

Linguistics, B.A.

Depending on their vocational goals, students planning to major in linguistics should consider pursuing their studies either through the M.A. in linguistics with a professional focus or through the Ph.D., or they should complete a second major. Appropriate companion fields include languages, anthropology, computer science, English, mathematics, philosophy, psychology, sociology, speech pathology, and elementary and secondary education.

Learning Outcomes

Students will have the:

- ability to identify generalizations in language data,
- ability to apply theoretical concepts to the analysis of language,
- understanding of and ability to use scientific method,
- ability to present a valid and sound argument, and
- ability to identify the empirical shortfalls of a linguistic analysis and think creatively about alternative solutions.

Linguistics as a discipline inquires into the fundamental nature of human language. The ability to learn and speak a language is unique to humans, and language is intrinsic to the human mind, as well as integral to human society. The study of linguistics at the undergraduate level teaches students how to analyze languages, which are highly structured in ways that most people are not consciously aware of.

Undergraduate courses in the linguistics major teach a vocabulary of concepts and notation for analyzing language, and a process of analytical reasoning for applying the concepts to forms from specific languages. Students who major in linguistics achieve an informed awareness of language which has applications to many other fields, as well as preparation for continuing in linguistics and other fields which focus on language. The curriculum also provides an introduction to the kind of arguments used in scientific reasoning, using data and techniques which are perhaps more easily accessible to undergraduates than the kind used in laboratory sciences.

Requirements

The Bachelor of Arts with a major in linguistics requires a minimum of 120 s.h., including 30 s.h. of work for the major. Students must maintain a g.p.a. of at least 2.00 in all courses for the major and in all UI courses for the major. They also must complete the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences GE CLAS Core.

The major in linguistics prepares students to do basic language analysis in syntax-semantics (sentence patterns and their relation to meanings) and phonology (sound patterns). Elective courses in a variety of subspecialties enable students to tailor the program to their own interests.

The B.A. with a major in linguistics requires the following coursework.

Code	Title	Hours
Major Courses		15
Electives		15
Total Hours		30

Major Courses

Students must complete no fewer than 15 s.h. of requirements for the major at the University of Iowa, including LING:3005 Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics, LING:3010 Syntactic Analysis, and LING:3020 Phonological Analysis.

The course LING:1003 English Grammar does not count toward the linguistics major.

Code	Title	Hours
All of these:		
LING:3001	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LING:3005	Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics	3
LING:3010	Syntactic Analysis	3
LING:3020	Phonological Analysis	3
One of these:		
A course in language history, such as LING:3080		3
A course in an old language (classical Greek, Latin, Old English, Sanskrit)		3

Electives

Electives are chosen in consultation with a faculty advisor (15 s.h.), bringing the total credit in the major to 30 s.h.

TESL Emphasis

As part of the major in linguistics, students may complete an emphasis in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL). The TESL emphasis can prepare students to teach English to non-native speakers abroad. It also is excellent preparation for graduate work in second language acquisition. TESL emphasis students complete the requirements for the linguistics major listed above, using the following coursework to partially satisfy the electives requirement.

Code	Title	Hours
Both of these:		
LING:4040	The Structure of English	3
LING:4050	Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language	3
One of these:		
LING:3030	Child Language-Linguistic Perspectives	3
LING:3670	Language Processes	3
LING:4010	Undergraduate Practicum in Teaching English as a Second Language	3
LING:4090	Practical Phonetics	3

Combined Programs

B.A./M.A. (TESL Subprogram)

Undergraduate linguistics majors who plan to earn a master's degree in linguistics with a teaching English as a second language (TESL) subprogram have the opportunity to enroll in the Bachelor of Arts/Master of Arts in linguistics degree program. Students in the B.A./M.A. program take selected graduate-level courses while they are still undergraduates and may count 12 s.h. of advanced coursework toward both degrees. Once students complete the requirements for the

bachelor's degree, they are granted the B.A., and they usually complete the M.A. one year later.

As part of the undergraduate major with TESL subprogram, B.A./M.A. students take LING:4040 The Structure of English, a course in language history, LING:3001 Introduction to Linguistics, and LING:3005 Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics.

Students substitute some graduate-level coursework for typical undergraduate requirements. Instead of taking LING:3010 Syntactic Analysis to fulfill the B.A. syntax requirement, they take LING:5010 Introduction to Syntax, the first course in the mandatory two-course syntax sequence for M.A. students. Instead of taking LING:3020 Phonological Analysis to fulfill the B.A. phonology requirement, they take LING:5020 Introduction to Phonology, the first in the graduate two-course phonology sequence.

In addition, LING:4050 Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language and LING:6010 Syntactic Theory count toward both degrees and usually are taken during the senior year.

To be admitted to the program, students must be working toward an undergraduate major in linguistics, must have completed at least 80 s.h. of undergraduate coursework (typically by the end of their fifth semester), and must have a g.p.a. of at least 3.50.

B.A./M.S. in Business Analytics (Career Subprogram)

Students who are interested in earning a master's degree in business analytics with a career subprogram may apply to the combined B.A./M.S. program offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business. The program enables students to begin the study of business analytics before they complete their bachelor's degree. Students are able to complete both degrees in five years rather than six.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the business analytics program, see the M.S. in business analytics (career) in the Tippie College of Business section of the Catalog.

B.A./M.S. in Finance

The combined Bachelor of Arts in linguistics/Master of Science in finance program is offered by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Tippie College of Business. The program enables students to begin the study of finance before they complete their bachelor's degree. Students are able to complete both degrees in five years rather than six.

Separate application to each degree program is required. Applicants must be admitted to both programs before they may be admitted to the combined degree program. For information about the finance program, see the M.S. in finance (Tippie College of Business) in the Catalog.

Honors

Honors in the Major

Students majoring in linguistics have the opportunity to graduate with honors in the major. Departmental honors students must complete the required coursework for the

major and must prepare an honors thesis, working in consultation with their academic advisor.

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences requires that students who earn honors in the major maintain a minimum University of Iowa cumulative g.p.a. of 3.33. Additional g.p.a. standards and requirements are set by each department or program.

University of Iowa Honors Program

In addition to honors in the major, students have opportunities for honors study and activities through membership in the University of Iowa Honors Program. Visit Honors at Iowa to learn about the University's honors program.

Membership in the UI Honors Program is not required to earn honors in the linguistics major.

Career Advancement

Linguistics majors have found work teaching English as a second language overseas. Unique teaching opportunities worth exploring include those with the Peace Corps and Teach For America.

A number of companies, such as Microsoft, Xerox, Apple, Hewlett-Packard, and other high-tech firms, regularly hire employees with linguistics degrees. Opportunities also exist for government work, for example, as a special agent linguist for the FBI.

Some graduates choose to pursue advanced study in linguistics or other disciplines. Graduates with bachelor's degrees in linguistics may be admitted to certain graduate programs without additional academic preparation, such as anthropology, English literature, world language specializations, law, library science, philosophy, psychology, and sociology.

The Pomerantz Career Center offers multiple resources to help students find internships and jobs.

Academic Plans

Four-Year Graduation Plan

The following checkpoints list the minimum requirements students must complete by certain semesters in order to stay on the University's Four-Year Graduation Plan. Courses in the major are those required to complete the major; they may be offered by departments other than the major department.

Before the fifth semester begins: LING:3001 Introduction to Linguistics and one additional linguistics course

Before the seventh semester begins: three more courses in the major and at least 90 s.h. earned toward the degree

Before the eighth semester begins: two more courses in the major

During the eighth semester: enrollment in all remaining coursework in the major, all remaining GE CLAS Core courses, and a sufficient number of semester hours to graduate

Sample Plans of Study

Sample plans represent one way to complete a program of study. Actual course selection and sequence will vary and

should be discussed with an academic advisor. For additional sample plans, see MyUI.

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- Teaching English as a Second Language Emphasis [p. 3]

Linguistics, B.A.

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall		
LING:1010	Language and Society ^{a, b}	3
RHET:1030 or ENGL:1200	Rhetoric or The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion ^c		3
Elective course ^d		3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	2
Hours		14-15
Spring		
LING:3001	Introduction to Linguistics	3
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab ^c		4
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture ^c		3
Elective course ^d		2
Hours		15-16
Second Year		
Fall		
LING:3005	Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics	3
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning ^{c, e}		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		16-17
Spring		
LING:3010	Syntactic Analysis	3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues ^{c, g}		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		16-17
Third Year		
Fall		
Major: old language course (classical Greek, Latin, Old English, Sanskrit) or LING:3080 History of the English Language		3
Major: Linguistics elective course ^a		3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^c		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab ^c		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Hours		16-17
Spring		
LING:3020	Phonological Analysis	3
Major: Linguistics elective course ^a		3

GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course ^f	4 - 5
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Hours	16-17

Fourth Year

Fall	
Major: Linguistics elective course ^a	3
Major: Linguistics elective course ^a	3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts ^c	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Hours	15

Spring

Major: Linguistics elective course ^a	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall)	
Hours	15
Total Hours	123-129

- Students complete Linguistics electives (prefix LING) chosen in consultation with an advisor, bringing total credit in the major to 30 s.h. LING:1003 may not be used as an elective course.
- Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
- Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
- Students may choose to take LING:1050 to fulfill this GE requirement.
- Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
- Students may choose to take LING:1040 to fulfill this GE requirement.
- Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor. For more information visit <http://commencement.uiowa.edu/>. If applicable search for "Early and Late Participation" to find this page (e.g. participate in graduation ceremony in May, degree conferral in August).

Teaching English as a Second Language Emphasis

Course	Title	Hours
First Year		
Fall		
LING:1010	Language and Society ^{a, b}	3
ENGL:1200 or RHET:1030	The Interpretation of Literature or Rhetoric	3 - 4
GE CLAS Core: Diversity and Inclusion ^c		3
Elective course ^d		3
CSI:1600	Success at Iowa	2
Hours		14-15

Spring

LING:3001	Introduction to Linguistics	3
ENGL:1200	The Interpretation of Literature	3 - 4
	or RHET:1030 or Rhetoric	
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences with Lab ^c		4
GE CLAS Core: Values and Culture ^c		3
Elective course ^d		2
Hours		15-16

Second Year**Fall**

LING:3005	Articulatory and Acoustic Phonetics	3
GE CLAS Core: Quantitative or Formal Reasoning ^{c, e}		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages First Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		16-17

Spring

LING:3010	Syntactic Analysis	3
GE CLAS Core: International and Global Issues ^{c, g}		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		16-17

Third Year**Fall**

Major: old language course (classical Greek, Latin, Old English, Sanskrit) or LING:3080 History of the English Language		3
LING:4040	The Structure of English	3
GE CLAS Core: Historical Perspectives ^c		3
GE CLAS Core: Natural Sciences without Lab ^c		3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Second Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Hours		16-17

Spring

LING:3020	Phonological Analysis	3
LING:4050	Methods of Teaching English as a Second Language	3
GE CLAS Core: World Languages Fourth Level Proficiency or elective course ^f		4 - 5
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		16-17

Fourth Year**Fall**

Major: additional TESL emphasis requirement ^h		3
Major: Linguistics elective course ^a		3
GE CLAS Core: Literary, Visual, and Performing Arts ^c		3
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3
Hours		15

Spring

Major: Linguistics elective course ^a		3
Elective course ^d		3
Elective course ^d		3

Elective course ^d	3
Elective course ^d	3
Degree Application: apply on MyUI before deadline (typically in February for spring, September for fall) ⁱ	
Hours	15
Total Hours	123-129

- a Students complete Linguistics electives (prefix LING) chosen in consultation with an advisor, bringing total credit in the major to 30 s.h. LING:1003 may not be used as an elective course.
- b Fulfills a major requirement and may fulfill a GE requirement.
- c GE CLAS Core courses may be completed in any order unless used as a prerequisite for another course. Students should consult with an advisor about the best sequencing of courses.
- d Students may use elective courses to earn credit towards the total s.h. required for graduation or to complete a double major, minors, or certificates.
- e Students may choose to take LING:1050 to fulfill this GE requirement.
- f Students who have completed four years of a single language in high school have satisfied the GE CLAS Core World Languages requirement. Enrollment in world languages courses requires a placement exam, unless enrolling in a first-semester-level course.
- g Students may choose to take LING:1040 to fulfill this GE requirement.
- h Choose one of these: LING:3030, LING:3670, LING:4010, or LING:4090.
- i Please see Academic Calendar, Office of the Registrar website for current degree application deadlines. Students should apply for a degree for the session in which all requirements will be met. For any questions on appropriate timing, contact your academic advisor. For more information visit <http://commencement.uiowa.edu/>