

Linguistics, B.A.

The Major in Linguistics

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Overview

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language. The central goal of the Linguistics Major is to provide students with the analytical skills and linguistic concepts needed to understand language scientifically, whether formally, as researchers, or informally, as participants in daily linguistic interactions. The foundation of the Linguistics Major is a set of rigorous core courses, informed by contemporary approaches to the study of linguistic form and meaning.

The **Core courses** cover the principal domains of linguistic analysis: phonetics and phonology, syntax and meaning.

Students then move on to the **Extended Core**, which includes more advanced courses as well as courses on a wider range of topics, such as intonation and language variation. These courses are supplemented by a wide-ranging set of electives including linguistically relevant courses taught in other departments.

Primary majors complete their course of study with a Senior Thesis, a semester-long research project carried out independently with one-on-one guidance from a member of the linguistics faculty.

Curriculum

The Linguistics **primary major** requires a total of 13 courses, or 12 courses and a senior thesis, for those who are approved to write a thesis. Linguistics may also be pursued as an **additional major** and those requirements are identical to the primary major.

At least three courses must be at the 300-level or higher. All courses counted towards the major must be taken for a letter grade and passed with a grade of "C" or above. No more than two courses transferred from another institution may count towards the major requirements. Students may double count any course for the major simultaneously with another major or minor.

Linguistics Core 36 units

Complete all the following requirements.

	Units
80-180 Introduction to Linguistics	9
80-282 Phonetics and Phonology	9
80-280 Linguistic Analysis	9
or 80-285 Natural Language Syntax	
80-381 Meaning in Language	9
or 80-383 Language in Use	

Extended Core 27 units

Choose **three** courses (27 units) from Extended Core and/or additional courses from Linguistics Core.

36-468 Special Topics: Text Analysis	9
76-389 Rhetorical Grammar	9
80-283 It Matters How You Say It	9
80-286 Words and Word Formation: Introduction to Morphology	9
80-287 Language Variation and Change	9
80-288 Intonation: The Meaning of Linguistic Tunes	9
80-382 Laboratory Phonology	9
80-384 Linguistics of Turkic Languages	9
80-385 Linguistics of Germanic Languages	9
80-388 Linguistic Typology: Diversity and Universals	9
80-484 Language and Thought	9
80-488 Acoustics of Human Speech: Theory, Data, and Analysis	9

Electives minimum 54 units

Primary and additional majors choose **six** additional electives (54 or more units). These Electives can be additional courses from the Core or Extended Core courses listed above, the electives list below, or any other course which is approved by the Senior Academic Program Manager as a linguistics elective. Up to two electives may be taken as a sequence of a foreign language, e.g. Elementary French I and Elementary French II. Up to one elective may be taken in the form of a senior thesis.

Listed below are the additional electives taught on a regular basis. Additional appropriate courses are offered irregularly or on a one-off basis. The Senior Academic Program Manager will provide students with a list of possible electives each semester, and will assist students in selecting electives which are consistent with their goals and interests.

Philosophy		
80-484	Language and Thought	9
80-486	RAship in Linguistics	3-12
English		
76-318	Communicating in the Global Marketplace	9
76-325	Intertextuality	9
76-380	Methods in Humanities Analytics	9
76-386	Language & Culture	9
76-388	Coding for Humanists	9
76-389	Rhetorical Grammar	9
Languages, Cultures, and Applied Linguistics		
82-239	Crazy Linguistically Rich Asian Languages	9
82-283	Language Diversity & Cultural Identity	9
82-334	Structure of Chinese	9
82-373	Structure of the Japanese Language	9
82-387	Introduction to Linguistic Data Analysis Using R	9
82-383	Second Language Acquisition: Theories and Research	9
Psychology		
85-210	Language, AI, and Thought	9
Language Technologies Institute		
11-411	Natural Language Processing	12
11-423	ConLanging: Lrng Ling & Lang Tech via Constr	12
	Artif. Lang	
11-492	Speech Technology for Conversational AI	12

Note: all 11-xxx courses have significant Computer Science prerequisites. Interested students should check with the course instructor and with the Linguistics Senior Academic Program Manager before registering.

Statistics and Data Science		
36-468	Special Topics: Text Analysis	9

SENIOR THESIS (optional)

Students who wish to complete a senior thesis (a workload equivalent to a 9-unit course), may choose to do so in their final semester. 80-595 Senior Thesis. Topics must be approved by an advisor, who will work with the student and guide the thesis project. Students are responsible for identifying their topic and securing their thesis advisor. Because topics are subject to approval, students wishing to write a senior thesis will be enrolled in 3 units of 80-594 Research Project Development course during the first semester of your senior year.