Linguistics Major (B.A.)

https://cola.unh.edu/linguistics/program/ba/linguistics

Description

Linguistics is the study of one of the most important characteristics of human beings—language. It cuts across the boundaries between the sciences and the humanities. The program is an excellent liberal arts major or preprofessional major for education, law, medicine, clergy and others. It is a particularly appropriate major for students who want to teach English as a second language. Dual majors with a foreign language, international affairs, business administration and the like are quite feasible.

Students interested in the major should consult with the program coordinator or with any professor who teaches linguistics courses. To declare a major in linguistics, a student must meet with the linguistics coordinator to design a course of study. Information is available from the University Advising Center, 101 Hood House, and at cola.unh.edu/linguistics. Students may also contact Prof. Rachel Burdin, Linguistics Program Coordinator, with questions about major or minor requirements: Rachel.Burdin@unh.edu, (603) 862-1088.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Minimum Credit Requirement: 128 credits

Minimum Residency Requirement: 32 credits must be taken at UNH

Minimum GPA: 2.0 required for conferral*

Core Curriculum Required: Discovery & Writing Program Requirements

Foreign Language Requirement: Yes

All Major, Option and Elective Requirements as indicated.

*Major GPA requirements as indicated.

Major Requirements

The required minimum overall GPA in major coursework is 2.0.

Entity| Title | Credits |
---|---|---|
LING 405 | Introduction to Linguistics | 4 |
LING 605 | Intermediate Linguistic Analysis | 4 |
LING 793 | Phonetics and Phonology | 4 |
LING 794 | Syntax | 4 |
Select one course in historical linguistics or sociolinguistics from the following: | | 4 |
ENGL 782 | History of the English Language | 4 |
ITAL 733 | History and Development of the Italian Language | 4 |
LING/ENGL 719 | Sociolinguistics Survey | 4 |
RUSS 733 | History of Slavic Languages and Culture | 4 |
SPAN 708 | Topics in Hispanic Linguistics and Cultural Studies (Subtopic A) | 4 |
Two years of college study (or equivalent) of one foreign language | | 4-16 |
Select one of the following cognate specialties: | | 8 |
One year study (or equivalent) of a second foreign language from a different language family or subfamily: | | 1 |
PSYC 712 | Psychology of Language | 4 |
Select two elective courses from the list below, one of which must be a 600- or 700-level LING or ENGL course | | 8 |
LING 779 | Linguistic Field Methods | 4 |

Elective Courses

Entity| Code | Title | Credits |
---|---|---|---|
Anthropology | ANTH 795 | Reading and Research (Subtopic B) | 1-8 |
ANTH 796 | Reading and Research (Subtopic B) | 1-8 |
Communication | CMN 572 | Analysis of Language and Social Interaction | 4 |
CMN 666 | Conversation Analysis | 4 |
English | ENGL 606 | Languages of the World | 4 |
ENGL 715 | Teaching English as a Second Language: Theory and Methods | 4 |
ENGL 716 | Curriculum, Materials and Assessment in English as a Second Language | 4 |
ENGL #717 | Languages in Contact | 4 |
ENGL 718 | Morphology | 4 |
ENGL 719 | Sociolinguistics Survey | 4 |
ENGL 728 | Language and Gender | 4 |
ENGL 752 | History of the English Language | 4 |
ENGL 790 | Special Topics in Linguistics | 4 |
ENGL 791 | English Grammar | 4 |
LLC | LLC 791 | Methods of Foreign Language Teaching | 4 |
Italian | ITAL 733 | History and Development of the Italian Language | 4 |
Linguistics | LING 606 | Languages of the World | 4 |
LING 717 | Languages in Contact | 4 |
LING 718 | Morphology | 4 |
LING 719 | Sociolinguistics Survey | 4 |
LING 728 | Language and Gender | 4 |
LING 790 | Special Topics in Linguistics Theory | 4 |
LING #795 | Independent Study | 1-4 |
Psychology | PSYC 512 | Psychology of Primates | 4 |
PSYC 513 | Cognitive Psychology | 4 |
PSYC 712 | Psychology of Language | 4 |
Russian | RUSS 733 | History of Slavic Languages and Culture | 4 |
Spanish | SPAN 641 | Spanish Language Variation & Change | 4 |
SPAN 645 | Intro to Spanish Linguistics | 4 |
SPAN 708 | Topics in Hispanic Linguistics and Cultural Studies (Subtopic A) | 4 |

1 Old English may count as the second foreign language if the first foreign language is not in the Germanic family.
2 With its prerequisite, either PSYC 512 Psychology of Primates or PSYC 513 Cognitive Psychology
3 History of the English Language or Sociolinguistics can be used as an elective if the other one is used for the Historical/Sociolinguistic requirement.

Candidates for a degree must satisfy all of the University Discovery Program requirements in addition to satisfying the requirements of each

Senior Honors

Total Credits: 44-56
individual major program. Bachelor of arts candidates must also satisfy the foreign language proficiency requirement.

Linguistics majors may use one major-required course to satisfy one Discovery category requirement.

**Student Learning Outcomes**

Students will understand and be able to deploy the analytical tools, modes of critical thinking, and types of writing that are used in studying languages and linguistics. Students will be able to analyze sets of data and make arguments concerning the theoretical analysis of those data.

Core areas:

- **Phonetics**: Students will understand the acoustic and articulatory properties of speech sounds both for English and for other languages. Students will be able to transcribe and read the International Phonetic Alphabet.
- **Phonology**: Students will display knowledge of phonological analysis including identifying phonemes and allophones in languages, writing phonological rules using distinctive features, and understanding phonological processes such as assimilation, epenthesis, vowel harmony, etc.
- **Morphology**: Students will be able to analyze word structure (inflection, derivation, compounding) both in English and in unfamiliar languages. They will understand key concepts concerning the mental lexicon.
- **Syntax**: Students will be able to analyze the structural properties of sentences in English and in other languages and be familiar with the principles of generative grammar.
- **Sociolinguistics, Historical Linguistics, and Typology**: Students will understand processes of language change over time, language variation according to region, social class, gender, and education, and the effects of language contact.
- **Field Methods**: Students will be able to work with a native speaker of an unfamiliar language to collect and analyze data from that language. They will understand the ethical and logistical issues involved in documenting languages.
- **Applications**: Students will have an understanding of practical applications of linguistic knowledge to daily life, including political issues regarding language (e.g., bilingual education, official languages), language acquisition, disorders that can affect language.