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, socio-cultural linguistics, computational and psycholinguistics, phonetics/phonology and language documentation—ensuring that students can 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.

Concurrent Degree Program
BA/MA in Linguistics

The department has a five-year concurrent bachelor’s and master’s degree program, which is recommended only for the most serious and able graduate 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.

Requirements
Program Requirements

Majors in linguistics must complete a total of 32 credit hours of study in general linguistics, including 5 in 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.

Required Courses and Credits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING 2000</td>
<td>Introduction to Linguistics ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3100</td>
<td>Language Sound Structures ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3430</td>
<td>Semantics ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4420</td>
<td>Morphology and Syntax ¹</td>
<td>3</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Natural Language

Complete a minimum of 5 credit hours of study of a natural language other than English (see details below) with a grade of C- (2.00) or better.

Electives

Select a minimum of 15 elective credit hours from the following with a grade of C- (2.00) or better:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 403</td>
<td>Introduction to Old English</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREN 3020</td>
<td>French Phonetics Through Musical Performance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FREN 3010</td>
<td>French Phonetics and Pronunciation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPNS 4030</td>
<td>Japanese Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPNS 4080</td>
<td>Kanji in Japanese Orthography</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JPNS 4070</td>
<td>Second Language Acquisition of Japanese</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING 2400</td>
<td>Language, Gender and Sexuality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3005</td>
<td>Cognitive Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3220</td>
<td>American Indian Languages in their Social and Cultural Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3545</td>
<td>World Language Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3630</td>
<td>Principles and Practices in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 3800</td>
<td>Special Topics in Linguistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4100</td>
<td>Perspectives on Language</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4220</td>
<td>Language and Mind</td>
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<tr>
<td>LING 4225</td>
<td>Interdisciplinary Research Methods in Child Language Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4450</td>
<td>Introduction to Formal Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4560</td>
<td>Language Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4610</td>
<td>English Structure for Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 4800</td>
<td>Language and Culture</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other upper-division linguistics courses may also be chosen if available; graduate courses may be taken with permission of the department.

Total Credit Hours: 32

¹ Complete with a grade of C- or better.

Natural Language

Students must complete with a grade of C- (2.00) 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, Latin, Spanish), or at the 2000 level or above for less-widely-taught languages (Arabic, American Sign Language, Chinese, Farsi, Greek, 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 course work and 30 credit hours overall in the major. 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, 6 additional upper-division 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 for it during the regular registration period for
continuing students (spring of the sophomore year) will be excluded
from the course.

**Recommended Four-Year Plan of Study**

Through the required course work 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 and
Humanities area of the Distribution and both the U.S. Perspective and the
Global Perspective components of the Gen Ed Diversity Requirement.
## Year Four

### Fall Semester
- **LING Upper-Division elective (nine credits required)**: 3 credit hours
- Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
  
  **Credit Hours**: 15

### Spring Semester
- **LING Upper-Division Elective (nine credits required)**: 3 credit hours
- Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
- Upper-Division Elective: 3 credit hours
  
  **Credit Hours**: 15

**Total Credit Hours**: 121-129