

LINGUISTICS - BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA)

The CU Department of Linguistics has a strong commitment to excellence in teaching at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. The linguistics faculty offers a wide range of research strengths—including syntactic theory, sociocultural linguistics, computational and psycholinguistics, phonetics/phonology and language documentation—ensuring that students gain both versatility and expertise in an array of subfields.

Our educational mission is to provide students with insight into the fundamental design features of language—its sound patterns, its word- and sentence-formation devices, its semantic structure—and to create awareness of language varieties: the diversity of human languages, the role of language as an index of social identity and the ontogenetic and historical development of language.

Requirements

Program Requirements

Majors in linguistics must complete a total of 32 credit hours of study in general linguistics, including 5 credits at the intermediate to advanced level of a natural language (for exceptions, see below). Language study is taken in other departments.

Students must complete the general requirements of the College of Arts and Sciences and the required courses listed below. All courses must be completed with a grade of C- or better and cannot be taken pass/fail. Students must have a grade point average of at least 2.000 in the major in order to graduate.

In addition to the general Linguistics major the Linguistics department offers four specialized major tracks for undergraduates: Computational Linguistics; Language and Cognition; Sociocultural, Anthropological, and Interactional Linguistics (SAIL); and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). More information about these new tracks can be found on the t (<https://www.colorado.edu/linguistics/undergraduate-program/major-detail/>)he Program Tracks tab.

Required Courses and Credits

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Foundational Linguistics Courses		
LING 2000	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LING 3100	Language Sound Structures	3
LING 3430	Semantics	3
LING 4420	Morphology and Syntax	3
Natural Language		
Complete a minimum of 5 credit hours at the intermediate to advanced level of a natural language other than English (see details below) with a grade of C- or better.		5
Electives		
Select a minimum of 15 elective credit hours from the following with a grade of C- or better:		15
ENGL 4003	Old English 1: Introduction to Old English	
FREN 3020	French Phonetics Through Musical Performance	
FREN 3010	French Phonetics and Pronunciation	

JPNS 4030	Japanese Syntax
JPNS 4080	Kanji in Japanese Orthography
JPNS 4070	
SPAN 3050	Spanish Phonology and Phonetics
SPAN 3150	Linguistic Analysis of Spanish
SPAN 4430	Special Topics in Hispanic Linguistics
SPAN 4450	Introduction to Hispanic Linguistics
LING 1000	Language in U.S. Society
LING 1010	The Study of Words
LING 1020	Languages of the World
LING 1200	Introduction to Python Programming
LING 2400	Language, Gender and Sexuality
LING 2500	Race, Ethnicity, and Language
LING 3005	Cognitive Science
LING 3185	Figurative Language
LING 3220	American Indigenous Languages in their Social and Cultural Context
LING 3545	World Language Policies
LING 3550	Talk at Work: Language Use in Institutional Contexts
LING 3800	Special Topics in Linguistics
LING 3832	Computational Linguistics
LING 4050	Japanese Sociolinguistics
LING 4100	Perspectives on Language
LING 4220	Language and Mind
LING 4225	Interdisciplinary Research Methods in Child Language Acquisition
LING 4450	Introduction to Formal Syntax
LING 4560	Language Development
LING 4610	Pedagogical Grammar for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages
LING 4620	Teaching Second Language (L2) Oral Skills and Communication
LING 4630	TESOL and Second Language Acquisition: Principles and Practices
LING 4632	Machine Learning and Linguistics
LING 4640	Teaching Language Skills: Focus on Social Justice
LING 4700	Conversation Analysis and Interactional Linguistics
LING 4800	Language and Culture
LING 4830	Honors Thesis
LING 4910	TESOL Practicum
Other upper-division linguistics courses may also be chosen if available; graduate courses may be taken with permission of the department.	

Natural Language

Students must complete, with a grade of C- or better, a minimum of 5 credit hours of study of a natural language other than English (including signed languages used by deaf communities). The 5 credit hours offered in satisfaction of this requirement must be at the 3000 level or above for widely-taught languages (French, German, Greek, Latin, Spanish), or at the 2000 level or above for less-widely-taught languages (Arabic,

American Sign Language, Chinese, Farsi, Hebrew, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Portuguese, Russian, Swedish).

Only courses taught in the language in question, and focused specifically on language learning, may be used for this requirement. A list of all the approved courses is available from the Department of Linguistics or the departmental undergraduate advisor.

The natural language requirement may be satisfied by examination or waived for foreign students whose native language is not English; in these cases, students must still meet the college minimum major requirement of 18 credit hours of upper-division coursework and 30 credit hours overall in the major by taking an additional 3-credit elective from the list above. Students who wish to have their language requirement waived must obtain the consent of an undergraduate advisor before registering for the fall term of the junior year.

Additional Information

The department recommends that prospective majors complete LING 2000 and at least two 1000-level foreign language courses (in the same language) by the end of the sophomore year, unless the student's foreign language proficiency is already advanced.

The fall semester of the junior year should include LING 3430, a 2000-level foreign language course, and a linguistics elective or LING 4420. It must also include LING 2000 if that was not taken earlier. The spring semester of the junior year should include LING 3100, a linguistics elective and a further 2000-level foreign language course (if needed to prepare the student for the required upper-division foreign language credit hours).

Graduating in Four Years

Consult the Four-Year Guarantee Requirements for information on eligibility. The concept of "adequate progress" as it is used here refers only to maintaining eligibility for the four-year guarantee; it is not a requirement for the major. To maintain adequate progress in linguistics, students should meet the following requirements:

- By the beginning of the spring semester of the freshman year (second semester), declare linguistics as a major.
- During the freshman or sophomore years (first through fourth semesters), take LING 2000 (required) and LING 1000 or LING 2400 (electives)
- By the end of the sophomore year (fourth semester) at the latest, complete two semesters of study of a natural (spoken or signed) language other than English.*
- During the junior year (fifth and sixth semesters) at the latest, continue natural language study at the 2000 level.
- During the fall of the junior year (fifth semester), take one or both of LING 3430 or LING 4420.
- During the junior or senior year (fifth through eighth semesters), take the remaining courses as needed.
- During the spring of the junior year (sixth semester), take LING 3100 and an upper-division linguistics elective.
- During the senior year (seventh and eighth semesters) at the latest, take 5 credit hours of natural language study at the 3000 level. The language requirement is waived for native speakers of a language other than English, but if it is waived, 3 additional credit hours in linguistics must be taken.

Note: A Linguistics major who has been excluded from any upper-division linguistics course due to enrollment limitations will be given first

preference for a seat in that course the following year if the exclusion is made known to the department staff within two weeks after it occurs. No declared linguistics major who still needs LING 2000 for fall of the junior year and attempts to register for it during the regular registration period for continuing students (spring of the sophomore year) will be excluded from the course.

Program Tracks

In addition to the general linguistics major, the Linguistics Department offers four specialized major tracks for undergraduates. These tracks allow students to tailor their major coursework to better reflect their specific interest(s) within the field of linguistics. Concentrated training within a specific subfield of the discipline provides students with the in-depth knowledge and skills needed to pursue specific careers within the field of linguistics. In addition, it provides a foundation for pursuing a focused area of study for those who continue onto graduate school.

Students declaring any track will need to complete the following courses:

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Foundational Linguistics Courses		
LING 2000	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LING 3100	Language Sound Structures	3
LING 3430	Semantics	3
LING 4420	Morphology and Syntax	3
Natural Language		
Complete a minimum of 5 credit hours at the intermediate to advanced level of a natural language other than English (see details on the Requirements Tab) with a grade of C- or better.		5
Total Credit Hours		17

Computational Linguistics

Students declaring the Computational Linguistics sub-plan will also complete 15 credit hours of LING electives (at least 9 at the upper division level); however, they must take 12 of these credits as the following 4 core courses listed below. For the remaining 3 elective credit hours, students can choose an elective from the list of electives, also below, some from CSCI or INFO.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Computational Linguistics Core Courses		
LING 1200	Introduction to Python Programming	3
LING 3832	Computational Linguistics	3
LING 4200	Introduction to Computational Corpus Linguistics	3
LING 4632	Machine Learning and Linguistics	3
Electives		
Select one course from the following:		3-4
LING 4700	Conversation Analysis and Interactional Linguistics	
CSCI 2270	Computer Science 2: Data Structures	
CSCI 3832	Natural Language Processing	
INFO 2201	Programming for Information Science 2	
Total Credit Hours		15-16

Language and Cognition

Students declaring the Language and Cognition track will also complete 15 credits of LING electives (at least 9 at the upper division level); however, they must select 12 of these credits from the set of Language and Cognition-related courses below. For the remaining 3 elective credit hours, students can choose any LING course.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Language and Cognition Core Courses		
Complete 12 credit hours from the following:		12
LING 1010	The Study of Words	
LING 3005	Cognitive Science	
LING 3185	Figurative Language	
LING 4220	Language and Mind	
LING 4100	Perspectives on Language (Language and Embodiment)	
LING 4225	Interdisciplinary Research Methods in Child Language Acquisition	
LING 4560	Language Development	
LING 4622	Statistical Analysis for Linguistics	
LING 4632	Machine Learning and Linguistics	
Electives		
Select any LING course.		3
Total Credit Hours		15

Sociocultural, Anthropological & Interactional Linguistics (SAIL)

Students declaring the SAIL track will also complete 15 credit hours of LING electives (9 at the upper division level); however, they must select 12 of these credits from the set of SAIL-related courses below. For the remaining 3 elective credit hours, students can choose any LING course.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Sociocultural, Anthropological & Interactional Linguistics Core Courses		
Complete 12 credit hours from the following:		12
LING 1000	Language in U.S. Society	
LING 1900	Community-Based Learning Practicum: Literacy and Language Learning	
LING 2400	Language, Gender and Sexuality	
LING/ETHN 2500	Race, Ethnicity, and Language	
LING 3220	American Indigenous Languages in their Social and Cultural Context	
LING 3545	World Language Policies	
LING 3550	Talk at Work: Language Use in Institutional Contexts	
LING 3800	Special Topics in Linguistics (Language in Digital Media)	
LING 3800	Special Topics in Linguistics (Language and Politics)	
LING/JPNS 4050	Japanese Sociolinguistics	
LING 4700	Conversation Analysis and Interactional Linguistics	
LING/ANTH 4800	Language and Culture	

Electives

Select any LING course.	3
Total Credit Hours	15

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Students declaring the TESOL sub-plan will be required to take four foundational TESOL-focused courses in Linguistics for a total of 12 credit hours. In addition to these four courses, students must complete at least 3 credit hours from a limited set of TESOL-related courses.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Core Courses		
LING 4610	Pedagogical Grammar for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages	3
LING 4620	Teaching Second Language (L2) Oral Skills and Communication	3
LING 4630	TESOL and Second Language Acquisition: Principles and Practices	3
LING 4910	TESOL Practicum	3
Electives		
Select one course from the following:		3-4
LING 3545	World Language Policies	
LING/SLHS 4560	Language Development	
LING/ANTH 4800	Language and Culture	
COMM 3410	Intercultural Communication	
EDUC 2411	Educational Psychology for Elementary Schools	
EDUC 2425	Foundations of Bilingual/Multicultural Education	
EDUC 2625	Teaching English Language Development	
EDUC 4125	Secondary World Language Methods	
EDUC 4425	Introduction to Bilingual/Multicultural Education	
EDUC 4455	Methods of Biliteracy Instruction	
EDUC 4615	Language Acquisition for Bilingual Learners	
Total Credit Hours		15-16

Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study

Through the required coursework for the major, students will complete all 12 credits of the Social Sciences area of the Gen Ed Distribution Requirement. Depending on the courses selected as a major electives, students can potentially complete some credits in the Arts & Humanities area of the Distribution and both the U.S. Perspective and the Global Perspective components of the Gen Ed Diversity Requirement.

Year One

Fall Semester	Credit Hours
LING 2000 Introduction to Linguistics	3
Beginning Level Foreign Language 1 (If needed, does not count toward language requirement)	4-5

Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Lower-division Written Communication)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Diversity course (example: Diversity: US Perspective)	3

Credit Hours	16-17
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Spring Semester

Beginning Level Foreign Language 2 (If needed, does not count toward language requirement)	4-5
LING Lower-Division or Upper-Division elective	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: QRMS)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences and Lab)	4

Credit Hours	14-15
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Year Two**Fall Semester**

Second Year Foreign Language 1 (If needed)	3-5
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Arts & Humanities)	3
Gen. Ed. Diversity course (example: Diversity: Global Perspective)	3
LING Lower-Division or Upper-Division elective	3

Credit Hours	15-17
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Spring Semester

LING Foreign Language Requirement (if needed)	3-5
LING 3100 Language Sound Structures	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Natural Sciences)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution (example: Arts & Humanities)	3
Elective	3

Credit Hours	15-17
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Year Three**Fall Semester**

LING 3430 Semantics	3
LING Foreign Language Requirement UD (if needed)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Arts & Humanities)	3
Gen. Ed. Skills course (example: Upper-division Written Communication)	3
Elective	3

Credit Hours	15
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Spring Semester

LING Upper-Division elective	3
LING Foreign Language Requirement UD (if needed)	3
Gen. Ed. Distribution course (example: Arts & Humanities)	3
LING 4420 Morphology and Syntax	3
Upper-Division Elective	3

Credit Hours	15
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Year Four**Fall Semester**

LING Upper-Division elective	3
Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3

Credit Hours	15
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Spring Semester

LING Upper-Division Elective	3
Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3
Upper-Division Elective	3

Credit Hours	15
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Total Credit Hours	120-126
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Learning Outcomes

By the completion of the program, students will be able to:

- Students can identify multiple levels of linguistic structure and their interactions: sound segments, sound categories, word structure, sentence structure and semantic structure.
- Students are aware of the range of speech sounds found in languages of the world, including how they are transcribed, and have the ability to transcribe those sounds that are frequently encountered.
- Students can use transcribed data to infer the contrastive relationships among sounds in a given language.
- Students can describe the ways in which languages and language families differ with regard to word- and sentence-formation devices.
- Students can infer language structures from the analysis of data from unfamiliar languages.
- Students can describe the relationship between conceptual structure and linguistic structure at both the word and sentence level, and identify differences between conventional and calculable linguistic meaning.

Bachelor's–Accelerated Master's Degree Program(s)

The bachelor's–accelerated master's (BAM) degree program options offer currently enrolled CU Boulder undergraduate students the opportunity to receive a bachelor's and master's degree in a shorter period of time. Students receive the bachelor's degree first but begin taking graduate coursework as undergraduates (typically in their senior year).

Because some courses are allowed to double count for both the bachelor's and the master's degrees, students receive a master's degree in less time and at a lower cost than if they were to enroll in a stand-alone master's degree program after completion of their baccalaureate degree. In addition, staying at CU Boulder to pursue a bachelor's–accelerated master's program enables students to continue working with their established faculty mentors.

BA and MA in Linguistics

Admissions Requirements

In order to apply for admission to the BAM program in linguistics, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- Transfer students must have completed a minimum of 24 credit hours at CU Boulder.
- Have completed at least one upper division linguistics elective.
- Must take a graduate-level "qualifying course" in the semester they apply for admission to the BAM program.

The BAM degree program is recommended only for the most serious and able undergraduate students. For further information, see the graduate advisor in the spring of the sophomore year or during the first week of the fall semester of the junior year.

Program Requirements

Students may take up to and including 12 hours while in the undergraduate program which can later be used toward the master's degree. These 12 credits may be double counted toward the bachelor's degree and the master's degree. Students must apply to graduate with the bachelor's degree, and apply to continue with the master's degree, early in the semester in which the undergraduate requirements will be completed.

If you are interested in the BAM degree program, please contact the Linguistics graduate advisor for more information. Students should discuss possible BAM plans with the graduate advisor by spring of the sophomore year or during the first week of the fall semester of the junior year.

BA in Linguistics, MS in Computational Linguistics, Analytics, Search and Informatics

Admission Requirements

In order to apply for admission to the BAM program, a student must meet the following criteria:

- Complete all prerequisite courses with a minimum grade of B or higher.

Code	Title	Credit Hours
LING 1200	Introduction to Python Programming	3
or CSCI 1300	Computer Science 1: Starting Computing	
LING 4632/6632	Machine Learning and Linguistics	3
LING 3832/5832	Computational Linguistics	3
or CSCI 3832/5832	Natural Language Processing	
LING 4200/5200	Introduction to Computational Corpus Linguistics	3

One of the following courses in Computer Science as an elective

CSCI 3104	Algorithms
CSCI 3022	Introduction to Data Science with Probability and Statistics

One of the following courses (in the semester the student applies)

LING 5420	Morphology and Syntax
LING 5030	Linguistic Phonetics
LING 5430	Semantics and Pragmatics

- Have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher.
- Have at least junior class standing.
- Provide two letters of reference, one written by the course instructor of the LING 5XXX course they are taking during the semester they apply, the other by the instructor from an upper division course in Computer Science. Letters should be sent directly to the CLASIC Program Coordinator.

Program Requirements

Students may take up to and including 12 hours while in the undergraduate program which can later be used toward the master's degree. However, only 6 credits may be double counted toward the bachelor's degree and the master's degree.

Students must apply to graduate with the bachelor's degree, and apply to continue with the master's degree, early in the semester in which the undergraduate requirements will be completed.