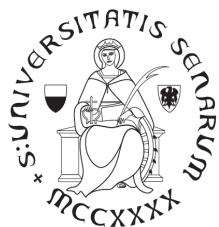# Language and Mind
Linguistics and Cognitive Studies

MA Program 2016-2017
University of Siena, Italy

❖ The Master program offers a highly interdisciplinary training, directly connected with the advanced research activities undertaken at the Center for Cognitive Studies on Language - CISCL (www.ciscl.unisi.it). The program is articulated in two curricula:
  – Linguistics and Cognition
  – Philosophy and Cognition.

❖ Courses are offered in English in order to stress the international character of the master program and favor the enrollment of international students as well as the interaction between Italian and foreign students; to enhance the opportunity to access international doctoral programs, the capacity of students to actively participate in international conferences and seminars, the possibility to access job opportunities abroad. The articulation in two curricula aims to build a study experience that is at the same time coherent and diversified, in which a predominant number of courses shared by the two curricula are present in the first year while the second year is devoted to an in-depth study of one of the two curricula.

❖ The level of English formally required for admission is B1. B2 or higher levels are most welcome. Students who are L2-English speakers are encouraged to practice and quickly acquire the level B2 or higher in order to become able to produce work material and presentations in class and to profit at best of a lively research interaction with fellow students, professors and invited visiting scholars.

❖ The Master program in "Language and Mind. Linguistics and Cognitive Studies" focuses, in both curricula, on the study of language in the perspective of cognitive studies and of the philosophy of language and mind. It is primarily addressed to students interested in:
  – the in-depth description of human languages, in their different varieties including different dialects;
  – the study of language as a cognitive capacity and its relevance in the domain of first and second language acquisition and language pathology;

- the study of the philosophical, psychological, biological and social bases of language and cognition;
- the study of the relevance of the analysis of human language for philosophical studies.

❖ Students of the Master program in "Language and Mind. Linguistics and Cognitive Studies" will acquire:
  – an in-depth knowledge of the theoretical models and of the analytical methods of contemporary linguistics, including experimental methods and field research;
  – the ability to apply theories and methods of linguistic research for the description and analysis of different languages, in a comparative perspective;
  – familiarity with different dimensions of the interdisciplinary study of language as a cognitive capacity, of first and second language acquisition, of the relation between mind, language and the brain;
  – familiarity with the philosophical issues underlying the study of language as a cognitive capacity and of the relation between language and mind, as well as of the relation between logic, inference and meaning in natural language;
  – the ability to utilize theories and methods of formal linguistics in different applied domains, such as language teaching, the study of language pathology, computational applications and psycholinguistic experimentation.

❖ Students in the Master program have the option to apply for a double master program combining the Master program in "Language and Mind. Linguistics and Cognitive Studies" of the University of Siena with the Master program "Logic and philosophy of science (LoPhiSc)" of the University of Paris 1, Panthéon Sorbonne (classes in French). Furthermore, through a partnership agreement between the Master program LoPhiSc and the Master program CogMaster-École Normale Supérieure (Ulm)-Paris, the students applying for the double master program will also have the opportunity to attend classes offered within the frame of the CogMaster.

❖ The Master program in "Language and Mind. Linguistics and Cognitive Studies" is activated within the class LM/39 – Linguistics.

❖ Core courses will be offered by the following professors from the Linguistics and Philosophy staff of the University of Siena: Adriana Belletti, Valentina Bianchi, Alison Duguid, Christoph Lumer, Sandro Nannini, Luigi Rizzi, Arturo Tosi, Gabriele Usberti, Giuseppe Varnier, Cesare Zanca. Below the list of the courses offered in the program and its overall articulation.

LM 39: Language and Mind: Linguistics and cognitive studies			
1st year			
Activity	Course title		CFU
L-LIN/01	Syntactic structures and compositional semantics Module A: Syntactic Structures Module B: Compositional semantics		12
M-FIL/05	Logic and theory of meaning Module A: Logic Module B: Theory of meaning		12
M-FIL/01	Philosophy of mind Module A: Mind and brain Module B: Mind and language		12
L-LIN/01	Theory of grammar and language acquisition		6
L-FIL-LET/12	Language, society and ideology		6
L-LIN/12	Academic English and Translation		6
Tot. CFU: 54 in common			
Curriculum: Linguistics and cognition		Curriculum: Philosophy and cognition	
L-LIN/01	Computational linguistics	M-FIL/01 Epistemology	6
Tot. CFU: 60			

2nd year				
Curriculum: Linguistics and cognition		Curriculum: Philosophy and cognition		
L-LIN/01	Morphosyntax and experimental studies on language	M-FIL/03	Theory of argumentation	6
M-PSI/01	Psycholinguistics	M-FIL/05	Logic of natural languages	6
L-LIN/01	Syntax-semantics interface	M-FIL/02	Logic and limits of formal systems	6
L-LIN/12	Corpus approaches to discourse analysis	M-FIL/01	Theory of science and theory of knowledge	6
12 CFU a student choice				
Further knowledge of a foreign language			3	
Research Seminar			3	
Thesis			18	
TOT. CFU 60				
TOT. (two years) CFU 120				

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