IN ORDER TO GET A PhD YOU MUST:

1. Be registered as a full-time student for at least three semesters.  
2. Take 33 credit hours.  
   - Students who have not already taken or received a course exemption for the following ‘core’ courses must take  
     these courses in addition to the 33 credit hours of course work required of PhD students.  
     o LING 410, LING 420, LING 421, LING 422, and LING 645  
   - These courses must include LING 621, LING 622, and two Methods courses.  
     o Non-LDC students may select two of the following approved methods courses.  
       ▪ LING 630 – Field Methods  
       ▪ LING 632 – Laboratory Research  
       ▪ LING 730 – Advanced Laboratory Research  
       ▪ LING 750F – Phonetic Fieldwork on Endangered Languages  
       ▪ LING 750Q – Methods of Language Acquisition  
       ▪ LING 750Y – Psycholinguistics  
     o LDC students are required to take the two-semester sequence of LING 630 – Field Methods.  
3. Coursework must include three classes in two distinct areas of linguistics.  
   One of the classes per area  
   may be audited.  Note:  Audited courses *DO NOT* count towards the 33 credit requirement.  
4. Form committee during your third semester of studies.  Constitution of the committee may be changed  
   as students determine a dissertation topic.  
5. Demonstrate competence in one language other than your native language.  
6. Prepare two clearly and professionally written, single-authored, ‘publication-quality’ papers to satisfy the  
   Qualifying Papers requirement.  Refer to the PhD Manual for details.  
7. Prior to your proposal defense, the Graduate Chair needs to approve your committee of five (5) faculty  
   members, including one University Representative (“outside member”).  
8. If eligible, apply for Master’s En Route.  
9. Write and defend your dissertation proposal.  
   Once your proposal has been approved by your committee, a printed copy (with your committee chair’s signature on the first page)  
   must be submitted to the department office no later than the end of the semester following your proposal defense.  This copy will be  
   available to all faculty and Ph.D. students in the Linguistics Department.  Your All-But-Dissertation (ABD) Certificate will be given to  
   you after the department office receives a copy of your approved proposal.  
10. Give the Department office a copy of your IRB human subjects approval/exemption, if applicable.  
    This should be done shortly after your dissertation proposal defense.  It is sent along with a form to the Graduate  
    Division.  After processing, the department office will give you the CRN to register for one credit of LING 800.  
11. Write and defend your dissertation prospectus.  
    Once your prospectus has been approved by your committee, a printed copy (with your committee chair’s signature on the first page)  
    must be submitted to the department office no later than the end of the semester following your prospectus defense.  This copy will be  
    available to all faculty and Ph.D. students in the Linguistics Department.  
12. Write your dissertation.  
13. Be a registered student (LING 800) at the time of your defense.  
14. Your committee chair will let you know when your dissertation draft is nearly ready to distribute to your  
    committee.  At this point you and your chair should agree upon a timeline, keeping in mind the following three  
    deadlines.  
    • Your committee should receive your dissertation at least four weeks prior to your proposed defense  
      (Some flexibility in this deadline may be permitted if there is a consensus among the committee members.)  
    • Your defense must be held at least two weeks prior to the Graduate Division’s deadline for submission of the final version.  
      Check with the department office for that deadline.  
    • At least 15 calendar days prior to your defense date, you must submit the Graduate Division’s form  
      “Final Oral Examination for Doctoral Dissertation Defense”, signed by your chair.  The department office will deliver this  
      form to the Graduate Division.  Should the committee determine that the dissertation is not defendable, the defense may be  
      cancelled and a notification will be sent to the Graduate Division.  
15. Submit a PDF version of your dissertation draft to the department office at least two weeks prior to your  
    dissertation defense.  The title page should contain a clear indication that this is a ‘pre-defense draft’.  
16. Pass your defense and make any necessary revisions.  
17. Once all revisions have been made and your committee chair approves your dissertation, ask your chair  
    to notify the department office.  You need to pick up Form IV-Dissertation Submission from the department office to  
    submit with your final dissertation to the Graduate Division (Records Office).  The Graduate Division requires two  
    digital copies of your dissertation saved on two CDs (one copy for ProQuest and the second copy for the library).  
18. Submit a PDF version of your final approved dissertation to the department office.  

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7 This must be arranged with the department secretary.