

FAQ Master Linguistics

What is the study program about?

Excerpt from the module manual:

The program is research-oriented and furthers methodical and theoretical knowledge that has been acquired in the Bachelor's program. It ties in with recent research and creates the necessary impetus for independent scientific work. Apart from an expansion of the students' general knowledge of linguistics, students will acquire detailed and specialized skills and knowledge in a specific branch of linguistics. Furthermore, detailed knowledge of a single, specific language and further methodical skills will be acquired. In the Tutorial Team Project, students will receive instruction on didactic skills suited for higher education. They will also be trained in high-level team work.

The [module manual](#) can be found here.

Where do I apply?

Please use the University's application portal: digstu.hhu.de

If you are already enrolled at HHU (e.g. for your Bachelor's degree), you only need to apply for a change of program („[Fachwechselantrag](#)“).

Why haven't I received any feedback on my application yet?

The Master commission meets once a month. If your application is received in the meantime, it will not be considered until the next meeting. Please check the portal every now and then for status changes regarding your application.

What is the application deadline for international students?

In general, you can apply throughout the year, as the program can be started in the summer and winter semester. However, if you need a visa, you can expect to wait up to a year for the paperwork, so plan ahead and apply for the next semester or even the semester after. You'll only receive an acceptance letter for the semester you've applied for. If you apply in March for the summer semester which starts in April, you won't have sufficient time for the visa process and you'll need to reapply for the winter semester to get a new acceptance letter for the embassy.

What is the application deadline for national students?

National students can expect to be enrolled on time for the next semester if they apply two months before the semester starts. For the winter semester apply by August, for the summer semester by February.

What documents do I need to submit?

Your application must include:

- Degree certificate and overview of grades and subjects in original language and in German translation (English and French certificates do not have to be translated) with a grade point average of at least 2,5 (converted to the German grading system)
- In case of a change of name, e.g. marriage, you need the marriage certificate or a corresponding proof
- Proof of English skills (preferably verified by some sort of certificate), German skills are not needed

Do I need to apply via uni-assist?

No, this is only required for non-EU students applying for a Bachelor's degree. It is not needed for this Master's program.

What is the language of instruction and what language skills do I need?

The primary language of instruction is English. Some courses may be in German, but you can complete your degree without them. There are enough courses offered in English.

Your application must show that you are proficient in English. German skills are not needed.

Why was my application rejected?

When enrollment is denied, it is usually for the following reason(s):

- Insufficient knowledge in at least one of these areas of linguistics:
 - Phonetics/Phonology
 - Morphology/Syntax
 - Semantics/Pragmatics
- Insufficient grade point average: You need a Bachelor's degree with a final grade of 2.5 or better (German grading system)

I was accepted under certain conditions („mit Auflage“). What does that mean?

This means that you are generally a suitable candidate, but need to refresh or deepen your knowledge in the respective areas in order to understand the course content without any problems. For this reason, you are asked to attend the basic courses (from the Bachelor program). However, you do not have to participate in the final exam.

Who can I contact in case of problems?

- [General information](#) for international students
- Questions about or help with enrollment, re-registration, etc.: [Student Service Center \(SSC\)](#)
- Head of department and Master commission: [Prof. Dr. Ruben van de Vijver](#)
- Exams, grades, requesting a transcript of records or deadline extension for term papers: [Student and Examination Administration](#)
- General study advice and questions about course registration: [Linguistics Secretary's Office](#)

How do I sign up for classes?

You can create your schedule online using the [HISLSF portal](#). Course registration for the winter semester is opened on September 1, and for the summer semester on March 1.

How do I find my classes/What do the room numbers mean?

The room details in the HISLSF, for example 23.21.04.23, indicate the building, floor, and room. The first two (23.21.) indicate the building, then the floor (04), then the room number (23).

How do I register my participation records („BN“) and exams („AP“)?

Both can be done in the [student portal](#). In each semester and for every class, you must select which module you are taking the course for so that this information can be transferred to your performance overview. If you can't find your desired module or are not sure about it, please contact the Secretary's Office. [You can find instructions here.](#)