ENGLISH: LANGUAGE AND LINGUISTICS OPTION (M.A.)

Description

Students who wish to specialize in any of the various areas of English language and linguistics may design an M.A. program to meet their interests. Specialties include applied linguistics and the teaching of English as a second language as well as the traditional subfields of linguistics. Psycholinguistics courses are offered through the psychology department.

Requirements

To earn the M.A. degree, students must complete at least 32 credit hours at the 800 or 900 level, including 4 credit hours of a research experience. This research experience can be fulfilled either by taking a 4 credit course at the 800 or 900 level in which they, with the consultation of the course instructor and/or the program advisor, produce a substantial (30 page) paper OR 4 credits of ENGL 998 Master's Paper, in which they are to produce a substantial scholarly paper. Unless the student already has a strong background in linguistic theory, the program of study must include one course in phonetics and phonology (ENGL 893 Phonetics and Phonology) and one in syntax and semantics (ENGL 894 Syntax).

Reading knowledge of one foreign language is required. This may be demonstrated by passing a departmental examination or by receiving a grade of B or better in a fourth-semester college-level language course. Students whose native language is not English may be exempt from this requirement.

The student's course of study must be approved by the program adviser.

Student Learning Outcomes

- Demonstrate expertise in a variety of theoretical approaches, such as gender theory, deconstruction, psychoanalysis, postcolonial theory, intersectionality, and so on.
- Engage in the close reading of complex texts across a range of national traditions.
- Perform literary critical writing and speaking that adheres to the conventions of the field.
- Undertake original research using primary and secondary sources, and responding to existing knowledge in the field.