

Preparing for the Graduate Area Comprehensive Exam

The exam is administered from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the date listed in the Division of Graduate Studies “Dates and Deadlines” calendar (. The exam takes place in Room 417 of the Dollye M.E. Robinson Liberal Arts Building.

M.A. Candidates

Must answer questions on:

LING 501 – Fundamental of Linguistic Science
ENG 501 – Research and Bibliography
ENG 505 – Critical Analysis of Literature
plus
Three additional courses (of the student’s choice)

M.A.T. Candidates

Must answer questions on:

LING 501 – Fundamental of Linguistic Science
ENG 503 – Survey of Grammatical Principles
ENG 505 – Critical Analysis of Literature
LING 504 – Applied Linguistics **OR** ENG 609 Contemporary Literature (your choice)
EDFL 515 – Methods of Educational Research
One additional course (of the student’s choice)

Suggestions

1. Form study groups and schedule regular sessions.
2. Instead of merely memorizing information, prepare for writing under timed conditions. During study sessions, spend at least a portion of the time writing in response to questions and discussing these written responses with group members.
3. Before planning sessions for writing and sharing, contact the Department for sample (retired) questions. Write under timed conditions (allowing 60 minutes to address all questions for one course), perhaps during a group study session. Share/critique these responses during study sessions.
4. Prior to the exam, decide on the elective courses that you would like to address. Review your notes and previous writing assignments for these courses while studying for the exam.
5. Ask a faculty member (the person who teaches the course being addressed) to read one or two of your written responses and evaluate, if possible.

OTHER INFORMATION

Important Note—Please arrive fifteen minutes before the start of each session of the exam.

Length of the Exam: 6 hours (2 sessions of three hours each)

Session I: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Topics covered for M.A. students:

- LING 501 – Fundamental of Linguistic Science
- ENG 501 – Research and Bibliography
- ENG 505 – Critical Analysis of Literature

Topics covered for M.A.T. students:

- LING 501 – Fundamental of Linguistic Science
- ENG 503 – Survey of Grammatical Principles
- ENG 505 – Critical Analysis of Literature

Session II: 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Topics covered for M.A. students:

- Three additional courses (of the student's choice)

Topics covered for M.A.T. students:

- LING 504 – Applied Linguistics **OR** ENG 609 Contemporary Literature (student's choice)
- EDFL 515 – Methods of Educational Research
- One additional course (of the student's choice)

Location: LIB 417

Requirements: Examination Booklets (6), ink pens

Pacing Guide: Allow 60 minutes per course