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)
Email: ling@umn.edu
Website: https://cla.umn.edu/linguistics/graduate

- Program Type: Doctorate
- Requirements for this program are current for Spring 2021
- 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.

The Linguistics PhD program trains 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.

The 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

Special Application Requirements:
Applicants must submit the following application materials by December 15 of the preceding academic year:
University of Minnesota Application form, which includes:
a CV or resume;
a statement of purpose;
a writing sample;
three letters of recommendation; and
transcripts from each college or university attended.

Entry is for fall semester.

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

- TOEFL
- IELTS
- MELAB

Key to test abbreviations(TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB).

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.

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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 English before the PhD can be awarded.

Application of 4xxx-level coursework requires approval of the advisor and director of graduate studies.

Required Coursework (33 credits)

Take the following 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 Seminars (9 credits)

Select 9 credits from the following in consultation with the advisor. Other 8xxx-level courses, including second completions of required courses, may be selected with advisor and director of graduate studies approval.

LING 8200 - Topics in Syntax and Semantics (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)

Outside Coursework (12 credits)

Select 12 credits outside the major in consultation with the advisor and director of graduate studies.

Thesis Credits

Take 24 doctoral thesis credits.

LING 8888 - Thesis Credit: Doctoral (1.0 - 24.0 cr)

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