LINGUISTICS, B.A.

Language Sciences at UW–Madison is an interdisciplinary hub for research and collaboration that houses the Linguistics major.

Linguistics is the scientific study of human language. It investigates the common principles underlying all languages, as well as the organization of particular languages. It is expected that undergraduates with a major in linguistics will be able to:

• demonstrate a sound knowledge of the fields of phonetics (articulatory and acoustic properties of speech), phonology (the organization of the sound system of languages), morphology (the structure of words), syntax (the structure of sentences), and semantics (the interpretation of structures);
• demonstrate that they are able to analyze data in all these areas of linguistics;
• apply their linguistic training without prejudice, as expected in any science; and
• apply their analytical abilities beyond the study of linguistics.

Our undergraduate major emphasizes strong foundational training in the core areas of theoretical linguistics. Students also have access to breadth courses in a wide variety of interdisciplinary areas, including first and second language acquisition, language disorders, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, neurolinguistics, philosophy of language, and language endangerment and revitalization. Coursework is also available in the linguistics of specific languages or language families, such as Germanic, Spanish and Romance, Chinese, Japanese, and Native American linguistics.

HOW TO GET IN

Undergraduate students wishing to major in linguistics should consult the Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/linguistics/linguistics-ba/#requirementsforundergraduates) tab. Students must contact the Linguistics undergraduate advisor Rebecca Shields, rashields@wisc.edu, to declare linguistics as a major. Inquire in 1168 Van Hise Hall or call 608-262-2292 for the undergraduate advisor’s office hours. All students proposing to major in linguistics must consult the department's undergraduate advisor.

Any exceptions to the departmental requirements must be approved by the Degree Programs Committee of the Department of Language Sciences. Note that the undergraduate advisor of the department cannot authorize exceptions. Students requesting exceptions must prepare a written petition and submit it to the department administrator, who will then forward it to the Degree Programs Committee members.

The petition must justify the exception request by providing detailed information on the circumstances, and by including all relevant documents. The Degree Programs Committee considers each case individually on its merits. Approval is granted rarely, and only under extraordinary circumstances. Not having time to satisfy requirements before graduating is not a valid excuse.

REQUIREMENTS

UNIVERSITY GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

All undergraduate students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison are required to fulfill a minimum set of common university general education requirements to ensure that every graduate acquires the essential core of an undergraduate education. This core establishes a foundation for living a productive life, being a citizen of the world, appreciating aesthetic values, and engaging in lifelong learning in a continually changing world. Various schools and colleges will have requirements in addition to the requirements listed below. Consult your advisor for assistance, as needed. For additional information, see the university Undergraduate General Education Requirements (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/#requirementsforundergraduates) section of the Guide.

General Education

• Breadth—Humanities/Literature/Arts: 6 credits
• Breadth—Natural Science: 4 to 6 credits, consisting of one 4- or 5-credit course with a laboratory component; or two courses providing a total of 6 credits
• Breadth—Social Studies: 3 credits
• Communication Part A & Part B *
• Ethnic Studies *
• Quantitative Reasoning Part A & Part B *

* The mortarboard symbol appears before the title of any course that fulfills one of the Communication Part A or Part B, Ethnic Studies, or Quantitative Reasoning Part A or Part B requirements.

COLLEGE OF LETTERS & SCIENCE BREADTH AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS: BACHELOR OF ARTS (B.A.)

Students pursuing a bachelor of arts degree in the College of Letters & Science must complete all of the requirements below. The College of Letters & Science allows this major to be paired with either a bachelor of arts or a bachelor of science curriculum. View a comparison of the degree requirements here. (https://pubs.wisc.edu/home/archives/ug15/images/babs2009.pdf)

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Mathematics

Fulfilled with completion of University General Education requirements Quantitative Reasoning a (QR A) and Quantitative Reasoning b (QR B) coursework. Please note that some majors may require students to complete additional math coursework beyond the B.A. mathematics requirement.

Foreign Language

• Complete the fourth unit of a foreign language; OR
• Complete the third unit of a foreign language and the second unit of an additional foreign language

Note: A unit is one year of high school work or one semester/term of college work.
L&S Breadth
- Humanities, 12 credits: 6 of the 12 credits must be in literature
- Social Sciences, 12 credits
- Natural Sciences, 12 credits: must include one 3+ credit course in the biological sciences; must include one 3+ credit course in the physical sciences

Liberal Arts and Science Coursework
- 108 credits

Depth of Intermediate/Advanced work
- 60 intermediate or advanced credits

Major
- Declare and complete at least one (1) major
- 120 credits
- UW-Madison 30 credits in residence, overall
- Experience 30 credits in residence after the 86th credit

Minimum GPAs
- 2.000 in all coursework at UW–Madison
- 2.000 in intermediate/advanced coursework at UW–Madison

NON–L&S STUDENTS PURSUING AN L&S MAJOR
Non–L&S students who have permission from their school/college to pursue an additional major within L&S only need to fulfill the major requirements and do not need to complete the L&S breadth and degree requirements above. Please note that the following special degree programs are not considered majors so are not available to non–L&S degree-seeking candidates:
- Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics (Bachelor of Science–Applied Mathematics, Engineering and Physics)
- Journalism (Bachelor of Arts–Journalism; Bachelor of Science–Journalism)
- Music (Bachelor of Music)
- Social Work (Bachelor of Social Work)

REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MAJOR

LANGUAGE
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete the fourth unit or higher in a foreign language, by course or by examination</td>
<td>0-16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 0-16

LINGUISTICS
Students pursuing the linguistics major must complete 30 credits as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Complete the following:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 101</td>
<td>Human Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or LINGUIS/ANTHRO 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Linguistics: Descriptive and Theoretical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 310</td>
<td>Phonology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 330</td>
<td>Syntax</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 322</td>
<td>Morphology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

500-Level LINGUIS (1 course)
- LINGUIS 510 Phonological Theories
- LINGUIS 522 Advanced Morphology
- LINGUIS 530 Syntactic Theories
- LINGUIS 540 Advanced Semantics
- LINGUIS 571 Structure of a Language

Capstone
- LINGUIS 426 Field Methods I
  or LINGUIS 427 Field Methods II

Electives
- 12 any LINGUIS course
- AFRICAN 500 Language and Society in Africa
- AFRICAN 503 African Linguistic Structures-Morphology and Syntax
- AMER IND/ANTHRO 314 Indians of North America
- AMER IND/LINGUIS 371 Survey of North American Indian Languages
- AMER IND/ANTHRO/FOLKLORE 431 American Indian Folklore
- ANTHRO/LINGUIS 430 Language and Culture
- ASIAN 358 Language in Japanese Society
- ASIAN 431 Chinese Linguistics I
- ASIAN 432 Chinese Linguistics II
- ASIAN 433 Topics in East Asian Visual Cultures
- ASIAN 434 Introduction to Japanese Linguistics
- ASIAN 631 History of the Chinese Language
- CS&D 110 Introduction to Communicative Disorders
- CS&D 201 Speech Science
- CS&D 202 Normal Aspects of Hearing
- CS&D 210 Neural Basis of Communication
- CS&D 240 Language Development in Children and Adolescents
- CS&D 303 Speech Acoustics and Perception
- CS&D 315 Phonetics and Phonological Development
- CS&D 440 Child Language Disorders, Assessment and Intervention
- CS&D 503 Neural Mechanisms of Speech, Hearing and Language
- COMP SCI 545 Natural Language and Computing
- CURRIC 368 The Teaching of Reading
- ENGL 314 Structure of English
- ENGL 315 English Phonology
- ENGL 316 English Language Variation in the U.S.
- ENGL 318 Second Language Acquisition
- ENGL 319 Language, Race, and Identity
- ENGL 413 English Words: Grammar, Culture, Mind
ENGL 414 | Global Spread of English
ENGL 415 | Introduction to TESOL Methods
ENGL 416 | English in Society
ENGL 417 | History of the English Language
ENGL 420 | Topics in English Language and Linguistics
ENGL 514 | English Syntax
ENGL 516 | English Grammar in Use
FOLKLORE/LIS 490 | Field Methods and the Public Presentation of Folklore
FOLKLORE/LIS/COM ARTS 522 | Digitally Documenting Everyday Communication
ITALIAN 340 | Structures of Italian
ITALIAN/FRENCH/PORTUG/SPANISH 429 | Introduction to the Romance Languages
GERMAN 351 | Introduction to German Linguistics
GERMAN 352 | Topics in German Linguistics
GERMAN 650 | History of the German Language
HISTORY/AMER IND 490 | American Indian History
LIS 351 | Introduction to Digital Information
LIS 640 | Topics in Library and Information Studies (TLAM only)
LINGUIS 237 | Language & Immigration in Wisconsin
LINGUIS 303 | Language, History, and Society
LINGUIS 306 | General Phonetics
LINGUIS 309 | Grammatical Variability of Language
LINGUIS 340 | Semantics
LINGUIS/AMER IND 371 | Survey of North American Indian Languages
LINGUIS 373 | Topics in Linguistics
LINGUIS/ANTHRO 430 | Language and Culture
LINGUIS 610 | Topics in Phonological Theory
PHILOS 516 | Language and Meaning
PSYCH 406 | Psychology of Perception
PSYCH 413 | Language, Mind, and Brain
PSYCH 414 | Cognitive Psychology
PSYCH 460 | Child Development
PSYCH 520 | How We Read: The Science of Reading and Its Educational Implications
SCAND ST 410 | Introduction to Scandinavian Linguistics
SCAND ST 510 | Topics in Scandinavian Linguistics
SOC 535 | Talk and Social Interaction
SPANISH 320 | Spanish Phonetics
SPANISH 321 | The Structure of Modern Spanish
SPANISH 327 | Introduction to Spanish Linguistics
SPANISH 331 | Spanish Applied Linguistics
SPANISH/FRENCH/ITALIAN/PORTUG 429 | Introduction to the Romance Languages
SPANISH 446 | Topics in Spanish Linguistics
SPANISH 543 | Spanish Phonology
SPANISH 544 | Contemporary Issues in Applied Spanish Linguistics
SPANISH 548 | Structure of the Spanish Language: Morphology and Syntax
SPANISH 630 | Topics in Hispanic Linguistics

Total Credits: 30

1. Except LINGUIS 236, LINGUIS 481, LINGUIS 482, LINGUIS 583, LINGUIS 584, LINGUIS 681, LINGUIS 682.

RESIDENCE AND QUALITY OF WORK
- 2.000 GPA in all LINGUIS and all major courses
- 2.000 GPA on 15 upper-level major credits, taken in residence
- 15 credits in LINGUIS, taken on the UW–Madison campus

Intermediate and Advanced level LINGUIS courses, LINGUIS 340, LINGUIS 373 and some elective courses from other subjects are upper-level in the major (see list below).

Electives from Other Subjects that are Upper-level in the Major

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFRICAN 500</td>
<td>Language and Society in Africa</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFRICAN 501</td>
<td>Structure and Analysis of African Languages</td>
<td>3-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 358</td>
<td>Language in Japanese Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 431</td>
<td>Chinese Linguistics I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 432</td>
<td>Chinese Linguistics II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 433</td>
<td>Topics in East Asian Visual Cultures</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 434</td>
<td>Introduction to Japanese Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASIAN 631</td>
<td>History of the Chinese Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS&amp;D 201</td>
<td>Speech Science</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS&amp;D 210</td>
<td>Neural Basis of Communication</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS&amp;D 303</td>
<td>Speech Acoustics and Perception</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CS&amp;D 503</td>
<td>Neural Mechanisms of Speech, Hearing and Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP SCI 545</td>
<td>Natural Language and Computing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL/MEDIEVAL 520</td>
<td>Old English</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 417</td>
<td>History of the English Language</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 314</td>
<td>Structure of English</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 516</td>
<td>English Grammar in Use</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 514</td>
<td>English Syntax</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 315</td>
<td>English Phonology</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 316</td>
<td>English Language Variation in the U.S.</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 414</td>
<td>Global Spread of English</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 318</td>
<td>Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 416</td>
<td>English in Society</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
HONORS IN THE MAJOR

Students may declare Honors in the Major in consultation with the Linguistics Undergraduate Advisor (http://guide.wisc.edu/undergraduate/letters-science/linguistics/linguistics-ba/#advisingandcareerstext).

HONORS IN THE LINGUISTICS MAJOR: REQUIREMENTS

To earn Honors in the Major, students must satisfy both the requirements for the major (above) and the following additional requirements:

- Earn a 3.300 University GPA
- Earn a 3.500 GPA for all LINGUIS courses, and all courses accepted in the major
- Complete two LINGUIS courses, taken for Honors, with concurrent 1-credit enrollment in LINGUIS 481 Junior Honors Tutorial, LINGUIS 482 Junior Honors Tutorial, LINGUIS 583 Senior Honors Tutorial, or LINGUIS 584 Senior Honors Tutorial, for a total of 2 additional credits. A grade of B or better must be earned in each course taken for honors.
- Complete a two-semester Senior Honors Thesis in LINGUIS 681 Honors Seminar-Senior Thesis and LINGUIS 682 Honors Seminar-Senior Thesis, leading to submission of an acceptable paper, for a total of 6 credits. A grade of B or better must be earned in the thesis project.

Note that Honors tutorial credits and the Senior Honors Thesis do not count toward the 30 credits required for the major in linguistics.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Total Degree

To receive a bachelor’s degree from UW–Madison, students must earn a minimum of 120 degree credits. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 degree credits. Students should consult with their college or department advisor for information on specific credit requirements.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

1. Familiarity with data from a wide range of languages from different language families.
2. Ability to respond to biased views of language in their communities.
3. Knowledge in all core areas of linguistics: Phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics.
4. Sound grasp of linguistic concepts.
5. Sound grasp of linguistic methodology.

FOUR-YEAR PLAN

SAMPLE FOUR-YEAR PLAN

This Sample Four-Year Plan is a tool to assist students and their advisor(s). Students should use it—along with their DARS report, the Degree Planner, and Course Search & Enroll tools—to make their own four-year plan based on their placement scores, credit for transferred courses and approved examinations, and individual interests. As students become involved in athletics, honors, research, student organizations, study abroad, volunteer experiences, and/or work, they might adjust the order of their courses to accommodate these experiences. Students will likely revise their own four-year plan several times during college.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ethnic Studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning A</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4th semester of Foreign Language (if needed)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd semester of Foreign Language (if needed)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LINGUIS 101 or 301</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Linguistics, B.A.

Linguistics majors will have varying needs for L&S Breadth courses outside the major, depending on which Linguistics major electives they choose. Many Linguistics major electives are Humanities courses, but some are Social Science or Natural Sciences. Consult with your advisor to determine your individual needs.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>L&amp;S Breadth</th>
<th>3 L&amp;S Breadth</th>
<th>3</th>
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Sophomore

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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Quantitative Reasoning B</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Communication B</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 310</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LINGUIS 322</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 330</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Linguistics major elective #1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>L&amp;S Breadth</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>I/A Math, Comp Sci, or Stat (if needed for B.S.)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>L&amp;S Breadth</td>
<td>3</td>
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</table>

Junior

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics 500-level course (take any time in years 3-4)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Linguistics major elective #3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics major elective #2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>L&amp;S Breadth</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Electives</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
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Senior

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<th>Fall</th>
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<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics major elective #4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>LINGUIS 426 or 427</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 120

**ADVISING AND CAREERS**

**UNDERGRADUATE ADVISING**

Rebecca Shields, Undergraduate Advisor

1166 Van Hise Hall
rashields@wisc.edu

Contact the undergraduate advisor via email or using the Starfish app to set up an appointment. The advisor is happy to meet with students who want to learn more about the major, careers in linguistics, linguistics course selection, and opportunities for participation in research in language sciences. An in person meeting with the advisor is required to declare the major.

**LETTERS & SCIENCE CAREER SERVICES**

Language Sciences encourages our majors to begin working on their career exploration and preparation soon after declaring their major. Our career advisor also partners with SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science. L&S graduates are in high demand by employers and graduate programs. It is important to us that our students are career ready at the time of graduation, and we are committed to your success.

**L&S CAREER RESOURCES**

SuccessWorks at the College of Letters & Science helps students leverage the academic skills learned in their major, certificates, and liberal arts degree; explore and try out different career paths; participate in internships; prepare for the job search and/or graduate school applications; and network with professionals in the field (alumni and employers). In short, SuccessWorks helps students in the College of Letters & Science discover themselves, find opportunities, and develop the skills they need for success after graduation.

SuccessWorks can also assist students in career advising, résumé and cover letter writing, networking opportunities, and interview skills, as well as course offerings for undergraduates to begin their career exploration early in their undergraduate career.

Students should set up their profiles in Handshake (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/) to take care of everything they need to explore career events, manage their campus interviews, and apply to jobs and internships from 200,000+ employers around the country.

- SuccessWorks (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/)
- Set up a career advising appointment (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/make-an-appointment/)
- INTER-LS 210 L&S Career Development: Taking Initiative (1 credit, targeted to first- and second-year students)—for more information, see Inter-LS 210: Career Development, Taking Initiative (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/inter-ls-210-career-development-taking-initiative/)
- INTER-LS 215 Communicating About Careers (3 credits, fulfills Com B General Education Requirement)
- Handshake (https://careers.ls.wisc.edu/handshake/)
- Learn how we’re transforming career preparation: L&S Career Initiative (http://ls.wisc.edu/lsci/)

**PEOPLE**

Professors Ellis Weismer, Hutton, Kaushanskaya, Li, Louden, Macaulay, Macdonald, Purnell, Rainy, Saffron, Salmons, Seidenberg, Wanner; Associate Professors Armstrong, Lupyan, Rao, Tejedo-Herrero, Vieira; Assistant Professors Cho, Henke; Lecturer Shields

For more detailed information about our faculty, please visit our website (https://langsci.wisc.edu/faculty-academic-staff/).