

MSc Computational Linguistics

Programme specification

1. Programme details

Item	Information
a) Programme name (incl. pathways):	MSc Computational Linguistics
b) Programme code(s)	TBC
c) Programme credit value(s)	180 CATS 90 ECTS
d) Programme author(s)	Tony Russell-Rose
e) Entry requirements	A good undergraduate degree (2:2 or above) in a relevant subject such as linguistics, computer science, or a related discipline. Applicants with other backgrounds and relevant professional experience may also be considered.
f) Academic year effective from	2026/27

2. Programme Aims & Overview

Aims

The MSc Computational Linguistics aims to develop the knowledge, technical skills and critical awareness needed to work at the intersection of language and computation. The programme equips you with a rigorous grounding in linguistic theory and computational methods, enabling them to analyse, model and build language technologies with confidence and critical judgement. It prepares graduates for careers in industry, research and the public sector, while fostering a commitment to ethical and responsible practice in the development and deployment of AI-driven language systems.

Overview

The MSc Computational Linguistics explores how language is analysed, modelled, and transformed through contemporary AI systems. It combines linguistic theory with practical skills in natural language processing, machine learning, and large language models, enabling you to work across the boundaries of language and computation. The programme develops the ability to analyse text and speech data, design and evaluate language technologies, and apply these techniques to real-world problems - such as building sentiment analysis tools, developing conversational agents, analysing social media discourse, or creating language resources for underrepresented communities. Alongside technical expertise, it emphasises critical engagement with the social, cultural, and ethical implications of language technologies, including issues of bias, representation, and power. You will graduate with a portfolio of applied projects and an independent

dissertation, equipping them for careers in industry, research, or the public sector wherever language and technology intersect.

3. External reference

Item	Information
a) FHEQ Level of Award:	7
b) UCAS Code(s):	TBC
c) HECoS Code(s):	TBC
d) QAA Benchmark group:	Computing / Linguistics

4. Awards

Item	Information
a) Awarding institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
b) Teaching institution:	Goldsmiths, University of London
c) Home School:	Computing If other, name here: N/A
d) School(s) also involved in teaching of the programme:	1. None 2. None 3. None If other, name here: N/A
e) Entry awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☒ PGCert ☒ PGDip
f) Interim exit awards:	☐ Foundation Cert ☐ CertHE ☐ DipHE ☒ PGCert ☒ PGDip
g) Final awards:	MSc Computational Linguistics PGDip Computational Linguistics PGCert Computational Linguistics

5. Delivery

Item	Information
a) Language of study:	English
b) Valid intake points in year:	☐ January ☒ Sept/Oct ☒ Other If other, specify: August, September, March and June
c) Mode of study:	Online Distance Learning

Item	Information	
	Indicate the overall balance of teaching modes in the rows below. Row d) shows total hours of directed learning, with e) and f) showing how this is broken down in in-person vs. online learning, in hours and percentages.	
d) Total hours directed learning/year	200	
e) In-person hours	0	0%
f) Online hours	200	100%
g) Pace of study:	☐ Full time ☒ Part time	
h) Duration of programme	Full time: N/A ☐ years ☐ months Part time: 24 ☐ years ☒ months	
i) External accreditation:	N/A	
j) Apprenticeship Standard:	N/A	

6. Programme Learning Outcomes

Also, see the [curriculum map](#) at the end of document.

For UG exit awards, Learning Outcomes must be achieved in the level indicated below:

- CertHE = Level 4
- DipHE = Level 5

Learning outcomes are grouped in categories of:

- **Declarative learning** - knowledge, thinking & facts (D1-3)
- **Functional learning** - application of knowledge, thinking & facts (F1-3)
- **Professional and transferable skills and behaviours** (P1-3)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
D1	Apply key concepts in the structure and meaning of language, including how these are shaped by use, context, and social factors.	7	Diversity of perspective
D2	Evaluate computational approaches to language, including natural language processing, corpus methods, and formal models.	7	Diversity of perspective
D3	Critically assess the capabilities and limitations of AI and large language model approaches to language, with particular	7	Responsible agency

	Learning Outcome	Level	Graduate Attribute
	reference to human-machine interaction and multimodal applications.		
F1	Analyse linguistic data using appropriate qualitative and quantitative/computational methods.	7	Diversity of perspective
F2	Design, implement, and evaluate NLP and machine learning solutions for real-world language tasks.	7	Responsible agency
F3	Plan and execute an independent research or applied project in computational linguistics, and justify methodological choices.	7	Responsible agency
P1	Communicate methods, results, and insights effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences.	7	Collaboration
P2	Critically evaluate methods, assumptions, and outcomes, demonstrating reflective and independent thinking.	7	Political in the personal
P3	Integrate interdisciplinary approaches to solve complex problems in an ethical and responsible manner.	7	Diversity of perspective

7. Programme Structure

For Undergraduate programmes (UG), each level must amount to at least **120 CATS** (60 ECTS).

Postgraduate (PGT) programmes must amount to at least 180 CATS (90ECTS), with exception to interim exit awards.

Programmes are staged in **Phases**, where each Phase relates to an exit award.

Compulsory modules must be taken by all students.

Option modules – you must choose one or more of the options available to this programme at this level and point. The option modules available from this list may vary from year to year, depending on student numbers and staff availability. Selection takes place during your studies, not before.

Programme structure notes (where relevant):

The programme is delivered in three phases of 60 credits each. Phase 1 establishes foundational knowledge in linguistics, data, and artificial intelligence. Phase 2 develops computational methods in natural language processing and machine learning, alongside modules that broaden and deepen understanding in areas such as large language models and human-computer interaction. Phase 3 consists of a 60-credit independent project.

The programme is delivered fully online with three entry points per year. Modules within each Phase may be taken in any order. Phase 1 modules are foundational and must be completed before progressing to Phase 2.

The programme is designed to support flexible progression through a modular structure, enabling you to build core knowledge before specialising and applying your skills in an extended project.

Phase 1 (PT)

Module Name	Code	Credit	Level	Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Core Issues in Language and Linguistics	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Data Programming	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Corpus Linguistics	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Artificial Intelligence	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A

Phase 2 (PT)

Module Name	Module Code	Credit	Level	Module Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Machine Learning	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Natural Language Processing	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Interaction Science	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A
Large Language Models	TBC	15	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A

Phase 3 (PT)

Module Name	Module Code	Credit	Level	Module Type	Term	Year PT	Pathway
Final Project in Computational Linguistics	TBC	60	7	Compulsory	Multi	N/A	N/A

8. Learning, Teaching & Assessment

Learning & Teaching methods

Teaching will be via a range of formats to be as relevant as possible to the topic and learning outcomes. This may be through VLE content including recorded lectures, curated readings, structured formative activities, and forum discussions. It may have a mix of synchronous webinars

and online activities, designed to give you the best learning experience and to make the most out of your learning experience. You are expected to attend all of your timetabled learning activities.

Specifically, this programme will be taught in the following ways:

Teaching is delivered fully online through a combination of asynchronous learning activities and supported engagement opportunities. You will engage with structured learning materials, including recorded lectures, guided readings, and interactive exercises, supported by practical coding and data analysis tasks.

Modules are designed to be applied and hands-on, with a strong emphasis on working with real-world language data and computational tools. You develop your skills through a combination of individual activities and collaborative tasks, including discussion forums, peer interaction, and group-based exercises where appropriate.

The programme is designed to support flexible learning, allowing you to engage with materials at your own pace while maintaining a clear structure and progression through each module.

Assessment modes and approaches

You will be assessed in a range ways throughout your course. These will be both Formative (for feedback and development), and Summative (required to pass and progress to the next level). Summative assessments are compulsory.

Feedback is a crucial part of your learning and development in this programme. You will receive feedback both on your Formative (work in progress) tasks/assessments, and your Summative (graded) assessments. This feedback will help the assessment to be a part of your learning, not just a test. It may be verbal, written or video based. Please engage with this feedback to improve your future work.

Specifically, this programme will be assessed in the following ways:

Assessment will be primarily coursework-based and may include programming assignments, data analysis tasks, written reports, and project work. You will be assessed on your ability to apply computational methods to language data, critically evaluate approaches, and communicate your findings effectively. The final project provides an opportunity for extended independent work, integrating theoretical and practical learning.

Assessment diet (number of assessments for compulsory modules)

Mode	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Total
Coursework	0	0	0	0	5	5
Exam	0	0	0	0	2	2
Live	0	0	0	0	0	0
Portfolio (multi-modal)	0	0	0	0	1	1
Practical / multimedia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Written	0	0	0	0	1	1

Mode	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7	Total
TOTAL:	0	0	0	0	9	9
Of which...	Individual:	9	Group:	0		

9. Other information

Item	Information
a) Assessment regulations	https://www.gold.ac.uk/gam/taught-programmes/assessment/
b) Placement opportunities	TBC
c) Programme-specific requirements	You must have access to a computer with a stable internet connection capable of running Python and associated data science libraries.
d) Programme specific costs and resources	No additional programme-specific costs beyond standard university fees.
e) Employability and potential career opportunities	Upon graduating from this programme you will be equipped for roles in areas such as natural language processing, data science, artificial intelligence, and language technology. You will develop skills relevant to careers in technology companies, research organisations, and data-driven industries, as well as for further academic study. The combination of linguistic and computational expertise also supports roles in areas such as content analysis, user research, and AI ethics.

10. Academic support

There is a range of support available to you to give you the best possible chance of success in this programme.

Please see your tutors and student portal/VLE for details of what's available and how to access this support.

11. Curriculum map

Programme Learning Outcomes assessed by each module:

Module name	Code	Type	D1	D2	D3	F1	F2	F3	P1	P2	P3
Core Issues in Language & Linguistics	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒
Data Programming	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☐	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐	☒	☒
Corpus Linguistics	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☒	☒	☐	☐
Artificial Intelligence	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☐	☒	☐	☒	☐	☒	☒	☐
Machine Learning	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☒	☐	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐
Natural Language Processing	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☒
Interaction Science	TBC	Compulsory	☐	☐	☒	☐	☐	☐	☒	☒	☒
Large Language Models	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☐	☒	☐	☐	☒	☐
Final Project in Computational Linguistics	TBC	Compulsory	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☒	☐