Second Language Learning

## SECOND LANGUAGE ACQUISITION, DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.)

Doctoral students are required to take 3 credits of SLAA649 (SLAA649R - Research Critique) within their first year. In addition, students choose two courses from two different specializations for a total of 4 courses. Specializations available include Second Language Learning, Second Language Instruction, Second Language Measurement and Assessment, and Second Language Use. Students are also required to complete 2 courses in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods, as well as 12 credits of SLAA899.

The Ph.D. has 4 areas of specialization: Second Language Learning, Second Language Instruction, Second Language Measurement and Assessment, and Second Language Use. Students select 2 courses each from 2 of these areas (for a total of 4 courses) and are expected to take 2 additional electives in the area of their proposed dissertation work. In addition, all students are expected to take 2 courses in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods. The 8 courses (total) represent the minimum coursework requirement. Some students may need remedial coursework prior to undertaking their 8 courses, and many will wish to take courses beyond the minimum 8 based on their interests. Additionally, all students are strongly encouraged to take a course in the philosophy of science. Before graduation, all students completing the PhD in Second Language Acquisition must demonstrate three types of experience with non-native language: learning a non-native language, using a non-native language, and teaching a language to non-native speakers of that language. All three types of experience will be verified through official documentation and/or assessment as follows:

- Language Learning. Students must have spent at least two semesters as a student of a non-native language in a post-secondary classroom environment (6 total credits minimum). Verified through transcript. SLLC will provide this experience for any student who needs it.
- Language Teaching. Students must have taught a language to nonnative speakers of that language for at least 1 semester, or the equivalent of 45 hours. Verified through contract, letter, etc. SLLC will provide this experience for any student who needs it.
- 3. Language use. Students must show that they are able to communicate in a non-native language at the intermediate-low level on the ACTFL scale through an Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI). Students whose native language is not English will be able to satisfy this requirement through their competency in English. These three requirements do not necessarily have to be met in the same language. Before the PhD dissertation, two qualifying papers are required. Please see the program website (http://www.languages.umd.edu/slaa/) for more details.

	Course	Title	Credits		
	Core Requirements				
	SLAA649	Special Topics in Second Language Acquisition (SLAA649R - Research Critique)	n 3		
	Complete 2 courses in quantitative and/or qualitative research methods				
	Specialization Requirements				
	Select 2 courses each from 2 of these areas				

To	tal Credits		33			
SI	_AA899	Doctoral Dissertation Research	12			
Di	Dissertation Research Requirements					
Second Language Use						
	Second Language Measurement and Assessment					
	Second Langua	age Instruction				