Linguistics, PhD

Requirements

The Doctor of Philosophy in linguistics requires a minimum of 72 s.h. of graduate credit. Students must maintain a Graduate College program grade-point average of at least 3.50. The highly selective program provides students with a strong foundation in theoretical linguistics and helps them develop the skills they will need to explore the close relationship between linguistics and related disciplines.

The PhD in linguistics requires the following coursework.

Requirements	Hours
Core Courses	22
Electives	12
Additional Coursework	38
Additional Requirements	

Core Courses

Students complete the following set of required core courses for a total of 22 s.h. Core courses must be taken on an A–F graded basis.

Course #	Title	Hours
All of these:		
LING:3005	Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics	3
LING:5000	Proseminar: Morphosyntax	1
LING:5010	Introduction to Syntax	3
LING:5020	Introduction to Phonology	3
LING:6010	Syntactic Theory	3
LING:6020	Phonological Theory	3
LING:6080	Topics in Second Language Acquisition	3
One of these:		
LING:6040	Linguistic Structures	3
LING:6050	Language Universals Linguistic Typology	3

Linguistics Core Electives

Students take 12 s.h. of linguistics courses (prefix LING) numbered 4000 or above, excluding LING:4010, LING:4050, LING:4900, LING:6900, and LING:7900; these courses must be taken on an A–F graded basis. The core electives may include a maximum of 6 s.h. total from LING:4195 Linguistics Lab II, LING:5090 Special Projects, and LING:7100 Special Projects.

Additional Coursework

Students complete 38 s.h. in additional coursework. This may include additional linguistics courses (prefix LING) numbered 3000 or above. All additional coursework must be approved by a student's advisor.

Students are encouraged to explore courses from other disciplines that align with their individual research focus, including the graduate certificate in the cognitive science of language.

Additional Requirements

Comprehensive Exam

To pass the comprehensive examination for the PhD, a student must gain approval for two papers of publishable quality. One must be in phonology or syntax. The other should be in an area of the student's choosing and must be distinct from the area of the first paper.

Dissertation

An oral defense of the dissertation and three years in residence at the University of Iowa are required. Students enroll in LING:7900 PhD Thesis while working on the dissertation. In addition, all candidates are required to gain supervised experience in teaching and research.