

LINGUISTICS: FINAL HONOURS SCHOOL

Papers for the Final Honours School

The subjects below (papers IV, V, XII and XIII) comprise the ‘linguistics’ part of the Final Honours School in ‘Modern Language and Linguistics’. Some of these papers are also available individually to students who are not reading for that degree but are reading for the Final Honours School in either a sole language or in two languages. *Please note that this handbook and the meeting in week 0 at the beginning of the academic year are only about the papers in the shaded cells of the following table. Specific information on Papers IV and V in the language can be found on each Sub-Faculty’s webpage.*

	IV in the language	V in the language	XII marked as linguistics	XIII	Second XII
Modern language and linguistics*	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Compulsory	Optional
Sole language other than French	At least one		Optional	Optional	Unavailable ¹
French sole	Optional	Optional	Optional	Optional	Unavailable
Two languages	Optional	Optional	Unavailable ²	Unavailable	Unavailable ¹

Note (i) that all candidates offering Italian in **any** of these options must offer either Italian IV, Italian V or Italian IX;
(ii) that all candidates offering two languages must offer either IV or V or a pre-modern paper in one of their two languages.

Candidates in ‘Modern Language and Linguistics’ will offer (in addition to the four *compulsory* linguistics papers listed above)

- papers I and II in the language;
- one paper out of VI, VII, VIII in the language;
- EITHER one paper out of IX, X, XI in the language
OR a second paper XII (which may be either in linguistics or in the language);
- *optionally* (in addition to the above) XIV.

Brief descriptions of papers XIII and the various XII are given below together with summaries of teaching and examining conventions. Please bear in mind that some of these subjects, especially the paper XII special subjects, are on offer subject to appropriate teaching being available, and that details of courses may change at short notice.

The names of course coordinator(s) whom you can contact for further information about each paper

¹ Except for those offering Spanish who wish to offer XII Modern Catalan or XII Modern Galician.

² Unless also marked with another language identifier.

are given with the description of the paper (cf. the contact list below the Linguistic Project section).

Coordinating meeting for FHS Linguistics

Second and fourth year students are strongly encouraged to attend the **meeting for FHS Linguistics**, which will be held on Thursday **8th October** (Week 0), **47 Wellington Square, Basement Lecture Room, at 3:30 pm**. Information will be provided about availability of tuition for the options during that year, additional information about some options (including the Linguistic Project), and student representation.

Lectures and tutorials

The lectures for linguistics subjects are spread throughout the academic year, and some of them are regularly spread across two or even three terms. It follows, therefore, that you will not necessarily have tutorials in the same term as you attend the lectures, and it may even be necessary for you to have the tutorials before the lectures, for instance if a clash in your timetable prevents you attending a set of lectures in your second year. This is not in itself a problem, since tutorials and lectures are often intended to be complementary, and you should not normally expect them to cover all the same material, even if they sometimes do. Conversely, it is also important to ensure that you attend relevant lectures from the very first term of the course even if you will not be having tutorials until later in the year or even in your final year. Do not assume that when you return in your final year you will have time to attend all the lectures again! Linguistics tutors will be able to advise you on which lectures to attend at what stage in your course, depending on your choice of options: however, it is your responsibility to ask for that advice.

Reading lists

A reading list for Paper XIII General Linguistics is available on the Linguistics web site:

http://www.ling-phil.ox.ac.uk/pages/undergrad_reading.html

Students are encouraged to contact their tutors or the contacts for the Paper XII options, listed below, for advice on specialized reading lists for each option or for particular areas of research.

Duplication of material in examinations

Students are forbidden to repeat or reuse material in answering more than one examination question, either within the same examination or in two different examinations. However, it is likely, indeed expected, that there will often be overlap between material studied for paper XIII and the various linguistics paper XIs, as well as papers IV and V in the language and the extended essay. In light of this, students are reminded that they may make use of any relevant material in answering questions on these papers, but can only use the same material once. In particular, students may choose to answer questions within the same area of linguistics in more than one paper: for example, a student is permitted to answer questions on Phonetics or Phonology in the General Linguistics Paper XIII, even if the student has also chosen the Phonetics and Phonology Special Option Paper XI, as long as no material is reused. To provide a concrete example: a candidate who answers a question on the analysis of French nasal vowels by reference to an autosegmental phonological framework could not also answer a question on autosegmental phonology by reference to French nasal vowels in the same or any other paper. However, such a candidate would be free to answer about other areas of phonology or other data in the same or other papers.

GENERAL LINGUISTICS

PAPER XIII

This is a paper specially designed for students who have a strong interest in the theoretical underpinnings of linguistic analysis. It is compulsory for students taking the Modern Language and Linguistics course, and is available as an option to students taking a sole language for the Honour School of Modern Languages, as well as students for the Honour Schools of Experimental Psychology, and Psychology, Philosophy and Physiology.

The paper requires students to show knowledge of contemporary linguistic theory regarding the different aspects of human linguistic capacity in the areas of phonology, phonetics, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics of interpretation. The student should also be able to examine the relation of these systems to issues of linguistic variation, language acquisition and language change. The paper is concerned largely with issue of theory and general techniques of analysis, rather than the description of individual languages or language groups. It is intended to complement the linguistic study of individual languages (Papers IV and V) and also may be used to complement the general study of human cognitive systems and philosophy of mind.

Paper XIII presupposes and builds on the content of the Foundation Course in Linguistics offered for the Preliminary Examination in the Faculty of Modern Languages. In view of this, while paper XIII is an option for some students who have not taken this examination, it would not normally be sensible or advisable for any student to start to prepare for paper XIII unless and until they have mastered the material that is covered in the Foundation Course in Linguistics.

Please note that this year there will be two sets of lectures dedicated to Paper XIII: *Linguistic Controversies Revisited*, by Dr Hoge, and *Biological Foundations of Language*, by Prof. Coleman. Consult the Linguistics timetable for details. Students can also attend any of the Paper XIIs lectures. Tutorial teaching can be arranged through the FHS Coordinator, Dr Paoli. Assessment is by way of a conventional three-hour exam.

Although the course is not taught from a single textbook, prospective students may gain an idea of its scope and theoretical standard by looking at a general textbook such as Andrew Radford et al., *Linguistics: An Introduction* (Cambridge University Press, 1999) or Victoria Fromkin, Robert Rodman, and Nina Hyams, *An Introduction to Language* (Thomson/Heinle, 8th ed., 2006).

Contact for tutorial arrangements: Dr Sandra Paoli.

SPECIAL SUBJECTS

Paper XII. Phonetics and Phonology

This course is aimed at those who wish to study how sound is used in language to a greater depth than is possible for paper XIII. The topics covered include:

Coarticulation and models of speech production
Approaches to speech perception
Phonetic Acquisition
Experimental methodology

Prosody
Non-linear phonology
Constraint-based phonology
The phonetics/phonology interface.

This option is taught through seminars and practical sessions. **Method of Assessment A*** (Three-hour unseen written paper and a half-hour practical phonetic transcription exercise: 75%/25%)

Contact: Prof. John Coleman
Dr Elinor Payne (on leave in HT 10)

Paper XII. Psycholinguistics

Psycholinguistics is an interdisciplinary area of study that addresses the relation between language and cognition. Fields covered in this course include the study of the development of language in children and the investigation of the psychological mechanisms that underlie the production and understanding of speech.

Teaching is through a combination of lectures (in HT) and classes. **Method of Assessment A.**

Contact: Prof. John Coleman
Prof. Aditi Lahiri

Paper XII. Semantics

This option is a thorough introduction for candidates who wish to explore the ways in which meaning is encoded in language. The areas under study will include: lexical meaning and lexical relationships, combinatorial and truth conditional semantics, the interaction between semantics and pragmatics, and the syntax-semantics interface.

Suggested reading: Saeed, John I. (2003) *Semantics*. [Second edition] Oxford: Blackwell

This option is taught through lectures (in HT) and tutorials. **Method of Assessment A.**

Contact: Dr Melanie Owens

Paper XII. Sociolinguistics

Sociolinguistics is the study of language variation and change, and their relationship to social phenomena (e.g. class, gender and ethnic divisions, patterns of migration and contact, social network structures). Topics covered include sociolinguistic methods, geographical and social dimensions of dialect variation, mechanisms of language change, code choice and code-switching in multilingual settings, pidgin and creole languages, language shift and language death.

Teaching is through a combination of attendance at lectures (in HT) and tutorials. **Method of**

Assessment A.

Contact: Prof. Deborah Cameron
Dr Rosalind Temple

Paper XII. Syntax

This option is designed for candidates who wish to attain a more detailed understanding of contemporary syntactic theory and the acquisition of syntax. Two 'paths' are offered. The syntactic theory path explores a range of theoretical issues, usually including phrase structure and X' theory, raising and control, long-distance dependencies, and coordination; analysis and discussion are primarily (though not exclusively) conducted within the theory of Lexical Functional Grammar. The first language acquisition path offers an introduction to the study of the acquisition of syntax within the Principles and Parameters theory: the first two lectures will be a brief introduction to this theory. Attention will be given to the various models of language acquisition, with an evaluation of each of them against acquisitional puzzles such as tense-less and subject-less clauses, and the acquisition of functional categories in general. Tutorial topics and readings for the acquisition path are available from Dr Paoli's web page, <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~fmml0126/Home.html>. Tutorial topics and readings for the syntactic theory path are available from Prof. Dalrymple's web page, <http://users.ox.ac.uk/~cpgl0015/>.

The option is taught through lectures (in HT) and tutorials or classes, as appropriate. **Method of Assessment A.**

Contact: Prof. Mary Dalrymple (on leave in MT 09) for Syntactic Theory
Dr Sandra Paoli for First Language Acquisition (and Syntactic Theory in MT 09)

Paper XII. Translation Theory

This option is designed for those who are interested in the light which general linguistic theory can shed on both the theory and the practice of translation. Some reference will be made to literary discussions of translations, but the main emphasis will be on those sub-disciplines of linguistics that are concerned with texts (performance versus competence), and how the results of such analyses can be applied. Special attention will be given to stylistic analysis and discourse analysis, and to the ways in which texts in one register can be reformulated within other registers of the same language (intra-lingual as distinct from inter-lingual translation). The course will also consider a number of limiting cases, including verse translation and the translation of humour.

The course will be taught primarily by tutorials, although a course of lectures/seminars will be offered on a two-yearly basis. **Method of Assessment A.**

For those interested in reading a general introduction to the field of translation studies, there is an accessible textbook, Susan Bassnett, *Translation Studies* (1991, London: Routledge). Another textbook that gives greater emphasis to the contribution of linguistic theory is: Roger Bell, *Translation and Translating: Theory and Practice* (1991, London: Longman).

Contact: Dr David Cram

Paper XII. Language Change and Historical Linguistics

The course will examine major current issues in the areas of phonological, morphological, syntactic, and semantic change, looking at both internal developments and external changes resulting from contact between languages. Amongst topics likely to figure on the course in any given year are: comparative reconstruction; regularity and lexical diffusion in sound change; analogy; grammaticalisation; the sociolinguistics of language change.

Teaching will be by a combination of lectures, classes, and tutorials. **Method of assessment A.**

Contact: Mr J.C. Smith

Paper XII. Linguistic Project

This option allows a candidate to undertake a descriptive project, using the analytic tools acquired in other core areas of Linguistics. The report should document a piece of original research conducted by the student into some aspect of a particular dialect, language, or variety. The data may be collected at first hand by the student (possibly during the year abroad), or it may be from another credible source. The analysis of the data may focus on an aspect or combination of aspects of linguistic structure or usage.

Students planning to offer this option are encouraged to begin planning for the project during the second year, since the year abroad is an ideal time to conduct research for the project. Topics must be discussed with a course co-ordinator, and are ratified by the Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics in the same manner as for other Longer Essays in the Faculty of Modern Languages. More information on supervision and assessment is available at the Linguistic Project web page:

http://www.ling-phil.ox.ac.uk/pages/Ling_Project.html

Examples of the sorts of topics that have been undertaken are:

- *Code-switching in Swiss German.*
- *Variation in the syntax of Polish numeral phrases with reference to Government and Binding Theory.*
- *To what extent does Poplack 1992's hypothesis of the inherent variability of the French subjunctive hold when applied to a corpus of online blog comments?*
- *The grammaticalisation of German causal conjunctions: pragmatic, semantic and syntactic dimensions.*

Method of Examination B (1) (see the Linguistic Project web page for further information).

Contact: Dr Sandra Paoli
Prof. John Coleman

List of contacts in Linguistics:

Prof. Deborah Cameron, deborah.cameron@worc.ox.ac.uk, Worcester College

Prof. John Coleman, john.coleman@phon.ox.ac.uk, Phonetics Laboratory

Dr David Cram, david.cram@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, Centre for Linguistics and Philology

Prof. Mary Dalrymple, mary.dalrymple@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, Centre for Linguistics and Philology

Dr Kerstin Hoge, kerstin.hoge@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, St Hilda's College

Prof. Aditi Lahiri, aditi.lahiri@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, Centre for Linguistics and Philology

Dr Melanie Owens, melanie_owens@hotmail.com

Dr Sandra Paoli, sandra.paoli@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk, Centre for Linguistics and Philology

Dr Elinor Payne, elinor.payne@phon.ox.ac.uk, Phonetics Laboratory

Mr J.C. Smith, johncharles.smith@stcatz.ox.ac.uk, St Catherine's College

Dr Rosalind Temple, rosalind.temple@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, New College

Sabbatical Leave for the academic year 2009-2010:

Prof. Dalrymple, MT 09

Dr Payne, HT 10

CELTIC

Paper XII - The Structure and History of the Welsh Language

The course will be divided into two parts: first, a study of some of the main aspects of modern and earlier Welsh, notably the initial consonant mutations, the nominal and verbal systems, and, secondly, the main phases in the history of the language. In the first half of the course the focus will be on the modern language, but with one eye to the historical background; in the second half, the approach will be historical, with rather more attention being paid to phonology but still building on the topics covered in the first half. Particular attention will be paid to the differences between the language of prose and poetry, what can be learnt from various attempts made in the past, from the fourteenth century onwards, to analyse the language, and the relationship between standard forms of Welsh and the dialects.

Tuition is by means of tutorials. **Method of Assessment A.**

Introductory reading

Paul Russell, *An Introduction to the Celtic Languages*, London: Longman, 1995

M. J. Ball with J. Fyfe (eds.), *The Celtic Languages*, London: Routledge, 1993

D. MacAulay (ed.), *The Celtic Languages*, Cambridge: CUP, 1992

Contact: Prof. T. Charles-Edwards, thomas.charles-edwards@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Jesus College

Paper XII - The Structure and History of the Irish Language

The course will combine a study of selected distinctive aspects of Irish in the first half with a look at some of the main stages in the history of the language in the second half. An examination of the phonology of Irish will concentrate on the exploitation in the grammar of such features as the palatalization of consonants, and initial mutations; this will lead straight to a consideration of word-boundaries and the phonology of nominal and verbal phrases. An examination of the verbal systems will pay particular attention to the relationship between the syntax of the finite verb and that of the verbal noun. Since the contemporary evidence for Irish stretches all the way from the fourth- or fifth-century inscriptions to the modern period, the historical section of the course will be correspondingly selective. It will concentrate, first, on the early period, from the fourth to the ninth century, and, secondly, on the relationships between the early-modern standard language and the separation of Scottish Gaelic from Irish and also modern Irish dialects.

Tuition is by means of tutorials. **Method of Assessment A.**

Introductory reading

Paul Russell, *An Introduction to the Celtic Languages*, London: Longman, 1995

M. J. Ball with J. Fyfe (eds.), *The Celtic Languages*, London: Routledge, 1993

D. MacAulay (ed.), *The Celtic Languages*, Cambridge: CUP, 1992

David Greene, *The Irish Language: An Ghaeilge*, Dublin, 1966; available only in libraries, but an excellent brief outline.

Contact: Prof. T. Charles-Edwards, thomas.charles-edwards@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Jesus College

ROMANCE

Paper XII – Romance Philology and Linguistics

Candidates will be expected to show a detailed knowledge of the methods of comparative Romance linguistics and to illustrate their answers with examples from more than one Romance language. Texts for linguistic commentary in 'Vulgar Latin' (G. Rohlfs, *Sermo vulgaris latinus*, Tuebingen, 1969: II, VII, XIII, XVIII, XX, XXIX, XXXIV) and unseen passages from 'lesser known' Romance varieties (Sardinian, Romanian, Romansch and others) will also be set each year.

Teaching for this option is through lectures and tutorials. **Method of Assessment A.**

Introductory reading

W. Elcock, *The Romance Languages*, 1975.

M. Harris and N. Vincent (eds.), *The Romance Languages*, 1988.

Contact: Dr Silvio Cruschina, silvio.cruschina@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk

CZECH

For detailed information on Czech Paper IV, please consult the Czech handbook.

Contact: Dr James Naughton, james.naughton@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, St Edmund Hall

FRENCH

For detailed information on French Paper IV and Paper V, please consult the French handbook. See also **Paper XII: Romance Philology and Linguistics**.

Contact: Mr J.C. Smith, johncharles.smith@stcatz.ox.ac.uk, St Catherine's College
Dr Ian Watson, ian.watson@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Christ Church College

GERMAN

For detailed information on German Paper IV, Papers V(i) and V(ii), and Paper XII: Old High German with either Gothic or Old English or Old Saxon, please consult the German handbook.

Contact: Dr Kerstin Hoge, kerstin.hoge@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, St. Hilda's College

GREEK

For detailed information on Greek Paper IV and Paper V, please consult the Greek handbook.

Contact: Prof. Marc Lauxtermann, marc.lauxtermann@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Exeter College

ITALIAN

For detailed information on Italian Paper IV and Paper V, please consult the Italian handbook. See also **Paper XII: Romance Philology and Linguistics**.

Contact: Dr Silvio Cruschina, silvio.cruschina@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk for Paper IV

Dr Sandra Paoli, sandra.paoli@ling-phil.ox.ac.uk and
Ms Chiara Cappellaro, chiara.cappellaro@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk for Paper V

Paper XII - The 'Questione della Lingua'

This paper, which includes aspects of the linguistic thinking of such figures such as Dante, Manzoni and Pasolini, examines the complex and often passionate debates concerning the identification and elaboration of one of the dialects of Italy (Tuscan - more specifically, Florentine) as the basis of the Italian literary language, and the means by which knowledge of Italian was best to be diffused.

Teaching for this paper is through tutorials. **Method of Assessment B (3)**. For more information, please consult the Italian handbook.

Contact: Prof. Martin McLaughlin, martin.mclaughlin@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk.

POLISH AND OTHER NON-RUSSIAN SLAVONIC LANGUAGES

Paper XII - The structure and history of one of the following languages: Bulgarian/Macedonian, Croatian/Serbian, Polish, Slovak, Slovene, Sorbian, Ukrainian.

This paper surveys both the diachronic development and the synchronic state of one of the languages from the list given above. The diachronic part of the paper covers the development of the language from the earliest written texts to the present day, but is more limited in scope than papers dealing exclusively with the history of a language such as the Paper IV options. The synchronic section deals with the descriptive analysis of the phonetic, phonological, morphological, syntactic and lexical characteristics of the language today. Members of the Faculty *may* from time to time offer lectures or classes on the structure or the history of Polish, Ukrainian or another Slavonic language from the list above. In individual or small group tutorials, you will explore a range of clearly defined topics in more depth. You will also have an opportunity to study source material that illustrates different periods in the development of the language. The examination comprises a range of questions, of which you can choose three. One of the questions may be a commentary on a modern or pre-modern passage in the Slavonic language you have chosen. As a prerequisite, you need a passive command of the language.

Method of Assessment A. See also **Russian** for other relevant Paper XII options.

Contact: Dr J. Fellerer, jan.fellerer@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Wolfson College
Dr C.M. MacRobert, catherine.macrobert@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, (on leave in TT 10)

PORTUGUESE

For detailed information on Portuguese Paper IV and Paper V, please consult the Portuguese handbook. See also **Paper XII: Romance Philology and Linguistics**.

Contact: Dr Stephen Parkinson, stephen.parkinson@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk

RUSSIAN

Please consult the Russian handbook for detailed information on Russian Paper IV, Paper V, Paper XII: Old Church Slavonic in Relation to Common Slavonic and Russian, and Paper XII: Comparative Slavonic Philology. See also the **Polish** section of this handbook for information on Paper XII - The structure and history of one of the following languages: Bulgarian/ Macedonian, Croatian/Serbian, Czech, Polish, Slovak, Slovene, Sorbian, Ukrainian.

Contact: Dr J. Fellerer, jan.fellerer@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Wolfson College
Dr C.M. MacRobert, catherine.macrobert@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, Lady Margaret Hall
(on leave TT 10)

SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES OF THE IBERIAN PENINSULA

For detailed information on Spanish Paper IV and Paper V, Paper XII - Bilingualism: Spanish and English, Paper XII - Modern Catalan, and Paper XII - Modern Galician, please consult the Spanish handbook. See also **Paper XII: Romance Philology and Linguistics**.

Contact: Dr Paloma Garcia-Bellido, paloma.garcia-bellido@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk

YIDDISH

Paper XII: Yiddish Linguistics

Candidates will be expected to show knowledge of the methods and findings of Yiddish linguistic research with respect to any three of the following five topics:

- (i) origins and history of Yiddish;
- (ii) interrelationships with German dialects and standard German;
- (iii) the Semitic component in Yiddish;
- (iv) Yiddish dialectology;
- (v) Yiddish sociolinguistics.

Required readings for each of these topics will be in Yiddish, English, and German.

The course will be taught by tutorial. **Method of Assessment A.**

Contact: Dr Kerstin Hoge, kerstin.hoge@mod-langs.ox.ac.uk, St Hilda's College

WHEN DRAWING UP THIS HANDBOOK WE HAVE TRIED TO BE AS ACCURATE AND CLEAR AS POSSIBLE, BUT REMEMBER THAT IT IS ONLY AN INFORMAL GUIDE. THE REVISED EDITION OF THE UNIVERSITY'S *EXAMINATION DECREES AND REGULATIONS* WILL BE THE OFFICIAL AUTHORITATIVE SOURCE OF INFORMATION AND YOU SHOULD CHECK ALL DETAILS IN THE RELEVANT COPY OF THAT PUBLICATION. COURSES AND REGULATIONS ARE CONSTANTLY UNDER REVIEW, SO ALWAYS CHECK ALSO WITH YOUR COLLEGE TUTOR TO CONFIRM WHAT IS WRITTEN HERE.

IN ADDITION, DO NOT HESITATE TO ASK FOR CLARIFICATION ABOUT THE COURSE FROM ANY MEMBER OF THE FACULTY WHO IS LECTURING TO YOU OR TUTORING YOU; WE WILL ALWAYS DO OUR BEST TO HELP.

October 2009