

Graduate Council Resolution in support of a Reasonable and Moderate Extension for the addition of a Non-Thesis Master of Arts option in Applied Linguistics

RATIONALE

Whereas, the Linguistics Department within the College of Liberal Arts is proposing the addition of a non-thesis track to the Master of Arts degree in Applied Linguistics; and

Whereas, the addition of the non-thesis MA track in Applied Linguistics is based on recommendations made by reviewers in their 6-year review of the Linguistics Department in January 2013; and

Whereas, the non-thesis MA track will replace 6 hours of thesis credits with two 3-hour courses, one in Advanced Phonology and another in Advanced Syntax; and

Whereas, the non-thesis MA track will mainly serve students who wish to stop at the MA degree and pursue careers in public school teaching or in private/government sectors; and

Whereas, the Linguistics Department projects that approximately 70% of their MA students may choose the non-thesis track; and

Whereas, the addition of the non-thesis MA track will align the Linguistics Department at SIU with peer and aspirational institutions; and

Whereas, the non-thesis MA track will not compromise the learning environment of the students or the accreditation of the department;

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Therefore, be it resolved that the Graduate Council approves the RME for the addition of a **Non-Thesis Master of Arts** option in **Applied Linguistics**.