



**Twin Cities Campus**

**Linguistics Ph.D.**

*Linguistics, Institute of*

**College of Liberal Arts**

Link to a [list of faculty](#) for this program.

**Contact Information:**

Institute of Linguistics, 205 Elliott Hall, 75 East River Road, Minneapolis, MN 55455 (612-624-3331; fax: 612-624-4579)

Email: [ling@umn.edu](mailto:ling@umn.edu)

Website: <http://www.linguistics.umn.edu/grad/>

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Fall 2018
- Length of program in credits: 78
- This program does not require summer semesters for timely completion.
- Degree: Doctor of Philosophy

Along with the program-specific requirements listed below, please read the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website for requirements that apply to all major fields.

Our program's goal is to train students in the scientific study of the human mental capacity for language. Successful study in this area investigates the syntactic, phonological and semantic/pragmatic properties of language systems that humans naturally acquire, and asks what kind of underlying mental capacity is implicated by these properties.

Our program emphasizes the place of this field of study among the cognitive sciences, and provides coursework and individual advising to prepare students to engage with and produce research in the field.

**Program Delivery**

This program is available:

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

**Prerequisites for Admission**

Other requirements to be completed before admission:

There are no specific prerequisites for admission.

**Special Application Requirements:**

Applicants must submit the following application materials by December 15 of the preceding academic year:

- University of Minnesota Application form;
- a statement of purpose;
- a writing sample;
- three letters of recommendation;
- a supplementary questionnaire;
- transcripts from each college or university attended;
- GRE scores;
- English Language Proficiency Scores (TOEFL, MELAB or IELTS) are required of international applicants.

Entry is for fall semester.

International applicants must submit score(s) from one of the following tests:

- TOEFL

Key to [test abbreviations](#)(TOEFL).

For an online application or for more information about graduate education admissions, see the [General Information](#) section of the catalog website.



## Program Requirements

42 credits are required in the major.

12 credits are required outside the major.

24 thesis credits are required.

This program may be completed with a minor.

Use of 4xxx courses toward program requirements is permitted under certain conditions with adviser approval.

Language Requirement: See below.

A minimum GPA of 3.00 is required for students to remain in good standing.

Students must demonstrate competence (the equivalent of two or more years of study) in two languages other than their native language before the PhD can be awarded.

Upon completion of required coursework, students must pass a preliminary written exam. To pass the preliminary written exam, a student must complete (1) a paper judged to be of near publishable quality by the student's committee in the student's primary area of specialization; (2) a paper judged to be of near publishable quality by the student's committee in the student's chosen secondary area of specialization.

Students are required to pass the preliminary oral exam. The preliminary oral exam is a presentation and defense of a research-paper-length dissertation prospectus, which introduces and motivates the student's dissertation topic and provides a detailed plan for completion of the dissertation.

Students are required to complete a dissertation and pass the Final Oral Exam, which is a defense of the completed dissertation.

### Required Courses

- LING 5001 - Introduction to Linguistics (4.0 cr)
- LING 5201 - Syntactic Theory I (3.0 cr)
- LING 5202 - Syntactic Theory II (3.0 cr)
- LING 5205 - Semantics (3.0 cr)
- LING 5302 - Phonological Theory I (3.0 cr)
- LING 5303 - Phonological Theory II (3.0 cr)
- LING 8005 - Research Paper Workshop (3.0 cr)
- LING 8105 - Field Methods in Linguistics I (4.0 cr)
- LING 8106 - Field Methods in Linguistics II (4.0 cr)
- LING 8210 - Seminar in Syntax (3.0 cr)

### Linguistics Seminar Courses

Take 9 or more credit(s) from the following:

- LING 8200 - Topics in Syntax and Semantics (3.0 cr)
- LING 8210 - Seminar in Syntax (3.0 cr)
- LING 8300 - Topics in Phonetics and Phonology (3.0 cr)
- LING 8500 - Topics in Second Language Acquisition (3.0 cr)
- LING 8900 - Seminar: Topics in Linguistics (3.0 cr)
- LING 8921 - Seminar in Language and Cognition (3.0 cr)
- LING 8991 - Independent Study (1.0 - 4.0 cr)

### Supporting Program Courses

The required 12 credits of coursework from outside the major can be in the same field or in different fields. 6 credits of outside coursework from the MA may be used towards the PhD supporting program requirement.

### Thesis Credits

Take 24 or more credit(s) from the following:

- LING 8888 - Thesis Credit: Doctoral (1.0 - 24.0 cr)
- LING 8888W - Thesis Credit Dissertation Seminar (1.0 - 3.0 cr)