

# Linguistics

IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND LETTERS

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## Faculty

**Emeritus:** Bar-Lev, Choi, Donahue, Frey, Higurashi, Johns, Kaplan, Osman, Poole, Robinson, Seright, Webb

**Chair:** Samraj

**Professors:** Csomay, Gawron, Malouf, Samraj, Wu, Zhang

**Associate Professors:** Keating, Kitajima

**Assistant Professors:** Dinkin, Doyle, Soulaïmani

**Lecturers:** Egipto, Justice

## Offered by the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages

Master of Arts degree in linguistics.

Major in linguistics with the B.A. degree in liberal arts and sciences.

Minor in linguistics.

Minor in teaching English as a second or foreign language (TESL/TEFL).

Minor in text analytics.

Certificate in computational linguistics.

Certificate in teaching English as a second or foreign language (TESL/TEFL), basic and advanced.

Certificate in text analytics.

## The Major

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. The structure of a wide variety of languages is looked at, not to learn these languages, but to learn about them in order to understand the universal properties of human language.

The linguistics program offers coursework in all areas of linguistic analysis: the core areas of phonology, syntax, semantics, and historical linguistics; and interdisciplinary areas such as applied linguistics, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, bilingualism, computational linguistics, and the linguistics of certain languages and language families.

Linguistics majors must complete a minor in another field approved by the adviser in linguistics. Recommended fields include anthropology, communication, ethnic studies, a foreign language, history, journalism and media studies, literature, philosophy, psychology, public affairs, sociology, and speech, language, and hearing sciences.

In addition to the major and minor programs, the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages offers three basic certificate programs. The Basic Certificates in Computational Linguistics and Text Analytics prepare students for employment as computational linguists in commercial and government settings. The Basic Certificate in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL) prepares students to teach English as a second language in adult and private schools and to teach English in foreign countries.

Employment opportunities for linguistics majors exist in the teaching of English as a second language to immigrant and refugee population groups in various locales throughout the southwestern United States. In addition, many students are interested in teaching English in Latin America, the Far East, or other areas outside the United States and continental Europe. Linguistics training can also be used as a valuable skill in conjunction with a California teaching credential in another field. Employment opportunities are growing in academic and industrial areas of computational linguistics that specialize in language processing to include information extraction from legal documents or health records and marketing analyses based on social media texts. Government work is another alternative, where such divisions as the State Department and the foreign service hire trained linguists. Researchers are needed at institutes working in the fields of animal communication, computer science development, disorders of communication, or advanced research in linguistics theory. By combining a linguistics major with

courses in accounting, business administration, or related fields, there are jobs available with multinational corporations, particularly those which emphasize trade among the Pacific rim nations. Linguists are also hired in such fields as computer science, advertising, communication media, public relations, and curriculum development.

With a master's or doctoral degree, linguistics majors may find teaching positions at community colleges or universities.

## Advising

All College of Arts and Letters majors are urged to consult with their department adviser as soon as possible; they are required to meet with their department adviser within the first two semesters after declaration or change of major.

## Impacted Program

The linguistics major is an impacted program. To be admitted to the linguistics major, students must meet the following criteria:

- Complete preparation for the major;
- Complete a minimum of 60 transferable semester units;
- Have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0.

To complete the major, students must fulfill the degree requirements for the major described in the catalog in effect at the time they are accepted into the premajor at SDSU (assuming continuous enrollment).

## Major Academic Plans (MAPs)

Visit <http://www.sdsu.edu/mymap> for the recommended courses needed to fulfill your major requirements. The MAPs website was created to help students navigate the course requirements for their majors and to identify which General Education course will also fulfill a major preparation course requirement.

## Linguistics Major

With the B.A. Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences

**(Major Code: 15051) (SIMS Code: 114701)**

All candidates for a degree in liberal arts and sciences must complete the graduation requirements listed in the section of this catalog on "Graduation Requirements." No more than 48 units in linguistics courses can apply to the degree.

Students majoring in linguistics must complete a minor in another field approved by the departmental adviser in linguistics. Recommended fields include anthropology, communication, ethnic studies, a foreign language, history, journalism and media studies, literature, philosophy, psychology, public affairs, rhetoric and writing studies, and sociology.

**Preparation for the Major.** Linguistics 101 and one course selected from Linguistics 270, Economics 201, Philosophy 120, Political Science 201, Psychology 280, Sociology 201, Statistics 119, or 250. (6-7 units)

Students should note that a number of the upper division required and recommended courses listed below have lower division prerequisites, but these prerequisites do not constitute requirements per se for the completion of the major.

**Language Requirement.** Competency equivalent to that which is normally attained through three college semesters of a foreign language with a C (2.0) average, or the equivalent. Refer to section of catalog on "Graduation Requirements."

**Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement.** Passing the Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 10, or Linguistics 305W, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 305W or 500W with a grade of C (2.0) or better. See "Graduation Requirements" section for a complete listing of requirements.

**Major.** A minimum of 27 upper division units to include at least 21 units in linguistics (and those 21 must include Linguistics 420 or 501; 521, 522, and 525; and cannot include more than nine units from 300-level courses); with the approval of the adviser, up to six units may be selected from related fields. Linguistics 305W may not be applied to the major.

## Linguistics Minor

(Minor Code: 15051) (SIMS Code: 114701)

The minor in linguistics consists of a minimum of 15 units, 12 of which must be upper division and at least 12 of which must be linguistics courses selected under the guidance and with the approval of the adviser. Linguistics 101 or 420 or 501 is required. Linguistics 100B, 200, and 305W may not be applied to the minor. No more than three units may be applied to the minor from Anthropology 410, Communication 465, Philosophy 534, Spanish 448.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL) Minor

(Minor Code: 15051) (SIMS Code: 114707)

The minor in teaching English as a second or foreign language consists of a minimum of 15 units to include Linguistics 420 or 501; Linguistics 430 or 530 or 551; Linguistics 452 or 454 or 552; Linguistics 550; Linguistics 555 or 556. Students must also complete 15 hours of ESL tutoring.

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the linguistics major or the TESL/TEFL certificate, but may be used to satisfy preparation for the major and general education requirements, if applicable. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Text Analytics Minor

(Minor Code: 15051) (SIMS Code: 114709)

The minor in text analytics consists of a minimum of 15 units to include Linguistics 571 or 572 [or Big Data Analytics 572], Statistics 550 or 551A, Linguistics 581 [or Computer Science 581], 583, and completion of one of the following: Linguistics 551, Biology 568 [or Bioinformatics and Medical Informatics 568], Computer Science 550, or Statistics 520. For Statistics 550 and 551A, students must satisfy lower division calculus and linear algebra prerequisites (Mathematics 151, 252, and 254).

Courses in the minor may not be counted toward the major. A minimum of six upper division units must be completed in residence at San Diego State University.

## Computational Linguistics Basic Certificate

(SIMS Code: 114787)

The Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages offers a basic Certificate in Computational Linguistics. The certificate requires 12 units to include:

**Introductory Linguistics:** Linguistics 420 or 501;

**Scripting and Linguistic Databases (corpora):** Linguistics 571;

**Introduction to Computational Linguistics:** Linguistics 581 [or Computer Science 581];

**Mathematical Tools:** Linguistics 572 [or Big Data Analytics 572].

Students must obtain a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the certificate courses. Under certain circumstances comparable courses taken at other institutions may count toward the certificate. Such courses must be evaluated and approved by the certificate adviser. In order to enroll, students must contact the certificate adviser in the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages. Courses in the certificate may count toward the major in linguistics or the major in liberal studies (including the linguistics specialization) but may not count toward the minor in linguistics.

## Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL) Basic Certificate

(SIMS Code: 114786)

The Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages offers a basic and advanced Certificate in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL). The basic certificate requires 15 units to include:

**Introductory Linguistics:** Linguistics 420 or 501;

**Language Acquisition:** Linguistics 452 or 454, or 552;

**ESL Teaching:** Linguistics 550;

**Practical Issues/Computer Assisted Language Learning:** Linguistics 555 or 556;

**Elective:** Linguistics 430 or 530 or 551.

Students must obtain a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the certificate courses. Under certain circumstances comparable courses taken at other institutions may count toward the certificate. Such courses must be evaluated and approved by the certificate adviser. In addition, there is a 15-hour tutoring requirement. In order to enroll, you must contact the certificate adviser in the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages. Courses in the certificate may count toward the major in linguistics, the major in English, or the major in liberal studies (including the linguistics specialization) but may not count toward the minor in linguistics or the minor in Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language (TESL/TEFL).

Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin* for information on the advanced certificate.

## Text Analytics Basic Certificate

(SIMS Code: 114781)

The Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages offers a basic certificate in text analytics. The certificate requires a minimum of 12 units to include Linguistics 571 or 572 [or Big Data Analytics 572]; Statistics 550 or 551A, Linguistics 581 and 583. For Statistics 550 and 551A, students must satisfy lower division calculus or linear algebra prerequisites (Mathematics 151, 252, and 254).

Students must obtain a grade of C (2.0) or better in each of the certificate courses. Under certain circumstances, comparable courses taken at other institutions may count toward the certificate. Such courses must be evaluated and approved by the certificate adviser. In order to enroll, students must contact the certificate adviser in the Department of Linguistics and Asian/Middle Eastern Languages. Courses in the certificate may count toward the major in linguistics or the major in statistics but may not count toward the minor in linguistics or the minor in text analytics.

## Courses (LING)

Refer to *Courses and Curricula and University Policies sections of this catalog* for explanation of the course numbering system, unit or credit hour, prerequisites, and related information.

### LOWER DIVISION COURSES

#### LING 100A. English Composition for International Students and English Learners I (3)

Prerequisite: Open to international students or other students whose first language is not English and who have not satisfied the SDSU Written Communication Assessment requirement.

Introduction to college-level writing for language/grammar needs of first-semester English learners. Understanding written argument, comprehension of college-level academic texts, and integrating ideas and information from multiple text sources in formal written papers. Not open to native speakers of English.

#### LING 100B. English Composition for International Students and English Learners II (3) [GE]

Prerequisite: Linguistics 100A with a grade of C- (1.7) or better.

College-level writing; attention to language needs of advanced English learners. Written argument, comprehension and analysis of college-level academic texts, and use of multiple text sources for written synthesis and argument. Not open to native speakers of English. Not open to students with credit in a higher-numbered composition course or African Studies 120 or American Indian Studies 120 or Chicana and Chicano Studies 111B or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100 [or English 100] or 105B. (Formerly numbered Linguistics 100.)

**LING 101. Introduction to Language (3) [GE]**

The nature of language. Sound, meaning, and grammar. Language history and change. Dialects and variation. Language acquisition. Animal communication. Language and the brain. Not open to students with credit in upper division linguistics courses, excluding Linguistics 305W.

**LING 200. Advanced English for International Students (3) [GE]**

Prerequisites: Satisfaction of the SDSU Written Communication Assessment requirement; and Linguistics 100B. **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Test scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.

Further practice in mastering conventions of standard academic writing, with emphasis on strategies for research in writing papers. Focus on language issues specific to non-native speakers of English. Not open to students with credit in Africana Studies 200, American Indian Studies 225, Chicana and Chicano Studies 200, or Rhetoric and Writing Studies 200 [or English 200].

**LING 243. Invented Languages – Klingon and Beyond! (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Rhetoric and Writing Studies 100.

Invented languages such as Klingon and Esperanto are the medium for engaging linguistic theory and diversity. The art, ideas, and goals behind invented languages will be explored using diverse current and historical sources from literature, the Internet, film, and video games.

**LING 250. Directed Language Study (1-4)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Directed independent study of a foreign language (excluding languages taught in other departments) with aim of acquiring a developing competency in the language. May include speaking, listening, reading, writing, and grammar. May be repeated with approval of undergraduate adviser. Maximum credit eight units.

**LING 251. Dialects of English (3) [GE]**

Regional and social diversity of English dialects in the United States and elsewhere to include differences in grammar, pronunciation, and vocabulary.

**LING 252. Language Across the Lifespan (3) [GE]**

Cognitive benefits of bilingualism. Effect of normal and pathological aging on language knowledge and use. Language learning in cognitively impaired individuals. Native and second language acquisition and use in childhood and adulthood. Sociological factors affecting language use.

**LING 253. Grammar and Usage for Writers (3)**

(Same course as Rhetoric and Writing Studies 253)

Prerequisite: Satisfaction of the SDSU Written Communication Assessment requirement.

Instruction in sentence structure with attention to integrating sentences into their logical and rhetorical contexts. Identifying and understanding source of sentence-level writing problems.

**LING 270. Elementary Statistics for Language Studies (3) [GE]**

Introductory statistics and probability using language data to illustrate statistical ideas and facilitate analyses of quantitative language data. Measures of central tendency and dispersion, correlation, mixed models, regression, and significance. Probabilistic explanation in linguistics. Students with credit or concurrent registration in the following lower division statistics courses will be awarded a total of four units for two (or more) courses: Linguistics 270, Administration, Rehabilitation and Postsecondary Education 201, Biology 215, Civil Engineering 160, Economics 201, Political Science 201, Psychology 280, Sociology 201, Statistics 119, 250.

**LING 281. Academic Reading and Writing for Second Language Learners and International Students (3)**

(Same course as Rhetoric and Writing Studies 281)

Prerequisite: Open only to students who qualify for Rhetoric and Writing Studies 280 and whose first language is not English.

Academic prose, emphasizing purposes, structures, and styles of academic English writing. Designed to improve students' ability to plan, draft, revise, and edit essays, as well as to read and analyze complex academic texts. Additional emphasis on grammatical features of English relevant to the second language population.

**LING 296. Experimental Topics (1-4)**

Selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree.

**LING 299. Special Study (1-4)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

**UPPER DIVISION COURSES**

(Intended for Undergraduates)

**LING 305W. Advanced Composition for International Students (3)**

Prerequisites: Satisfies Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement for students who have completed 60 units; completed Writing Placement Assessment with a score of 8 or higher (or earned a grade of C (2.0) or better in Rhetoric and Writing Studies 280, 281 [or Linguistics 281] if score on WPA was 6 or lower); and completed General Education requirements in Communication and Critical Thinking. **Proof of completion of prerequisites required:** Test scores or verification of exemption; copy of transcript.

Advanced expository writing, with practice in the various associated skills (organization, research, presentation, rhetoric). The goal is to enable non-native English speakers to function completely with written English on advanced university levels. This course may not be used toward the major or minor in linguistics.

**LING 350. Language and Politics (3) [GE]**

Linguistics devices used to persuade in politics. Differences between what is literally said and what is actually conveyed in political discourse. How political speakers and writers use grammar, sound structure, and vocabulary to persuade.

**LING 352. Language and Advertising (3)**

Linguistic devices used to persuade in advertising. Differences between what is literally said and what is actually conveyed in advertisements. How advertisers use the grammar, sound structure, and vocabulary of languages (especially English) to persuade audiences.

**LING 354. Language and Computers (3) [GE]**

Computers, computer programming languages, and "artificial intelligence" viewed from perspective of human language.

**LING 363. Sociocultural Analysis of Black Languages (3) [ES]**

(Same course as Africana Studies 363)

Social and cultural functions of Black languages, verbal and nonverbal, in Afro-American life, and their profound impact on larger society. Also, a probe into issues concerning validity of Black English.

**LING 420. Linguistics and English (3) [GE]**

Introduction to sound and grammatical structure of language, with special attention to English. Language acquisition and variation. Of special interest to prospective teachers. Not open to students with credit in Linguistics 501.

**LING 430. English Grammar for Prospective Teachers (3)**

Prerequisites: Linguistics 101 or 420 and upper division standing.

Core grammatical concepts and facts of English grammar. Parts of speech; grammatical relations; word, sentence, discourse structure. Focus on standard written English. Of special interest to prospective secondary school teachers.

**LING 452. Language Acquisition (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420.

Principles of child language development. Sounds and grammar in speech of young children. Acquisition of reading and vocabulary. Relationship between cognitive development and language. Development of language in bilinguals. Second language acquisition.

**LING 454. Second Language Acquisition (3) [GE]**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 101 or 420.

Basic theory and research in second language acquisition. Nature of interlanguage in second language learning. Influence of native language transfer, interaction, sociocultural factors on second language acquisition. Applications of second language research to teaching.

## Linguistics

### **LING 457. Community-Based Language Fieldwork (1)**

Two hours of activity.

Prerequisite: Concurrent registration in upper division course requiring term paper on language behavior (e.g. Linguistics 452).

Fieldwork in language use in community setting. Students observe, keep field notes, analyze language behavior (e.g. speaking, reading, writing, listening).

### **LING 460. American Indian Languages (3) [GE-ES]**

(Same course as American Indian Studies 460 and Anthropology 460)

Structures of American Indian languages. Language families of North America, history, and present circumstances. Interdependence of language and culture, differences in ways of speaking. Issues of language endangerment, language death, language maintenance, and language revitalization.

### **LING 496. Experimental Topics in Linguistics (1-4)**

Specialized study of a selected topic in linguistics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum credit six units.

### **LING 499. Special Study (1-3)**

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units.

## UPPER DIVISION COURSES

(Also Acceptable for Advanced Degrees)

### **LING 501. Fundamentals of Linguistics (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Principles of modern linguistics, with attention to English phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics; universals and typology.

### **LING 502. Language in Mind and Society (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 501. **Proof of completion of prerequisite required:** Copy of transcript.

Child language acquisition, adult language production/comprehension and sociolinguistics. Dialects, language variation, and standardization. Bilingualism and language change.

### **LING 503. Functions of Language (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 501. **Proof of completion of prerequisite required:** Copy of transcript.

Empirical methods in linguistics. Phonological structure of English and other languages. Functional and discourse related approaches to language patterns. Connections between morpho-syntactic concepts and functional/discourse concepts to conduct text analysis.

### **LING 505. Writing for Graduate Students (3)**

Prerequisite: Conditional or classified admission to an SDSU graduate program or undergraduates with consent of instructor.

Conventions of scholarly writing appropriate for student papers, theses, or academic journal articles. Development of research questions and literature reviews as appropriate for students' disciplines. Revision of current or previous course papers according to disciplinary conventions.

### **LING 521. Phonology (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Theoretical principles of transformational-generative phonology.

### **LING 522. Syntax (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Theoretical principles of transformational-generative syntax.

### **LING 523. Morphology (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Theoretical principles of words structure, including inflection, derivation, and compounding; organization of the lexicon; structure of inflectional paradigms; morphophonological and morphosyntactic alterations; and computational applications.

### **LING 525. Semantics and Pragmatics (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Advanced semantic theory; systematic analysis of the interaction of sequences of language with real world context in which they are used.

### **LING 526. Discourse Analysis (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Theories of discourse structure. Text and context. Frameworks for analyzing written and spoken discourses such as genre analysis, conversation analysis, critical discourse analysis, discourse and grammar, speech act theory, and corpus linguistics. Applications of discourse analysis such as cross-cultural misunderstanding.

### **LING 530. English Grammar (3)**

Prerequisites: Six upper division units in linguistics.

English morphology, syntax, and discourse structure, including simple and complex sentence structure; lexical categories and sub-categories; discourse functions of selected constructions. Problems and solutions in teaching English grammar.

### **LING 550. Theory and Practice of English as a Second Language (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 101, 420, or 501.

The nature of language learning; evaluation of techniques and materials for the teaching of English as a second language.

### **LING 551. Sociolinguistics (3)**

Prerequisite: A course in introductory linguistics.

Investigation of the correlation of social structure and linguistic behavior.

### **LING 552. Psycholinguistics (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Psychological and mental processes related to comprehension, production, perception, and acquisition of language in adults and children.

### **LING 553. Bilingualism (3)**

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 501.

Bilingualism in society and in schools. Cognition, language processing, and representation in bilinguals. Research methods in the study of bilingualism.

### **LING 555. Practical Issues in Teaching English as a Second Language (3)**

Prerequisite: Credit or concurrent registration in Linguistics 550.

Practical approaches to applications of the theory of English as a Second Language (ESL) and methodology for speaking, reading, listening, writing; techniques for facilitating growth of communicative competence.

### **LING 556. Computer Assisted Language Learning and Teaching (3)**

Prerequisite: Credit or concurrent registration in Linguistics 550.

Theory and practice of computer assisted language learning and language teaching. Hands-on experience with pedagogical aspects of using technology in the language classroom.

### **LING 571. Computational Corpus Linguistics (3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Practical introduction to computation with text corpora and introduction to Python. Tokenizing, part-of-speech tagging, and lemmatizing (stemming) large corpora. Writing of Python programs required.

### **LING 572. Python Scripting for Social Science (3) (Same course as Big Data Analytics 572)**

Prerequisite: Upper division or graduate standing

Python scripting for social science data. Statements and expressions. Strings, lists, dictionaries, files. Python with unformatted data (regular expressions). Graphs and social networks. Spatial data and simple GIS scripts.

### **LING 581. Computational Linguistics (3)**

(Same course as Computer Science 581)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 571 or 572 [or Big Data Analytics 572] or Computer Science 320.

Basic concepts in computational linguistics including regular expressions, finite-state automata, finite-state transducers, weighted finite-state automata, and n-gram language models. Applications to phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax. Probabilistic models. Statistical techniques for speech recognition.

**LING 583. Statistical Methods in Text Analysis (3)**

Prerequisites: Linguistics 571 or 572 [or Big Data Analytics 572]; and Statistics 550 or 551A.

Statistical methods for analysis of large texts to include Bayesian classifiers, Markov models, maximum entropy models, neural nets, and support vector machines. Data collection and annotation. Applications to annotation, relation detection, sentiment analysis, and topic modeling.

**LING 596. Selected Topics in Linguistics (1-3)**

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Advanced study of selected topics. May be repeated with new content. See *Class Schedule* for specific content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Credit for 596 and 696 applicable to a master's degree with approval of the graduate adviser.

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GRADUATE COURSES

Refer to the *Graduate Bulletin*.