Linguistics, PhD

Admission

Applicants to the graduate program in linguistics must submit an online application to the Graduate College. In addition to three letters of recommendation, the application requires a statement of purpose that outlines the student’s goals and planned area of research and identifies the faculty member(s) with whom the student would like to work.

Applicants also must provide written evidence of the ability to do advanced work in linguistics. This may include one or more of the following:

- a short squib-style paper (short notes consisting of 5,000 words maximum) that makes a specific point by calling attention to a theoretically unexpected observation about language without the need for a developed analysis or solution;
- a final course paper; and
- a research project outlining the area of investigation the applicant wishes to pursue.

Applications must be received no later than Jan. 15 for admission the following fall.

Applicants whose first language is not English must submit official test scores to verify English proficiency. Applicants can verify English proficiency by submitting official test scores from the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or the International English Language Testing System (IELTS).

All applicants must meet the admission requirements of the Graduate College; see the Manual of Rules and Regulations on the Graduate College website.