# Second Language Acquisition, Ph.D.

## Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy in second language acquisition is a research-oriented degree. This interdisciplinary program, which focuses on languages other than English, requires 72 s.h., including a maximum of 33 s.h. earned in work toward a master's degree. Students must earn a minimum of 61 s.h. at the University of Iowa. Those interested in pursuing the Ph.D. must hold a master's degree in an appropriate field (e.g., linguistics, foreign language education) or have equivalent academic experience.

A course may be used to fulfill only one requirement. All courses taken to fulfill program requirements must be taken on a graded basis; no graduate credit is awarded for a grade lower than C-minus. To remain in good standing, Ph.D. students must maintain a cumulative g.p.a. of at least 3.00.

The required curriculum includes 14 courses, including two foundation courses, three courses in the area of research methods, two courses in the area of language learning, two courses in the area of linguistics, and five courses in a student's area of specialization. Students may specialize in language learning and postsecondary education, which includes a focus on technology in language acquisition and learning; or in linguistics and psycholinguistics, with focus on phonetics/phonology or on syntax in a particular second language. In addition, the Ph.D. requires successful completion and defense of a dissertation representing original research in second language acquisition.

Students may extend their interdisciplinary interests by taking relevant elective coursework offered by the Departments of Communication Sciences and Disorders, French and Italian, German, Linguistics, Psychological and Brain Sciences, Rhetoric, Spanish and Portuguese, and Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Departments of Psychological and Quantitative Foundations, and Teaching and Learning in the College of Education.

The Ph.D. in second language acquisition requires the following coursework.

### Research Methods

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSQF:6243</td>
<td>Intermediate Statistical Methods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One of these:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:7405</td>
<td>Teaching Chinese as a Second Language V: Seminar in Research and Design</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:7405</td>
<td>Research Methods in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>And:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A course to complement dissertation research (consult advisor)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Language Learning

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Two of these:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6400</td>
<td>Fundamentals of Second Language Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6409</td>
<td>Cultural Curriculum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6483</td>
<td>Multilingual Education and Applied Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6484</td>
<td>Reading in a Second Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6497</td>
<td>Principles of Course Design for Second Language Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### Linguistics Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>These:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two courses (chosen in consultation with advisor)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Specialization Courses

Each student selects one of two specialization areas—linguistics and psycholinguistics or language learning and postsecondary education—and takes five courses (total of 15 s.h.) in one area, not including courses taken above to satisfy requirements. Each student’s specific specialization area and set of courses are determined in consultation with the advisor.

Courses that may be used in the specialization areas are listed below.

### Linguistics and Psycholinguistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING:6020</td>
<td>Phonological Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING:6080</td>
<td>Topics in Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING:7010</td>
<td>Advanced Syntactic Theory</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY:3670</td>
<td>Language Processes</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAN:3190</td>
<td>Psycholinguistic Aspects of Bilingualism</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAN:4170</td>
<td>Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPAN:6150</td>
<td>Topics in Spanish Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

### Foundation Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This course:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA:6920</td>
<td>Multimedia and Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Other courses (chosen in consultation with advisor)

**Language Learning and Postsecondary Education**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:5024</td>
<td>Teaching Chinese as a Second Language VII: Pedagogical Grammar</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:7401</td>
<td>Teaching Chinese as a Second Language I: Theories and Research</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:7403</td>
<td>Teaching Chinese as a Second Language III: Instruction and Practicum</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIN:7404</td>
<td>Teaching Chinese as a Second Language IV: Testing and Assessment</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6402</td>
<td>Second Language Program Management</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6403</td>
<td>Language Policy and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:6480</td>
<td>Graduate Seminar in Multilingual Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDTL:7015</td>
<td>Ph.D. Seminar in Language, Literacy, and Culture</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSQF:6205</td>
<td>Design of Instruction</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSQF:6208</td>
<td>Digital Media and Learning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSQF:6215</td>
<td>Online Instruction: Design and Facilitation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSQF:6265</td>
<td>Program Evaluation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other courses (chosen in consultation with advisor)

**Elective Courses**

Students also may take elective coursework relevant to their research interests, including the following independent project courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SLA:7020</td>
<td>Readings in Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SLA:7025</td>
<td>Special Projects in Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>arr.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thesis**

Students must complete a thesis (maximum of 15 s.h., with a minimum of 2 s.h.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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</table>