

Linguistics

Department Website: <http://linguistics.uchicago.edu>

Program of Study

The purpose of the BA program in linguistics is to provide a solid, integrated introduction to the scientific study of language through course work in the core subdisciplines of linguistics, as well as to ensure that the student has a language background sufficient to provide a complement to the theoretical parts of the program and for an understanding of the complexities of human language. This program provides students with a general expertise in the field and prepares them for productive advanced study in linguistics.

Students who are majoring in linguistics may visit linguistics.uchicago.edu to learn about events and resources on and off campus and for links to information on employment opportunities.

Students who are majoring in other fields of study may also complete a minor in linguistics. Information follows the description of the major.

Program Requirements

The BA in linguistics requires thirteen courses, which fall into two categories: courses that provide expertise in linguistics and courses that ensure breadth of study in a non-Indo-European language. Students have flexibility to construct a course of study that accords with their interests, but their final tally of thirteen courses must include the following:

LING 20001	Introduction to Linguistics	100
LING 20101	Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology	100
LING 20201	Introduction to Syntax	100
LING 20301	Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics	100

Study of a non-Indo-European language

The language requirement is designed to ensure breadth of study in a non-Indo-European language. This requirement can be met in four different ways:

1. Registration in a three-quarter course in a non-Indo-European language on campus
2. Examination credit in a non-Indo-European language for which the University offers placement examinations
3. Registration for an intensive one-quarter course in the structure of a non-Indo-European language offered by a member of the linguistics faculty (or by another faculty member upon approval by the director of undergraduate studies)
4. Completion of an approved intensive language program taken elsewhere for languages not offered or tested for at the University of Chicago.

Students who fulfill the non-Indo-European language requirement with fewer than three quarters of study must substitute elective courses for the language course quarters not taken. At least six electives for the major must be courses offered by the Department of Linguistics (i.e., courses whose numbers begin with LING). For any further electives, a student may petition the department to substitute a related course that does not have a LING number.

The complete list of available languages can be viewed at humanities.uchicago.edu/about/languages-uchicago.

Summary of Requirements

LING 20001	Introduction to Linguistics	100
LING 20101	Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology (core course)	100
LING 20201	Introduction to Syntax (core course)	100
LING 20301	Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics (core course)	100

Nine courses from the following: 900

0-3 courses in a non-Indo-European language *

6-9 Linguistics electives **

Total Units

1300

* Credit may be granted by examination. When any part of the language requirement is met by examination, the equivalent number of electives in linguistics must be substituted for quarter credit granted. With prior approval of the director of undergraduate studies, such electives may be taken in other departments.

** A minimum of six must be courses with LING numbers.

Grading

All courses used to satisfy requirements for the major and minor must be taken for quality grades. With consent of the instructor, nonmajors may take linguistics courses for P/F grading.

NOTE: Students who entered the University prior to Autumn 2009 may choose to fulfill either the requirements stated here or those that were in place when they entered the University.

Honors

In order to receive the degree in linguistics with honors, a student must write an honors essay. At the end of a student's third year, any student who has maintained a 3.0 or better overall GPA and a 3.5 or better GPA in linguistics courses may consult with the director of undergraduate studies about submitting an honors essay. The honors essay must be submitted by fifth week of the quarter in which the student plans to graduate. Complete guidelines and requirements for the honors essay can be obtained from the director of undergraduate studies.

Students wishing to write an honors essay are required to take two graduate-level courses (numbered 30000 or above) in areas most relevant to their thesis work, as determined in consultation with their adviser(s) and approved by the director of undergraduate studies.

This program may accept a BA paper or project used to satisfy the same requirement in another major with the consent of both program chairs. Students should consult with the chairs by the earliest BA proposal deadline (or by the end of their third year, when neither program publishes a deadline). A consent form, to be signed by both chairs, is available from the College adviser. It must be completed and returned to the College adviser by the end of Autumn Quarter of the student's year of graduation.

Minor Program in Linguistics

Students in other fields of study may complete a minor in linguistics. The minor in linguistics requires a total of seven courses, which must include three linguistics electives (courses whose numbers begin with LING) and the following four courses:

LING 20001	Introduction to Linguistics	100
LING 20101	Introduction to Phonetics and Phonology	100
LING 20201	Introduction to Syntax	100
LING 20301	Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics	100

Students who elect the minor program in linguistics must contact the director of undergraduate studies before the end of Spring Quarter of their third year to declare their intention to complete the minor. The adviser's approval for the minor program should be submitted to a student's College adviser by the deadline above on a form obtained from the College adviser. Courses in the minor (1) may not be double counted with the student's major(s) or with other minors and (2) may not be counted toward general education requirements. Courses in the minor must be taken for quality grades (not P/F), and more than half of the requirements for the minor must be met by registering for courses bearing University of Chicago course numbers.



Font Notice

This document should contain certain fonts with restrictive licenses. For this draft, substitutions were made using less legally restrictive fonts. Specifically:

Times was used instead of Trajan.

Times was used instead of Palatino.

The editor may contact Leepfrog for a draft with the correct fonts in place.