Duluth Campus

Linguistics B.S.

English Linguistics and Writing Studies

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

- Program Type: Baccalaureate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2017
- Required credits to graduate with this degree: 120
- Required credits within the major: 48 to 53
- Degree: Bachelor of Science

The B.S. in linguistics prepares students to undertake the study of language in a rigorous, scientific manner. The major offers basic and advanced courses in the sound, structure, and meaning of language, and it teaches students the fundamental methods of scientific inquiry. The curriculum focuses on both the internal place of language in the human mind and brain, as well as the external role of language in communication and culture. Along the way, students will consider many topics in linguistics, such as syntactic structure of languages, semantic and pragmatic meaning, language acquisition, language disorders, language evolution, dialects and sociolinguistic variation, language and gender, computational linguistics, and many others. With topics such as these in mind, students will be trained to form research questions, gather data, and make arguments based upon their observations. They will also gain experience working with a wide range of languages and diverse cultures. The program will also require a background in science and mathematics consistent with a bachelor of science degree, which will allow students a straightforward double major in many of the established science majors at the University.

There is a diversity of employment opportunities for linguistics majors. The analytical skills and experience with language makes linguistic majors particularly appealing to computer and software companies, as writers and analysts of all types, in education, in projects such as speech recognition and machine translation, and as preparation for advanced study in all of the liberal arts, social sciences, and computer sciences disciplines. Finally, the United States Department of Homeland Security and federal law enforcement agencies routinely hire employees trained in linguistics.

Program Delivery

This program is available:

- via classroom (the majority of instruction is face-to-face)

Admission Requirements

For information about University of Minnesota admission requirements, visit the Office of Admissions website.

General Requirements

The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, grants degrees from the University of Minnesota. Requirements for an undergraduate degree from University of Minnesota Duluth include the following:

1. Students must meet all course and credit requirements of the departments and colleges or schools in which they are enrolled including an advanced writing course. Students seeking two degrees must fulfill the requirements of both degrees. However, two degrees cannot be awarded for the same major.
2. Students must complete all requirements of the Liberal Education Program.
3. Students must complete a minimum of 120 semester credits.
4. At least 30 of the last 60 degree credits earned immediately before graduation must be awarded by UMD.
5. Students must complete at least half of their courses at the 3xxx-level and higher at UMD. Study-abroad credits earned through courses taught by UM faculty and at institutions with which UMD has international exchange programs may be used to fulfill this requirement.
6. If a minor is required, students must take at least three upper division credits in their minor field from UMD.
7. The minimum cumulative UM GPA required for graduation will be 2.00 and will include only University of Minnesota coursework. A minimum UM GPA of 2.00 is required in each UMD undergraduate major and minor. No academic unit may impose higher grade point standards to graduate.
8. Diploma, transcripts, and certification will be withheld until all financial obligations to the University have been met.

Program Requirements

1. A second field of study (either a minor or another major).

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.
Information current as of March 28, 2024

Core Requirements (9 cr)
LING 1811 - Introduction to Linguistics [LE CAT2, LOGIC & QR] (3.0 cr)
LING 3102 - Syntax (3.0 cr)
LING 3103 - Semantics and Pragmatics (3.0 cr)

Mathematics Requirements (8 - 10 cr)
Take one of the following sequences (two courses).
MATH 1290 - Calculus for the Natural Sciences [LE CAT2, LOGIC & QR] (5.0 cr)
or MATH 1296 - Calculus I [LE CAT, LOGIC & QR] (5.0 cr)
or MATH 1596 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT2, LOGIC & QR] (5.0 cr)
MATH 1297 - Calculus II [LOGIC & QR] (5.0 cr)
or MATH 1597 *{Inactive}*[LOGIC & QR] (5.0 cr)
or STAT 2411 - Statistical Methods [LE CAT, LOGIC & QR] (3.0 cr)

Natural Science Requirement (7 - 10 cr)
Take one of the following sequences.
Biology
BIOL 1011 - General Biology I [LE CAT, NAT SCI] (5.0 cr)
BIOL 1012 - General Biology II [SUSTAIN] (5.0 cr)
or **Chemistry**
CHEM 1153 - General Chemistry I [LE CAT, NAT SCI] (4.0 cr)
CHEM 1154 - General Chemistry Lab I [LE CAT, NAT SCI] (1.0 cr)
CHEM 1155 - General Chemistry II (4.0 cr)
CHEM 1156 - General Chemistry Lab II (1.0 cr)
or **Geography**
GEOG 1414 - The Physical Geography [LE CAT, NAT SCI, SUSTAIN] (4.0 cr)
GEOG 3401 - Weather and Climate (3.0 cr)
or GEOG 3422 - Natural Hazards (3.0 cr)
or **Geology**
EES 1110 - Geology and Earth Systems [LE CAT, NAT SCI, SUSTAIN] (4.0 cr)
EES 2311 - Mineralogy (4.0 cr)
or EES 2312 - Petrology (4.0 cr)
or **Physics**
PHYS 2013 - General Physics I [LE CAT, NAT SCI] (4.0 cr)
PHYS 2014 - General Physics Lab I [NAT SCI] (1.0 cr)
PHYS 2015 - General Physics II (4.0 cr)
PHYS 2016 - General Physics Lab II (1.0 cr)
or PHYS 2017 - Honors: General Physics I [NAT SCI] (4.0 cr)
PHYS 2018 - Honors General Physics II (4.0 cr)

Technical/Math or Natural Sciences (6 cr)
Two additional courses from technical/math or natural sciences. Courses taken above cannot apply here. Courses may be from one area or across fields of study.

Take no more than 2 course(s) totaling 6 or more credit(s) from the following:
•BIOL 2xxx
•BIOL 3xxx
•CHEM 2xxx
•CHEM 3xxx
•CS 1xxx
•CS 2xxx
•CS 3xxx
•GEOG 2552 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT2, LOGIC & QR] (3.0 cr)
•GEOG 3532 *{Inactive}*(4.0 cr)
•GEOL 2xxx
•GEOL 3xxx
•GIS 3xxx
•MATH 3xxx
•MATH 4xxx
•PHYS 3xxx
•PHYS 4xxx
•STAT 1xxx
•STAT 2xxx
•STAT 3xxx
•STAT 4xxx

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.

•STAT 5xxx

Linguistics and External Electives Total (15 cr)

Within these 15 credits, 9 credits must be from linguistics in addition to the core. Two courses from the 'External Electives' may apply towards this requirement.

Linguistics Electives

Most LING 2xxx-4xxx courses apply here.
Take 9 or more credit(s) from the following:
•LING 2195 - Special Topics: (Various Titles to be Assigned) (3.0 cr)
•LING 2506 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•LING 3101 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•LING 3591 - Independent Study in Linguistics (1.0 - 3.0 cr)
•LING 4103 - Morphology: Word Structures and Rules (3.0 cr)
•LING 4195 - Special Topics: (various titles to be assigned) (3.0 cr)
•LING 4400 *{Inactive}*(3.0 cr)
•LING 4852 - Teaching Assistantship in Linguistics (1.0 - 3.0 cr)
•**External Electives (optional)**
NOTE: The intermediate Russian language sequence is available through the College of St. Scholastica or by studying abroad (available summer).
Take no more than 2 course(s) from the following:
•AMIN 2103 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT3, LECD CAT03, COMM & LAN] (3.0 cr)
•AMIN 2104 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT3, LECD CAT03, COMM & LAN] (3.0 cr)
•ASL 3003 - Intermediate American Sign Language I [COMM & LAN] (3.0 cr)
•ASL 3004 - Intermediate American Sign Language II [COMM & LAN] (3.0 cr)
•CS 5222 - Artificial Intelligence (4.0 cr)
•CS 5232 - Introduction to Machine Learning and Data Mining (4.0 cr)
•CS 5242 - Natural Language Processing (4.0 cr)
•ENGL 5821 - History of the English Language (4.0 cr)
•FORS 1110 *{Inactive}*[COMM & LAN] (8.0 cr)
•FR 1201 - Intermediate French I [LE CAT3, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•FR 1202 - Intermediate French II [LE CAT3, LEIP CAT03, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•FR 2301 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT3, LEIP CAT03, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•GER 1201 - Intermediate German I [LE CAT, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•GER 1202 - Intermediate German II [LE CAT, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•GER 2301 *{Inactive}*[LE CAT3, LEIP CAT03, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•PHIL 1025 - Introduction to Cognitive Science [NAT SCI] (3.0 cr)
•PHIL 2011 - Philosophy of Language [LE CAT3, SOC SCI] (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3621 - Cognition (3.0 cr)
•PSY 3661 - Psychology of Language (3.0 cr)
•SPAN 1201 - Intermediate Spanish I [LE CAT, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•SPAN 1202 - Intermediate Spanish II [LE CAT, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)
•SPAN 2301 - Advanced Spanish [LE CAT, COMM & LAN] (4.0 cr)

Advanced Writing Requirement (3 cr)

WRIT 31xx - Adv Writing (3 cr)

© 2005 by the Regents of the University of Minnesota
The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.