

Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of General Studies in Linguistics

Why study Linguistics

Because language is the window into the mind. Linguistics provides an understanding of the human capacity to acquire, perceive, and produce language and of language's role in contemporary society.

B.A./B.G.S. Overview

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.

A degree in Linguistics may also be combined with a Research Experience Certification through the [KU Research Program \(REP\)](http://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/rep/overview/) (<http://ugresearch.ku.edu/student/rep/overview/>). KU's Research Experience Program (REP) is an undergraduate certificate program in which students learn content and skills via classes, apply and integrate what they've learned via a research/creative project, present the project, and then reflect on the progress they've made. Completion of the REP certificate appears on a student's official transcript. Please speak with the Linguistics Undergraduate Research Coordinator, Dr. Minai (minai@ku.edu), if you are interested in pursuing Research Experience Program certification as part of your Linguistics degree.

You can also combine your degree in Linguistics with a Global Awareness Certification through the (<http://gap.ku.edu/>) [Global Awareness Program \(GAP\)](http://gap.ku.edu/) (<http://gap.ku.edu/>) (<https://gap.ku.edu>). KU's Global Awareness Program (GAP) is an undergraduate certificate program in which you can expand your cultural knowledge and navigate multiple perspectives. GAP tracks your progress on the three components: Academic (<http://gap.ku.edu/Academic/>), On-Campus Activities with a global focus (<http://gap.ku.edu/co-curricular-activities/>), and/or International Experience (<http://gap.ku.edu/international-experience/>) (Two-out-of-three components needed to earn the certificate.) Completion of the GAP certificate appears on a student's official transcript. Please speak with the Director of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Fiorentino (fiorentino@ku.edu), if you are interested in pursuing Global Awareness Program certification as part of your Linguistics degree.

Undergraduate Admission

Admission to KU

All students applying for admission must send high school and college transcripts to the Office of Admissions. Unless they are college transfer students with at least 24 hours of credit, prospective students must send ACT or SAT scores 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 Admissions (<http://credittransfer.ku.edu/>) website.

Admission to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Admission to the College is a different process from admission to a major field. Some CLAS departments have admission requirements. See individual department/program sections for departmental admission requirements.

Requirements for the B.A. or B.G.S. Major Linguistics Language Proficiency

Major 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.

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 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
Major must complete one of the following courses (or 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	

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 (<http://clas.ku.edu/undergrad/tools/gpa/>).

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

Departmental Honors

The 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.

Consult the departmental honors coordinator or the director of undergraduate studies for information. Prospective honors candidates are encouraged to select a thesis topic and thesis director at the end of the junior year.