LINGUISTICS

www.casdn.neu.edu/~linguistics

JANET H. RANDALL, PHD
Associate Professor and Coordinator of the Linguistics Program

Office: 565 Holmes Hall
Phone: 617.373.3678
Fax: 617.373.8904
E-mail contact: Janet H. Randall, Associate Professor and Coordinator, j.randall@neu.edu

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language. A growing and exciting field, it has links to diverse fields including cognitive psychology, philosophy, neuroscience, computer science, artificial intelligence, sociology, language teaching, anthropology, and education. Linguistics is a key component of the emerging field of cognitive science, the study of the structure and functioning of human cognitive processes.

How do children learn to speak? How is language represented in the mind? What do all languages, including sign languages, have in common? How is language different from the communication systems used by whales, bees, and chimpanzees? What do we need to program into a computer in order to converse with it? How might we think about linguistic controversies, including debates about official languages, Ebonics, gender bias, and bilingualism in education? Linguistics attempts to answer each of these questions and covers a surprisingly broad range of topics related to language and communication. Cutting-edge work in cognitive science investigates how natural languages are learned and processed. Grammar checkers and translation programs use language parsers; search engines, browsers, and editors use results from computational linguistics. Linguistics is behind every application that recognizes or synthesizes speech. To work in a field that involves language in any way, you'll need to know how language works, the stuff of linguistics.

Linguistics is an interdisciplinary program at Northeastern. Seven departments (African-American Studies; American Sign Language; English; Languages, Literatures, and Cultures; Philosophy; Psychology; and Sociology/Anthropology) collaborate to offer a comprehensive program with courses in core areas (syntax, phonology, semantics); in psycholinguistics; in sociolinguistics; and in the structure of French, Spanish, African languages, Romance languages, American Sign Language, and African-American English, among others. The major reflects the current research of our faculty: linguists, sociologists, psychologists, language educators, and teachers of second languages.

Students can pursue a major in linguistics. A linguistics minor is also available, as are two dual majors, one in linguistics and psychology, the other in linguistics and English. Most of our courses are cross-listed: each course can be taken under either LIN or its cross-listed prefix.

Linguistics offers a variety of co-ops, including positions at local companies involved in speech recognition and production, as well as at Northeastern’s own speech perception and language processing labs. Linguistics majors can also participate in a special foreign internship opportunity, doing research at the Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in the Netherlands.

Students with backgrounds in linguistics have pursued advanced degrees in fields including law, cognitive science, education, English, interpreting, business, speech pathology, computer science, developmental psychology, and linguistics itself. Other graduates have gone on to work in research, translation, special education, dictionary publishing, and robotics.

Transferring to the Major
Same as college standards. Acceptance into the major will be based on students’ meeting the linguistic program’s criteria for admission and availability of space in the program.

Academic Progression Standards
Same as college standards.

BA in Linguistics

NU CORE REQUIREMENTS
See page 42 for requirement list.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA
See page 69 for requirement list.

LINGUISTICS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Required Courses
Complete the following six courses (or their cross-listed equivalents):

LIN U150 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U350 Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
LIN U412 Language and Culture 4 SH
LIN U422 Phonology 4 SH
LIN U450 Syntax 4 SH
LIN U464 Psychology of Language 4 SH

Laboratory
Complete the two required prerequisites and then one of the two laboratory courses (or its cross-listed equivalent) or a directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition with prior approval:

PREREQUISITES
PSY U101 Foundations of Psychology 4 SH
PSY U320 Statistics in Psychological Research 4 SH
LABORATORY
LIN U610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U612 Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U924 Directed Study 4 SH

Experiential Education
Complete the following course (or its cross-listed equivalent):
LIN U954 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH

Linguistics Seminar
Complete one seminar (or its cross-listed equivalent) from the following list:
LIN U654 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U656 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U658 Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U660 Seminar in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U662 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH

Linguistics Electives
Complete three courses (or their cross-listed equivalents) that were not taken above from the following list:
LIN U215 Symbolic Logic 4 SH
LIN U402 African-American English 4 SH
LIN U428 African Languages 4 SH
LIN U430 Applied Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U432 Romance Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U434 Bilingualism 4 SH
LIN U436 Structure of Spanish 4 SH
LIN U438 Structure of French 4 SH
LIN U442 Sociolinguistics 4 SH
LIN U444 Linguistics in Education 4 SH
LIN U448 Issues in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U452 Semantics 4 SH
LIN U454 History of English 4 SH
LIN U456 Language and Gender 4 SH
LIN U458 Topics in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U460 ASL Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U466 Cognition 4 SH
LIN U520 Language and the Brain 4 SH
LIN U522 Psychology of Reading 4 SH
LIN U524 Cognitive Development 4 SH
LIN U540 Philosophy of Language 4 SH
LIN U610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U612 Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U654 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U656 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U658 Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U660 Seminar in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U924 Directed Study 4 SH
LNM U920 Foreign Language Teaching: Theory and Practice

LINGUISTICS MAJOR CREDIT REQUIREMENT
Complete 56 semester hours in the major.

GENERAL ELECTIVES
Additional courses taken beyond college and major course requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
If elected

UNIVERSITY-WIDE REQUIREMENTS
128 total semester hours required
Minimum 2.000 GPA required

BA in Linguistics and English

NU CORE REQUIREMENTS
See page 42 for requirement list.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA
See page 69 for requirement list.

LINGUISTICS REQUIREMENTS

Introductory Linguistics
Complete the following course (or its cross-listed equivalent):
LIN U150 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH

Intermediate/Advanced Linguistics
Complete the following four courses (or their cross-listed equivalents):
LIN U350 Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
LIN U412 Language and Culture 4 SH
LIN U422 Phonology 4 SH
LIN U450 Syntax 4 SH

Linguistics Electives
Complete three courses (or their cross-listed equivalents) not already taken above from the following list:
LIN U215 Symbolic Logic 4 SH
LIN U402 African-American English 4 SH
LIN U428 African Languages 4 SH
LIN U430 Applied Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U432 Romance Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U434 Bilingualism 4 SH
LIN U436 Structure of Spanish 4 SH
LIN U438 Structure of French 4 SH
LIN U442 Sociolinguistics 4 SH
LIN U444 Linguistics in Education 4 SH
LIN U448 Issues in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U452 Semantics 4 SH
LIN U454 History of English 4 SH
LIN U456 Language and Gender 4 SH
LIN U458 Topics in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U460 ASL Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U466 Cognition 4 SH
LIN U520 Language and the Brain 4 SH
LIN U522 Psychology of Reading 4 SH
LIN U524 Cognitive Development 4 SH
LIN U540 Philosophy of Language 4 SH
LIN U610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U612 Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U654 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U656 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U658 Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
LIN U660 Seminar in Cognition 4 SH
LIN U924 Directed Study 4 SH
LNM U920 Foreign Language Teaching: Theory and Practice

ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

Literature Backgrounds
Complete the following course:
ENG U335 Backgrounds to English and American Literature 4 SH
Literature Survey Courses
Complete three courses from the following list:
ENG U220  Survey of British Literature 1  4 SH
ENG U221  Survey of British Literature 2  4 SH
ENG U223  Survey of American Literature 1  4 SH
ENG U224  Survey of American Literature 2  4 SH

Shakespeare Course
Complete one course (or its cross-listed equivalent) from the following list:
ENG U489  Shakespeare on Film  4 SH
ENG U611  Introduction to Shakespeare  4 SH
ENG U612  Shakespeare’s Comedies  4 SH
ENG U613  Shakespeare’s Tragedies  4 SH
ENG U614  Topics in Shakespeare  4 SH

Literature before 1800
Complete one course from the following list:
ENG U605  Medieval English Literature  4 SH
ENG U606  Topics in Medieval Literature  4 SH
ENG U610  Sixteenth-Century British Literature  4 SH
ENG U619  Eighteenth-Century British Literature  4 SH
ENG U620  Topics in Eighteenth-Century British Literature  4 SH
ENG U661  Early American Literature  4 SH

Literature after 1800
Complete one course (or its cross-listed equivalent) from the following list:
ENG U394  Modern Film  4 SH
ENG U408  The Modern Bestseller  4 SH
ENG U409  The Modern Novel  4 SH
ENG U410  Modern Drama  4 SH
ENG U411  The Modern Short Story  4 SH
ENG U412  Contemporary Fiction  4 SH
ENG U519  American Novels 1  4 SH
ENG U520  American Novels 2  4 SH
ENG U621  Romantic Poetry  4 SH
ENG U624  Victorian Literature  4 SH
ENG U625  Topics in Victorian Literature  4 SH
ENG U626  Nineteenth-Century British Fiction  4 SH
ENG U630  Major Twentieth-Century British Novelists  4 SH
ENG U631  Twentieth-Century British Literature  4 SH
ENG U663  Early African-American Literature  4 SH
ENG U665  The American Renaissance  4 SH
ENG U667  American Realism  4 SH
ENG U668  Modern American Literature  4 SH
ENG U670  Modern African-American Literature  4 SH
ENG U671  Multietnic Literature of the U.S.  4 SH
ENG U672  Asian-American Literature  4 SH
ENG U673  U.S. Latino/Latina Literature  4 SH
ENG U674  American Indian Literature  4 SH
ENG U676  Contemporary American Literature  4 SH
ENG U687  Modern Poetry  4 SH
ENG U688  Contemporary Poetry  4 SH

LINGUISTICS/ENGLISH DUAL-MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Experiential Education
Complete the following course:
LIN U954  Experiential Education Directed Study  4 SH

Integrative Course
Complete the following course (or its cross-listed equivalent):
LIN U454  History of English  4 SH

JUNIOR/SENIOR SEMINAR
Complete one course (or its cross-listed equivalent) from the following list:
ENG U654  Seminar in Linguistics  4 SH
ENG U656  Seminar in Linguistics  4 SH

LINGUISTICS AND ENGLISH DUAL-MAJOR CREDIT REQUIREMENT
Complete 72 semester hours in the major.

GENERAL ELECTIVES
Additional courses taken beyond college and major course requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION
If elected

UNIVERSITY-WIDE REQUIREMENTS
128 total semester hours required
Minimum 2.000 GPA required

BA in Linguistics and Psychology

NU CORE REQUIREMENTS
See page 42 for requirement list.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA
See page 69 for requirement list.

LINGUISTICS REQUIREMENTS

Introductory Linguistics
Complete the following course (or its cross-listed equivalent):
LIN U150  Introduction to Language and Linguistics  4 SH

Intermediate/Advanced Linguistics
Complete the following four courses (or their cross-listed equivalents):
LIN U350  Linguistic Analysis  4 SH
LIN U412  Language and Culture  4 SH
LIN U422  Phonology  4 SH
LIN U450  Syntax  4 SH

Linguistics Electives
Complete three courses (or their cross-listed equivalents) from the following list:
LIN U215  Symbolic Logic  4 SH
LIN U402  African-American English  4 SH
LIN U428  African Languages  4 SH
LIN U430  Applied Linguistics  4 SH
LIN U432 Romance Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U434 Bilingualism 4 SH
LIN U436 Structure of Spanish 4 SH
LIN U438 Structure of French 4 SH
LIN U442 Sociolinguistics 4 SH
LIN U444 Linguistics in Education 4 SH
LIN U448 Issues in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U452 Semantics 4 SH
LIN U454 History of English 4 SH
LIN U456 Language and Gender 4 SH
LIN U458 Topics in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U460 ASL Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U540 Philosophy of Language 4 SH
LIN U654 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U656 Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
LIN U924 Directed Study 4 SH

PSYCHOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Introductory and Intermediate Psychology
Complete the following two courses:
PSY U101 Foundations of Psychology 4 SH
PSY U320 Statistics in Psychological Research 4 SH

Advanced Psychology
Complete the following two courses (or their cross-listed equivalents):
PSY U402 Social Psychology 4 SH
PSY U466 Cognition 4 SH

Psychology Lab
Complete one of the two laboratory courses (or its cross-listed equivalent) or a directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition with prior approval:
PSY U610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
or PSY U612 Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
PSY U924 Directed Study 4 SH

Psychology Seminar
Complete one seminar (or its cross-listed equivalent) from the following list:
PSY U658 Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
PSY U660 Seminar in Cognition 4 SH

Psychology Electives
Complete two courses (or their cross-listed equivalents) from the following list. A directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition may be taken with prior approval:
PSY U356 Nonverbal Communication 4 SH
PSY U404 Developmental Psychology 4 SH
PSY U450 Learning and Motivation 4 SH
PSY U452 Sensation and Perception 4 SH
PSY U458 Psychobiology 4 SH
PSY U520 Language and the Brain 4 SH
PSY U522 Psychology of Reading 4 SH
PSY U524 Cognitive Development 4 SH
PSY U526 Categorization and Reasoning 4 SH
PSY U610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH

LINGUISTICS/PSYCHOLOGY DUAL-MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Experiential Education
Complete either an experiential education directed study or two junior/senior honors project courses:
LIN U954 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH
PSY U951 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH
PSY U970 Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 4 SH
with PSY U971 Junior/Senior Honors Project 2 4 SH

Integrative Course
Complete the following course (or its cross-listed equivalent):
LIN U464 Psychology of Language 4 SH

LINGUISTICS AND PSYCHOLOGY DUAL-MAJOR CREDIT REQUIREMENT

Complete 72 semester hours in the major.

GENERAL ELECTIVES

Additional courses taken beyond college and major course requirements to satisfy graduation credit requirements.

COOPERATIVE EDUCATION

If elected

UNIVERSITY-WIDE REQUIREMENTS

128 total semester hours required
Minimum 2.000 GPA required

Minor in Linguistics

REQUIRED COURSES

Complete the following course:
LIN U150 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH

Complete two of the following courses:
LIN U350 Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
LIN U422 Phonology 4 SH
LIN U450 Syntax 4 SH

ELECTIVE COURSES

Complete two linguistics courses (or cross-listed equivalents) in the range LIN U300 to LIN U699, excluding LIN U466, LIN U612, and LIN U660.

GPA REQUIREMENT

2.000 GPA required in the minor