Admission criteria and portfolio evaluation

for foreign applicants to the MA programme

Linguistic Theory and Language Description

(HSE University, Moscow)

If you are interested in entering the programme, please contact the academic supervisors of the programme as soon as possible in the year preceding your intended studies, with a copy to both addresses below:

Daria Ryzhova — daria.ryzhova@mail.ru   Michael Daniel — misha.daniel@gmail.com

This is necessary to allow enough time to submit offline assignments that will make part of evaluation of your interview.

Curriculum Vitae

CV is not graded, but is an obligatory element of portfolio. CV should explain, step by step and in a chronological order, direct or reverse, your academic background and trajectory (your BA programme, courses you took within this BA programme or additionally that are relevant to the profile of our MA programme), academic projects you took part in and publications that resulted from these projects. At the beginning of the CV, provide a quick overview of the other documents you submitted that are relevant to your academic assessments (your publications, conference abstracts, summer school participation etc.), so that it also serves as a cover letter to your application.

Letter of Intent (Motivation Letter)

The letter is not graded, but helps the committee to have a preliminary general idea of the applicant's background. You may want to address the following questions:

- *Why did you choose this MA programme?*
- *What do you know about theoretical linguistics?*
- *Do you have experience of academic research in the past?*
- *What do you expect of the MA programme you are applying to?*
- *What do you plan to do after MA studies?*

In your motivation letter, if you decide to submit it, please try to be as specific as possible.

Knowledge of English

You may but do not need to submit a certificate of English. In all cases, the interview is held in English, and your level will be assessed and may be included as part of the interview grading.

Online interview

Evaluation of the portfolio includes the grade for the online interview. The main objective of the interview is to understand the applicant's educational background and potential, with a special focus to theoretical linguistics. The interview may include discussing offline assignments that may be sent to the applicant after he or she contacts the programme supervisors (see above). Success in such assignments may significantly increase the scores assigned for the interview, including bonus grades higher than the max interview grades. Because offline assignments are complex and take a lot of time, we suggest that applicants contact the programme supervisor at their earliest convenience, including before the application itself. This can be done even before the application procedure is open.

PORTFOLIO: CRITERIA OF EVALUATION

Note that, in all cases, the score depends on how close the topic of your research / article / thesis (etc) is to the profile of the programme.

	Section	Maximum score
1.	**BA background**	**30**
1.a	Linguistic theory	20
1.b	Ancient languages, maths	Bonus scores possible
2.	**Academic experience**	**60 (max)** depending on the relevance to the programme profile
2.a	Research articles	up to 50
2.b	Conference talks	up to 10
2.c	Research projects	up to 10
2d.	Fieldwork	up to 20
3	**Personal achievements**	Only bonus scores; from 0 to 20, depending on the relevance to the programme profile
3.a	Diploma and certificates related to research activities	bonus scores
3.c	International academic mobility	bonus scores
5	**Letter of intent (motivation letter)**	No scores
6	**Online interview** (may include offline assignments to prove the academic background and/or potential)	**20 (plus bonus scores)**