

Graduate school & fellowship application

Department of Linguistics

U of T

October 18, 2019

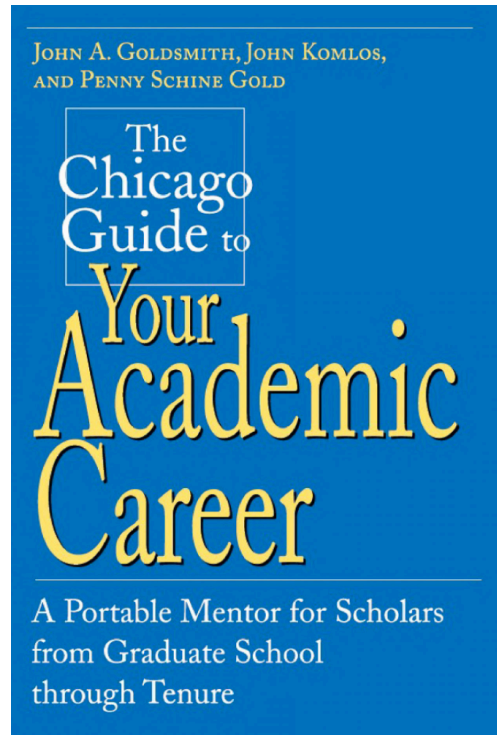
SS560A

Today's panel

- Yoonjung Kang (Graduate Coordinator)
- Crystal Chow (MA 2020)
- Greg Antono (MA 2020)

A career in academia?

- Available as e-book through the UofT library.



Linguistics as a profession

- <https://www.linguisticsociety.org/resource/linguistics-profession>
- <https://linguistlist.org/>

MA in Linguistics at U of T

- <https://www.linguistics.utoronto.ca/prospective-graduate-students/how-apply>
- Due date: January 8, 2020 (including all supporting documents)

Program Overview

- Course work: 3 FCE's (6 courses)
 - Required: if you haven't taken them already
 - Intro Syntax, Intro Phonology (equivalent to UG 300-level)
 - Analysis and Argumentation, Field Methods
 - Electives: other courses to be determined in consultation with the graduate coordinator
- Original research project (“MA forum”)
 - You identify a research topic and are matched with a supervisor at the start of the program.
- Teaching Assistantship (140 hours)
- Research Assistantship (30 hours)

Funding

- For the academic year of 2020-21, base funding packages of ***at least \$18,000 plus tuition and fees*** to all MA students
- Program Level Fellowship of **\$1,000** per student
- Sample funding (2018-19)

<https://www.linguistics.utoronto.ca/prospective-graduate-students/tuition-and-funding#sample-funding-accordion-1>

Application overview

- Key components of application
 - Transcripts
 - Three Letters of recommendation
 - Statement of interest
- **Start early!** Everything takes longer than you think.

Transcripts

- Academic aptitude
- Work ethic
- Discipline specific knowledge
- “B+ average in the final year of undergraduate studies”
 - Final year ~ 5 FCE (10 courses)
- Unofficial transcripts are ok – need to provide official transcripts once accepted to the program.
(Note: ***SSHRC-CGS requires official transcripts.***)

3 Letters of recommendation

- Ask professors who know you well.
- Ask early! Professors are very busy people.
- Give them information about yourself.
 - Statement of research, resume, etc.
 - Courses you took with them, how you did in the course, how the experience made an impact on you.
 - Whatever may be of assistance to the letter writing process.
 - The better the letter writer knows YOU, the better able they are to support YOU.
- Make sure your letter writers know the deadline for when the letter is due. Make this BIG and CLEAR. Send courteous reminders.

Statement of interest

- Approximately one-page.
- Make it informative. Be specific.
- Speak about *linguistic issues and questions* that interest you.
- Show your *excitement* and *enthusiasm*.
- Demonstrate that you have the right *background preparation/ past achievements* and a *good forward plan* to pursue this research.
- *Mentioning faculty* that you want to work with/can help you in your chosen area of research is advisable because it shows that the program is the right one for you and you did your homework.
- Get feedback on your plan of study early on.
- Proofread!

SSHRC

(Canadian Graduate Scholarship-Master's)

- http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/Students-Etudiants/PG-CS/CGSM-BESCM_eng.asp
- Domestic students (Canadian citizen or a permanent resident)
- Value: \$17,500 for 12 months, non-renewable
- Deadline: December 1, 2019

Application Overview

- You apply through the SSHRC/NSERC portal and select **three** programs, where you intend to hold the award.
- Applications are evaluated by each institution you apply to.
- CGS awards are not portable – you can hold it only at the institution where you receive the award.
- Key components
 - On-line application form
 - Transcripts – need to be official (order early!)
 - Outline of Proposed Research: **1 page + 1 page bibliography**
 - **Two** Letters of recommendation
 - ***Canadian Common CV (takes a long time!!!)***

Outline of Proposed Research

- More detailed and focused on specifics of research than the Statement of Interest for MA program application.
- 2 Pages including bibliography
- Good proposals generally include the following components
 - Introduction/Overview
 - Background/Context
 - Goal/Motivation
 - Methodology
 - Significance/Implications
- Make sure you follow the formatting requirements.

Selection criteria

- Academic excellence (50%)
- Research potential (30%)
- Personal characteristics and interpersonal skills (20%)

OGS (Ontario Graduate Scholarship)

- <http://www.sgs.utoronto.ca/currentstudents/Pages/Ontario-Graduate-Scholarship.aspx>
- Value: \$5,000 per session for 2 or 3 consecutive sessions
- Domestic deadline: March 31, 2020
- International deadline: April 15, 2020

Application components

- OGS application form.
- Two academic references
- Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions (unofficial and student-issued transcripts are permitted; e.g., ROSI screenshots).
- Plan of study (maximum 3,950 characters including spaces).
- Previous awards/publications/conference/research experience.