

Information for freshly recruited PhD students

Dear all,

First of all, we are very excited that you are joining us very shortly. Welcome to our program. We would like to share some reminders and try to answer some commonly asked questions. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have further questions.

To get a PhD degree from our ELT Program, you need to complete 2 compulsory, 5 elective, and 4 non-credit courses.

If you have not received an MA degree from METU ELT, you will also be asked to complete a scientific preparation period in which you need to take some/all of the following courses.

- ELT 554 Quantitative Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research
- ELT 555 Qualitative Research: Theory and Methods
- ELT 506 Second Language Acquisition

In an ideal situation in which you receive your PhD degree in 4 years, here is one suggestion on how you could pick your courses.

	PhD in ELT
Semester 1	ELT 613 Fundamental Concepts in Language Education Studies (MUST) Elective 1 Elective 2 Elective 3
Semester 2	ELT 614 Fundamental Concepts in Language Studies (MUST) ELT 690 Doctoral Seminar (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) (non-credit) ELT 666 Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research (non-credit) Elective 4 Elective 5
Semester 3	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies
Semester 4	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 5	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 6	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 7	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 8	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)

But of course, this ideal situation is rarely accomplished as most of our students are also working, so you can also extend the course period to two-years depending on your own situation. Here is another possible path you could follow.

	PhD in ELT
Semester 1	ELT 613 Fundamental Concepts in Language Education Studies (MUST) Elective 1
Semester 2	ELT 614 Fundamental Concepts in Language Studies (MUST) ELT 690 Doctoral Seminar (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 666 Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research Elective 2
Semester 3	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies Elective 3 Elective 4
Semester 4	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) Elective 5
Semester 5	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 6	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 7	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)
Semester 8	ELT 699 PhD Dissertation (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor) ELT 901-950 Special Studies (Pick the section offered by your MA supervisor)

Commonly Asked Questions

- 1-** I am required to take two MA research courses (i.e., ELT 554 Quantitative Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research & ELT 555 Qualitative Research: Theory and Methods) in addition to the load that is offered in the tables above but I had previously taken research courses from another institution. Do I still need to take these research courses?

Yes you may still be required to take the research courses offered in our department. We need to make sure if the courses you had taken from another institution have similar content to the ones offered in our department. Please talk to your advisor and bring the syllabus of the previous courses.

- 2-** I had already taken the two MA research courses (i.e., ELT 554 Quantitative Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research & ELT 555 Qualitative Research: Theory and Methods) offered at METU ELT Program. Do I still need to take these courses?

No. You should not be required to take the same courses.

- 3- I had not previously taken the following MA courses: (i) ELT 506 Second Language Acquisition, (ii) ELT 554 Quantitative Research Methods and Ethics in Language Research, and (iii) ELT 555 Qualitative Research: Theory and Methods. Do I need to take these courses?

Yes. We expect these courses to be completed for all of our PhD students who have not taken these courses or courses with equal content.

- 4- I have been asked to complete a scientific preparation period; can I also start taking some PhD courses to decrease my course load?

Yes, you can do that as long as your supervisor approves your program. Pay attention to the status of the course, it should be NI.

- 5- My work schedule does not let me complete my scientific preparation courses in the designated period (one semester or one year).

Please come and talk to us as soon as possible. We do not promise but we will do our best to guide you on how you can proceed.

- 6- Can I take an elective course from another department?

Yes, as long as you communicate this to your supervisor and get an approval you can take two courses at most from another department.

- 7- I had previously taken an MA course from another institution/department, how can I use this course to decrease the course load of my program.

Talk to your supervisor, if we think that the course is relevant and can be counted as one of your must/elective courses, you need to write a petition to the program head and get it approved/signed from your supervisor.

- 8- The elective courses offered in a particular semester are not in line with my research interests or they do not fit my work schedule, what can I do?

We do our best to accommodate the needs and interests of our students but please note we prepare our program considering many factors so we cannot guarantee that every individual will get their favorite topic in every semester. Doing a graduate study does not mean that you will only/always take the courses that are in line with your research topic. On the contrary, we expect our students to broaden their perspective as much as possible beyond their research and the field of interest. Of course, if you insist on staying within the limits of your own interests, you can always check the courses offered in other programs; please get your supervisor's advice and approval if you want to take these courses.

- 9- My work schedule does not fit the schedule of my PhD program.

We do our best to fit all the graduate courses within two days for students coming from other cities. We next make sure there are at least two elective courses from each track. We also locate the research courses and the must courses either in the morning or in the afternoon to secure one half day for our working students. We further make sure there is an extra elective course from each track on the same day with a must course so that a student taking a must course in the morning can take an elective course in the afternoon. This is the best we can do and hope this will help most of our students.

10- Who will inform me about the academic calendar, registration process, and rules/regulations?

We expect each student (be it an undergraduate or graduate) to take the responsibility of their own learning process and get familiarized with the system using the websites.

Academic calendar: <https://oidb.metu.edu.tr/akademik-takvim>

Registrar's office: <http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/en/>

Registration: <http://oidb.metu.edu.tr/en/how-will-you-register>

Rules and regulations: <https://sbe.metu.edu.tr/en/rules-and-registrations>

METU FLE Graduate Programs: <https://fle.metu.edu.tr/en/graduate-programs-0>

11- I work out of town and I will not be able to come for course approvals, is there anything I can do?

Talk to your supervisor and ask her/him about their policy on this matter.