutual understanding:

- LIN 6107 is the only course which will count as a viable alternative option for completion of the foreign language requirement.
- Graduate students will still be actively encouraged to fulfill the "foreign" language requirement via knowledge of a language other than English, whether through actual undergraduate language coursework or a graduate Reading for Research course, in keeping with the MLA's formal and well-publicized recommendations for graduate programs to work on strengthening, instead of diminishing, graduate students' exposure to/knowledge of languages other than English.
- Graduate students with good knowledge of more than one language are typically better-rounded as scholars, Ph.D. applicants and candidates, and job candidates. We feel it is essential to make certain that our Ph.D. cohorts understand this aspect of the academic and wider professional markets.