**DEPARTMENT OF AFRIKAANS AND DUTCH**

**Procedure for all master’s applications**

Honours students achieved at least 70% on the honours research assignment.

## Procedure

1. The student reads the ‘Guidelines for Higher Degrees Research in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences’ carefully and registers online (<http://academic.sun.ac.za/forlang/documents/PGGuidelinesFacultyArtsSocialSciences.pdf>).

US students visit My.SUN; ‘Application Postgraduate Study’.

Non-US students visit www.sun.ac.za; ‘Students’; ‘Prospective Students’; ‘Apply’.

1. The student approaches a lecturer/intended supervisor regarding the possible theme.
2. The department
* decides whether the student is capable of doing a thesis
* decides whether the theme is a suitable topic for a master’s thesis
* decides who will be the supervisor.
1. The student, in collaboration with the supervisor, prepares the research proposal.
2. The research proposal is submitted to the lecturers in linguistics or literature for comments.
3. After the feedback and input of the lecturers have been processed, the supervisor submits the research proposal for approval by the department.
4. The deadline for M applications is announced from year to year (but applications usually have to be submitted by 31 October).

## Requirements for research proposal of a master’s project

1. The proposal must be type-written, and consists of the following sections:
	1. Student’s name and student number
	2. Name of supervisor
	3. Title of thesis
	4. Background and prior study (run-up to identifying the problem/the narrative of the problem; includes reference to previous research on the subject)
	5. Brief breakdown of the research problem (*what* will be investigated)
	6. Purpose of the study (what is intended)
	7. Method/approach to the study (how will the problem be solved; motivation stating why the chosen approach is appropriate)
	8. Progress of the study (time schedule and list of contents of the thesis)
	9. Link to a research-focus area of the department
	10. Recommendation regarding possible ethical clearance
2. Length: 2000 words