

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Linguistics

The department offers a broad range of courses that provide a basic understanding of human language and communication. Linguistics courses examine features of language that underlie the human capacity to express concepts and communicate ideas. The courses address the connections between language, brain, culture, mind, and history. The major gives students a basic understanding of the human capacity to acquire, perceive, and produce language and of language's role in contemporary society.

Linguistics is a superb preparation for careers that require expertise in the use of language as a means of communication, e.g., business, communications, personnel administration, teaching, health care, and social service. Many majors pursue graduate study in education, law, psychology, computer science, speech and hearing sciences, and languages.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Prospective first-year students should be aware that KU has qualified admission requirements that all new first-year students must meet to be admitted. Consult the Office of Admissions (<http://admissions.ku.edu/>) for application deadlines and specific admission requirements.

Visit the International Support Services (<http://www.iss.ku.edu/>) for information about international admissions.

Students considering transferring to KU may see how their college-level course work will transfer on the Office of the University Registrar (<https://registrar.ku.edu/credittransfer/>) website.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major

BA or BGS majors must complete the following requirements:

Code	Title	Hours
Linguistics Major Core Knowledge and Skills		
Majors must complete a course in each of the following areas:		
Introductory Linguistics. Satisfied by:		
LING 106	Introductory Linguistics	3
or LING 107	Introductory Linguistics, Honors	
Language & Mind. Satisfied by:		
LING 110	Language and Mind	3
or LING 111	Language and Mind, Honors	
Phonetics I. Satisfied by:		
LING 305	Phonetics I	3
Phonology I. Satisfied by:		
LING 312	Phonology I	3
Syntax I. Satisfied by:		
LING 325	Syntax I	3

Acquisition (3 Credit Hours) 3

Majors must complete one of the following courses:

LING 415	Second Language Acquisition I
LING 425	First Language Acquisition I

Processing (3 Credit Hours) 3

Major must complete one of the following courses:

LING 435	Psycholinguistics I
LING 438	Neurolinguistics I

Diversity (3 Credit Hours) 3

Major must complete one of the following courses (or a different LING course approved by Linguistics advisor):

LING 308	Linguistic Analysis
LING 320	Language in Culture and Society
or LING 321	Language in Culture and Society, Honors
LING 343	Bilingualism
LING 370	Introduction to the Languages of Africa
LING 443	Language Variation and Change
LING 447	North American Indian Languages
LING 570	The Structure of Japanese
LING 572	The Structure of Chinese
LING 575	The Structure of: _____

Advanced Course (3 Credit Hours) 3

Majors must complete one of the following courses (or a LING Seminar with permission of instructor and approval by Linguistics advisor):

LING 507	Phonetics II
LING 514	Phonology II
LING 516	Second Language Acquisition II
LING 526	Syntax II
LING 527	Morphology
LING 531	Semantics
LING 537	Psycholinguistics II
LING 539	First Language Acquisition II
LING 541	Field Methods in Linguistic Description
LING 542	Neurolinguistics II

Capstone Experience (3 Credit Hours) 3

Majors must complete one capstone course:

LING 420	Capstone: Research in Language Science
or LING 421	Capstone: Typology-Unity and Diversity of Human Language

Total Hours 30

Linguistics Language Proficiency Requirement

Students pursuing the B.A. degree in Linguistics must demonstrate fourth semester proficiency in a single non-English language, or third semester proficiency in a first non-English language and first semester proficiency in a second non-English language. This requirement may be met through coursework or examination by the appropriate language department.

Major Hours & Major GPA

While completing all required courses, majors must also meet each of the following hour and GPA minimum standards:

Major Hours

Satisfied by 30 hours of major courses, or 33 hours required if completing departmental honors course LING 496.

Major Hours in Residence

Satisfied by a minimum of 24 junior/senior (300+) hours of KU resident credit in the major.

Major Junior/Senior Hours

Satisfied by a minimum of 24 hours from junior/senior courses (300+) in the major.

Major Junior/Senior (300+) Graduation GPA

Satisfied by a minimum of a 2.0 KU GPA in junior/senior courses (300+) in the major. GPA calculations include all junior/senior courses in the field of study including F's and repeated courses. See the Semester/Cumulative GPA Calculator (<https://sis.ku.edu/gpa-calculator/>).

A sample 4-year plan for the BA degree in Linguistics can be found here: Linguistics (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/linguistics/ba-bgs/ba-linguistics/>), or by using the left-side navigation.

A sample 4-year plan for the BGS degree in Linguistics can be found here: Linguistics (<https://catalog.ku.edu/liberal-arts-sciences/linguistics/ba-bgs/bgs/bgs-in-linguistics/>), or by using the left-side navigation.

At the completion of this program, students will be able to:

- demonstrate an ability to reason analytically about language
- conduct a study that critically evaluates a hypothesis about language and generates new ideas about language
- communicate clearly and effectively orally and in writing about language
- demonstrate a critical and reflective awareness of linguistic diversity
- demonstrate integrity and responsibility in the conduct of linguistics research

Departmental Honors

The Department of Linguistics Honors Program allows exceptional undergraduate students to work closely with faculty members on a research project. To graduate with honors in linguistics, a student must complete all requirements for the linguistics major and LING 496 Honors Essay in Linguistics (usually taken in the fall semester of the senior year). The student must have a grade-point average of at least 3.5 in Linguistics courses.

Contact the Linguistics Honors Director, Professor Utako Minai (minai@ku.edu) or the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Professor John Gluckman (johnglu@ku.edu) for additional information. Prospective honors candidates are encouraged to select a thesis topic and thesis director by the end of the junior year.