LINGUISTICS

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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.

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 is 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 26 for requirement list.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA
See page 41 for requirement list.

LINGUISTICS MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Required Courses
Complete the following six courses:
LING 1150 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH
LING 2350 Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
LING 3412 Language and Culture 4 SH
LING 3422 Phonology 4 SH
LING 3450 Syntax 4 SH
PSYC 3464 Psychology of Language 4 SH

Laboratory
Complete the two required prerequisites and then one of the two laboratory courses or a directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition with prior approval:
PREREQUISITES
PSYC 1101 Foundations of Psychology 4 SH
PSYC 2320 Statistics in Psychological Research 4 SH
LABORATORY
LING 4992 Directed Study 4 SH
PSYC 4610 Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
PSYC 4612 Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH

Experiential Education
Complete the following course:
LING 4996 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH

NORTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY
Linguistics Seminar
Complete one seminar from the following list:
LING 4654  Seminar in Linguistics  4 SH
PSYC 4658  Seminar in Psycholinguistics  4 SH

Linguistics Electives
Complete three courses that were not taken above from the following list:
DEAF 2700  ASL Linguistics  4 SH
LANG 3438  Structure of French  4 SH
LANG 4920  Foreign Language Teaching: Theory and Practice  4 SH
LING 3402  African-American English  4 SH
LING 3428  African Languages  4 SH
LING 3430  Applied Linguistics  4 SH
LING 3432  Romance Linguistics  4 SH
LING 3434  Bilingualism  4 SH
LING 3436  Structure of Spanish  4 SH
LING 3442  Sociolinguistics  4 SH
LING 3444  Linguistics in Education  4 SH
LING 3448  Issues in Linguistics  4 SH
LING 3452  Semantics  4 SH
LING 3454  History of English  4 SH
LING 3456  Language and Gender  4 SH
LING 3458  Topics in Linguistics  4 SH
LING 4654  Seminar in Linguistics  4 SH
LING 4992  Directed Study  4 SH
PHIL 1215  Symbolic Logic  4 SH
PHIL 4540  Philosophy of Language  4 SH
PSYC 3466  Cognition  4 SH
PSYC 4520  Language and the Brain  4 SH
PSYC 4522  Psychology of Reading  4 SH
PSYC 4524  Cognitive Development  4 SH
PSYC 4610  Laboratory in Psycholinguistics  4 SH
PSYC 4612  Laboratory in Cognition  4 SH
PSYC 4658  Seminar in Psycholinguistics  4 SH
PSYC 4660  Seminar in Cognition  4 SH

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.

COORDINATE EDUCATION
If elected

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

ENGLISH REQUIREMENTS

Literature Backgrounds
Complete the following course:
ENGL 2100  Backgrounds to English and American Literature  4 SH
Literature Survey Courses
Complete three courses from the following list:
- ENGL 2220 Survey of British Literature 1 4 SH
- ENGL 2221 Survey of British Literature 2 4 SH
- ENGL 2222 Survey of American Literature 1 4 SH
- ENGL 2224 Survey of American Literature 2 4 SH

Shakespeare Course
Complete one course from the following list:
- ENGL 2300 Introduction to Shakespeare 4 SH
- ENGL 3489 Shakespeare on Film 4 SH
- ENGL 3612 Shakespeare’s Comedies 4 SH
- ENGL 3613 Shakespeare’s Tragedies 4 SH
- ENGL 3614 Topics in Shakespeare 4 SH

Literature before 1800
Complete one course from the following list:
- ENGL 4605 Medieval English Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4606 Topics in Medieval Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4610 Sixteenth-Century British Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4619 Eighteenth-Century British Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4620 Topics in Eighteenth-Century British Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4661 Early American Literature 4 SH

Literature after 1800
Complete one course from the following list:
- CINE 2394 Modern Film 4 SH
- ENGL 3408 The Modern Bestseller 4 SH
- ENGL 3671 Multiethnic Literatures of the U.S. 4 SH
- ENGL 3672 Asian-American Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 3673 U.S. Latino/Latina Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 3674 American Indian Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4519 American Novels 1 4 SH
- ENGL 4520 American Novels 2 4 SH
- ENGL 4621 Romantic Poetry 4 SH
- ENGL 4624 Victorian Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4625 Topics in Victorian Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4626 Nineteenth-Century British Fiction 4 SH
- ENGL 4630 Major Twentieth-Century British Novelists 4 SH
- ENGL 4631 Twentieth-Century British Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4663 Early African-American Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4665 The American Renaissance 4 SH
- ENGL 4667 American Realism 4 SH
- ENGL 4668 Modern American Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4670 Modern African-American Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4671 The Modern Short Story 4 SH
- ENGL 4672 The Modern Novel 4 SH
- ENGL 4673 Modern Drama 4 SH
- ENGL 4674 Modern Poetry 4 SH
- ENGL 4676 Contemporary American Literature 4 SH
- ENGL 4678 Contemporary Poetry 4 SH
- ENGL 4679 Contemporary Fiction 4 SH

LINGUISTICS/ENGLISH DUAL-MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

Experiential Education
Complete the following course:
- LING 4996 Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH

Integrative Course
Complete the following course:
- LING 3454 History of English 4 SH

JUNIOR/SENIOR SEMINAR
Complete the following course:
- ENGL 4710 Junior/Senior Seminar 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 26 for requirement list.

COLLEGE REQUIREMENTS FOR BA
See page 41 for requirement list.

LINGUISTICS REQUIREMENTS

Introductory Linguistics
Complete the following course:
- LING 1150 Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH

Intermediate/Advanced Linguistics
Complete the following four courses:
- LING 2350 Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
- LING 3412 Language and Culture 4 SH
- LING 3422 Phonology 4 SH
- LING 3450 Syntax 4 SH

Linguistics Electives
Complete three courses from the following list:
- DEAF 2700 ASL Linguistics 4 SH
- LANG 3438 Structure of French 4 SH
- LING 3402 African-American English 4 SH
- LING 3428 African Languages 4 SH
- LING 3430 Applied Linguistics 4 SH
- LING 3432 Romance Linguistics 4 SH
- LING 3434 Bilingualism 4 SH
- LING 3436 Structure of Spanish 4 SH
## LINGUISTICS/PSYCHOLOGY DUAL-MAJOR REQUIREMENTS

### Experiential Education
Complete either an experiential education directed study or two junior/senior honors project courses:
- **LING 4996** Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH
- **PSYC 4970** Junior/Senior Honors Project 1 4 SH
- with **PSYC 4971** Junior/Senior Honors Project 2 4 SH
- **PSYC 4996** Experiential Education Directed Study 4 SH

### Integrative Course
Complete the following course:
- **PSYC 3464** 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:
- **LING 1150** Introduction to Language and Linguistics 4 SH

and complete two of the following courses:
- **LING 2350** Linguistic Analysis 4 SH
- **LING 3422** Phonology 4 SH
- **LING 3450** Syntax 4 SH

### ELECTIVE COURSES
Complete two linguistics courses in the following range:
- LING 2000 to LING 4699

### GPA REQUIREMENT
2.000 GPA required in the minor

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**LING 3442** Sociolinguistics 4 SH
**LING 3444** Linguistics in Education 4 SH
**LING 3448** Issues in Linguistics 4 SH
**LING 3452** Semantics 4 SH
**LING 3454** History of English 4 SH
**LING 3456** Language and Gender 4 SH
**LING 3458** Topics in Linguistics 4 SH
**LING 4654** Seminar in Linguistics 4 SH
**LING 4992** Directed Study 4 SH
**PHIL 1215** Symbolic Logic 4 SH
**PHIL 4540** Philosophy of Language 4 SH

### PSYCHOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

#### Introductory and Intermediate Psychology
Complete the following two courses:
- **PSYC 1101** Foundations of Psychology 4 SH
- **PSYC 2320** Statistics in Psychological Research 4 SH

#### Advanced Psychology
Complete the following two courses:
- **PSYC 3402** Social Psychology 4 SH
- **PSYC 3466** Cognition 4 SH

#### Psychology Lab
Complete one of the two laboratory courses or a directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition with prior approval:
- **PSYC 4610** Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
  or **PSYC 4612** Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
- **PSYC 4992** Directed Study 4 SH

#### Psychology Seminar
Complete one seminar from the following list:
- **PSYC 4658** Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
- **PSYC 4660** Seminar in Cognition 4 SH

#### Psychology Electives
Complete two courses from the following list. A directed study on a topic related to psycholinguistics or cognition may be taken with prior approval:
- **PSYC 2356** Nonverbal Communication 4 SH
- **PSYC 3404** Developmental Psychology 4 SH
- **PSYC 3450** Learning and Motivation 4 SH
- **PSYC 3452** Sensation and Perception 4 SH
- **PSYC 3458** Psychobiology 4 SH
- **PSYC 3526** Categorization and Reasoning 4 SH
- **PSYC 4520** Language and the Brain 4 SH
- **PSYC 4522** Psychology of Reading 4 SH
- **PSYC 4524** Cognitive Development 4 SH
- **PSYC 4610** Laboratory in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
- **PSYC 4612** Laboratory in Cognition 4 SH
- **PSYC 4658** Seminar in Psycholinguistics 4 SH
- **PSYC 4660** Seminar in Cognition 4 SH
- **PSYC 4992** Directed Study 4 SH

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