



SYLLABUS

Linguistic Research Methods. Ethics and Academic Integrity

Academic year 2026-2027

1. Information about the study program

1.1. University	Babeș-Bolyai University
1.2. Faculty	The Faculty of Letters
1.3. Department	Doctoral School of Linguistic and Literary Studies
1.4. Field of study	Language and literature
1.5. Study cycle (BA/MA)	Doctorate
1.6. Study programme/Qualification	Doctorate in Philology/Doctor of Philology
1.7. Enrolment frequency	Full time

2. Information about the subject

2.1. Course title	Linguistic Research Methods. Ethics and Academic Integrity			Course code	LDR1101
2.2. Course tutor	Prof. univ. dr. habil. Adrian CHIRCU				
2.3. Seminar / practical course (laboratory) tutor	Prof. univ. dr. habil. Adrian CHIRCU				
2.4. Year of study	I	2.5. Semester	1	2.6. Type of assessment	E
				2.7. Course status	Contents Mandatory
					DF OBL

3. Total estimated time (teaching hours per semester)

3.1. Number of hours per week	4	of which: 3.2 course	2	3.3 seminar / practical course (laboratory)	2
3.4. Total number of hours in the curriculum	48	of which: 3.5 course	24	3.6 seminar / practical course (laboratory)	24
Allotted time for individual study (ID) and self-study activities (SA)					hours
Study based on textbook, course manual, recommended bibliography, personal notes (SA)					48
Additional research (in the library, online scientific databases/platforms, or field documentation)					93
Preparation for seminars / laboratory classes/ essays/ projects/ homework/ portfolios and reports					48
Tutoring					12
Assessment (examinations)					3
Other activities:					-
3.7. Total hours for individual study (ID) and self-study activities (SA)					204
3.8. Total hours per semester					252
3.9. Number of credits					10

4. Prerequisites (if necessary)



4.1. curriculum	No requirements
4.2. skills	Knowledge of English and French (+ other foreign languages, depending on the topic addressed in the thesis) to read the bibliography

5. Conditions (if necessary)

5.1. for delivering lectures	Classroom equipped with blackboard, projector, computer, internet access
5.2. for teaching seminars / practical courses (laboratory classes)	Seminar room, whiteboard, projector, computer, internet access

6.1. Competences resulting from the completion of the degree programme (as referred to in the curriculum)¹

Professional competences	
Competence code	Competence
PC1	Advanced knowledge in the fields of philology, literature, linguistics, literary theory, cultural history, and discourse studies
PC3	Mastery of advanced research methods and techniques, including literary analysis, linguistic analysis, hermeneutics, philological research, archival research, corpus analysis, genetic criticism, literary history, cultural studies, and comparative methodologies
PC7	Skills in documenting, selecting, interpreting, and critically exploiting primary and secondary sources
PC8	Ability to produce scholarly papers, research reports, articles, book chapters, and doctoral dissertations in accordance with national and international academic standards
PC9	Ability to process, organize, and interpret textual, linguistic, bibliographic, and archival data, including through the use of appropriate digital tools
PC12	Ability to manage research data responsibly in accordance with Open Science principles, including data management plans, FAIR principles, and the deposit of research outputs in open-access archives and repositories
Competences regarding ethics, integrity and research management	
Competence code	Competence
EC1	Knowledge and application of the principles of academic ethics and integrity throughout all stages of doctoral research, in accordance with Law No. 206/2004 and the institution's Code of Ethics
EC2	Ability to avoid plagiarism, self-plagiarism, data fabrication, data falsification, and other forms of research misconduct
EC3	Ability to design, plan, and manage a doctoral research project, including objectives, hypotheses, methodology, timetable, corpus, sources, outcomes, and dissemination activities
EC4	Knowledge of copyright, intellectual property, proper citation practices, open access principles, and the responsible use of digital resources
EC5	Ability to critically assess the limitations of one's own research and to formulate directions for further investigation
EC6	Knowledge of institutional procedures regarding ethical approval of research (ethics committees) and the application of regulations concerning informed consent and the responsible processing of data, where applicable

¹ The professional and/or transversal skills targeted by the subject for which the course description is prepared will be copied from the curriculum of the degree programme. For each competence, the complete entry, including the competence code, will be copied with the exact designation that appears in the curriculum, without any changes. If no competence is copied from either of the two categories, the row corresponding to that category is deleted from the table.



Transversal competences	
Competence code	Competence
TC1	Advanced oral and written scientific communication skills in academic, cultural, and professional contexts
TC2	Advanced proficiency in international languages required for research, academic writing, and the presentation of research findings
TC3	Advanced digital competences, including the use of databases, digital libraries, bibliographic management tools, linguistic corpora, and artificial intelligence tools in a critical and responsible manner
TC5	Critical thinking, synthesis, evaluation, and argumentation skills in scientific and professional contexts
TC9	Competences in science communication aimed at the general public and non-specialist audiences, including public engagement, dissemination, and cultural outreach

6.2. Learning outcomes relevant to the degree programme (as referred to in the curriculum)²

Learning outcomes targeted by the subject		
Competence code	Knowledge and comprehension	Specific academic skills
PC1, PC3, PC7, PC9, PC12, PC18, PC22, PC23, PC25, PC26, PC28	4. To critically interpret primary and secondary sources, textual corpora, archival documents, and relevant bibliographic materials	4. To use digital tools, databases, bibliographic management software, and, where appropriate, artificial intelligence tools critically and responsibly, in compliance with the principles of academic integrity
PC1, PC2, PC3, PC5, PC7, PC8, PC10, PC11, PC12, PC13, PC14, PC15	9. To use specialized terminology appropriately in national and international scholarly communication	9. To write advanced academic texts in accordance with the standards of argumentation, citation, structure, and scholarly style specific to the field of Philology
TC1	10. To manage research data responsibly in accordance with the principles of Open Science and FAIR data management	10. To apply the principles of academic ethics and integrity in the preparation of the doctoral dissertation and in the dissemination of research findings

7. Subject-specific learning outcomes

Knowledge and comprehension
1. The doctoral student will know and understand the notions in the methodology of research.
2. The doctoral student will know and understand the main aspects of the methodology of research (elaboration of a PhD thesis), scientific rigour and the ethics of research.
Specific academic skills
1. The doctoral student will be able to present a set of principles to be followed in the scientific research and the field is active.

² The learning outcomes relevant for the degree programme and targeted by the subject for which the course description is prepared will be listed. The entries, copied without any changes from the Curriculum (Core Subject/Specialisation Subject/Complementary Subject), are listed under the corresponding competence.



2. The doctoral student will be able to recognize specific types of scientific works, to conduct research, present and/or write scientific studies preparatory to the elaboration of the doctoral thesis: seminar presentations (book presentations, bibliographic surveys with concept definitions, corpus compilation, thematic topics, etc.); scientific papers; scientific articles and reviews; the doctoral thesis (while observing proper methods of documentation, information retrieval and processing, as well as the ethics of research and academic writing); organization of scientific sessions; editing and proofreading of volumes, etc.

8. Contents

8.1 Course	Teaching methods	Remarks
1. Introduction. Organization: 1.1. Personal presentation. Establishing group leader(s). 1.2. Course topic and bibliography 1.3. Requirements and evaluation 1.4. Scheduling of seminar presentations by session.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
2. Theme and subject of the thesis: relevance, delimitation, corpus, methodology (generalities).	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
3. Technical writing style: text (characters), notes, bibliography (writing styles) 3.1. Applications: 3.1.1. Observation/correction of bibliographies 3.1.2. Individual writing of bibliographies.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
4. Terminology and terminologies in language sciences. Dictionaries of language sciences, landmarks in the thesis construction.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
5. Traditional and modern theories. The theoretical option in linguistic research.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral

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	presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	students' interventions on the proposed topic.
6. Bibliography and Bibliographic Overview 6.1. Databases 6.2. Bibliographies of bibliographies	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
7. Scientific Genres (I) 7.1. Book Presentation and Review 7.2. Scientific Communication — Presentation Formats (paper, PowerPoint).	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
8. Scientific Genres (II) 8.1. The Scientific Article — Observation and Analysis of Linguistics Articles: Formatting, Writing, Citation, References (types of notes) 8.2. Typographical Proofreading — Editing a Volume.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
9. Scientific Genres (III) 9.1. The dissertation, the thesis 9.2. The Academic Book — From doctoral thesis to book.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
10. Research Ethics 10.1. The Concept of Ethics 10.2. Ethics in the Humanities 10.3. Academic Integrity 10.3.1. The Concept of Integrity 10.3.2. Integrity in the Field of Research.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.

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	Comments based on supporting texts.	
11. Plagiarism 11.1. Definition 11.2. Typology of Plagiarism 11.3. Ethics of Writing — Citation and Citation Styles 11.4. Consequences of Plagiarism.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.
12. Artificial intelligence (AI). Legal limits and restrictions.	Discussions. Individual presentations. Document consultation (on paper, projection). Interactive presentation, based on submitted documents, etc. Analyses of written (literary, non-literary) and oral texts. Case studies. Comments based on supporting texts.	Each course is designed in close connection with the corresponding seminar, both emphasizing the doctoral students' interventions on the proposed topic.

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[content/uploads/2023/01/Ghid_de_redactare_Teza_2023.pdf](#) (accesat în 29/09/2025).

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***, *Standarde minimale naționale necesare și obligatorii pentru conferirea diplomei de doctor* (OM 3108/13 ianuarie 2015), București, Ministerul Educației și Cercetării, disponibil la: https://www.edu.ro/sites/default/files/fisiere%20articole/OMEC_3018-2025.pdf (accesat în 29/09/2025).

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Subhash, Chandra Parija, Kate, Vikram (eds), *Thesis Writing and Ph. D. Program*, Dordecht, Springer, 2018.
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***, *The European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity*, revised edition, Berlin, ALLEA, 2023, disponibil la: [European-Code-of-Conduct-Revised-Edition-2023.pdf](https://www.eur-codex.eu/Code-of-Conduct-Revised-Edition-2023.pdf) (accesat în 25/09/2025).

9. Assessment (examination)

Type of activity	9.1 Assessment criteria	9.2 Assessment methods	9.3 Weight in the final grade
9.4 Course	To graduate from the discipline, doctoral students will have to take into account the tasks assumed within the course (seminars & final thesis). As a means of assessment for this course, doctoral students will have to obtain a grade based on a review and a paper of at least 7 pages, which must be related to the individual research project and comply with scientific norms (these will be discussed with the professor of the modular course in advance).	Exam The course instructor chooses two exam dates by mutual agreement in the legal exam session to finalize the grade. Doctoral students will submit to the professor the individual certificates of obtaining the grade which, after evaluation, will be completed and signed by the teaching staff. The possible ratings are: very good, good, satisfactory or unsatisfactory.	75%
9.5 Seminar/practical course (laboratory class)	Active participation in discussions, elaboration of term sheets, having as a reference the bibliography of the course Effective involvement in seminars	Periodical evaluation / Appreciation of the activity	25%
9.6 Basic performance standard			
Understanding the aspects regarding the proper completion of the doctoral thesis (in accordance with those presented in the course and with the minimum standards for the field of Philology), respecting the aspects related to ethics and academic integrity; the specialized language is simple, but correctly used, in addition to knowing and respecting the standards of academic writing.			

10. SDG labels (Sustainable Development Goals)³

³ Select a single label which, according to the [Implementation of SDG labels in the academic process](#), best matches the subject. If the subject addresses sustainable development in a generic manner (i.e. by presenting/producing



		Sustainable Development Generic Label						
								No label applies

Date:

30.06.2026

Course tutor's name and signature

Adrian CHIRCU

Digitally signed by
ADRIAN CHIRCU-BUFTEA
Date: 2026.09.11 16:23:19 +03'00'

Seminar tutor's name and signature

/

Practical course tutor's (Laboratory
tutor's) name and signature,

Adrian CHIRCU

Digitally signed by
ADRIAN CHIRCU-BUFTEA
Date: 2026.09.11 16:26:15 +03'00'

Date of approval:

July 2026

Head of Doctoral School of Linguistic and

Literary Studies's name and signature,

Prof. univ. dr. habil. Adrian CHIRCU

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ADRIAN CHIRCU-BUFTEA
Date: 2026.09.11 16:27:41 +03'00'

the general framework of sustainable development, etc.), then the Sustainable Development generic label may be applied. If none of the labels describe the subject, select the last option: "No label applies."

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