

Linguistics (PhD)

Through its core courses, the Department of Linguistics provides every doctoral student a thorough foundation in phonetics, phonology, syntax, semantics, and linguistic field methods. The department has five primary research areas: computational linguistics, phonetics and phonology, syntax and semantics, documentary and descriptive linguistics (especially of Latin American languages), and signed language linguistics. The department also offers strong training in historical linguistics and psycho- and neurolinguistics. The faculty seek to give students broad training in linguistics alongside their eventual specialization in one or more subfields.

A student's Program of Work in linguistics may be combined with supporting work in other areas such as specific languages; anthropology; computer science; philosophy; psychology; statistics; or speech, language, and hearing sciences.

Graduate Handbook

Graduate handbook information is updated and maintained by each program. Graduate handbooks are available within each program's office and [online](#). Please contact the program with concerns or questions.

Admission Requirements

Admission to graduate work is not necessarily restricted to those who have a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in linguistics, although this background is recommended. A number of other fields can also provide valuable preparation.

Admission to Candidacy

To qualify for admission to candidacy for the doctoral degree, a student must complete 54 semester hours approved for the Program of Work; complete first- and second-year research papers approved for the requirement by the graduate advisor; and submit a qualifying paper and have it approved by a faculty committee.

Total Hours Required: 54

Requirements

Code	Title	Hours
LIN 380K	Phonology I	3
LIN 380L	Syntax I	3
LIN 380M	Semantics I	3
LIN 381M	Phonetics	3
LIN 385	Field Methods in Linguistic Investigation	3
Select at least one research equivalency each semester during the first three years:		18
LIN 381K	Phonology II	
LIN 381L	Syntax II	
LIN 389C	Research in Computational Linguistics	
LIN 389D	Research in Documentary and Descriptive Linguistics	
LIN 389P	Research in Phonetics and Phonology	
LIN 389S	Research in Syntax and Semantics	
LIN 389V	Research in Signed Languages	
LIN 395	Conference Course in Linguistics	
any advanced course or non-core area course, including approved courses in other departments		

Select six hours in a minor area (not a course for research equivalency)	6
The remaining 15 hours of coursework must be fulfilled by courses approved by the graduate advisor	15
Graduate Liberal Arts Requirements	
Graduate University Requirements	
Total Hours	54

Additional Requirements and Policy

The minor area and research equivalency courses form a core part of the Program of Work which must be approved by the graduate advisor.

The department has no formal language requirement, but the faculty recommends that students have or acquire some familiarity with at least one language other than their native language.