

## **Linguistics Minor**

*Coordinators:* Morin, Steele

The minor in Linguistics offers students the opportunity to study language systems structurally and functionally. Linguistics, as a discipline or nexus of disciplines, allows for multiple methodologies and approaches to investigate linguistic change, variation, and structure. As an inherently interdisciplinary field, linguistics offers students an opportunity to synthesize multiplex theories across both departmental and school boundaries. Through their systematic study of language, students will find their curricula immeasurably enriched and their professional opportunities expanded.

The curriculum reflects the debt of linguistics to the field known historically as philology, the investigation of older languages as recorded in texts, as well as the impact of post-Generative linguistic theory. As a result, the minor allows students to self-select concentrations. Students may choose to pursue electives that enrich their understanding of historical linguistics or that expand their understanding of language acquisition and psycholinguistics. Irrespective of their own concentration on a particular sub-discipline, all students will gain a grounding in contemporary linguistic theory that has direct applications in the fields of education, literature, computer science, and psychology.

Courses in Linguistic Theory will provide a foundation whereby students will understand the structure of human languages, focusing on developing tools for the description and application of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. They will become proficient in the IPA. They will be introduced to the physical apparatus required for language production (the vocal tract, the auditory and visual systems). Students will be exposed to dialectal variation, learning to respect and understand diversity in language use, patterns, and dialects across cultures, ethnic groups, geographic regions, and social roles. Students will become familiar with the purviews of first and second language acquisition.

Courses in the Linguistic History category provide an opportunity for students to apply their theoretical knowledge (especially in the fields of phonology, morphology, syntax, and lexis) to diachronic linguistics. Students will become familiar with the impact of cultural, economic, political, and social environments on language. Students will begin to read, analyze, and report on linguistics scholarship.

Courses in the Options category will provide a further opportunity for students to practice skills developed in the other two groups. Students will also use a number of different modes of inquiry, including, but not limited to, informant interviews and linguistic corpora analysis. Students will also learn how to engage non-native speakers (or speakers of non-standard varieties) in productive dialogue about their language use. Independent study courses on appropriate linguistic topics may be counted toward elective credit in the Linguistics minor.

Students interested in a minor in Linguistics should consult with one of the program's coordinators as early as possible to plan their program of study.

No more than one course taken toward the student's major may be counted in the Linguistics Minor.

### **Requirements for the Linguistics Minor**

- 1) Students must meet or exceed the foreign language requirement for Liberal Learning.
- 2) 5 Courses
  - 1 Linguistic Theory
  - 1 Linguistic History
  - 3 Options (at least two must be at the 300 level)

**Linguistic Theory:** One course chosen from the following:

LNG 201/Introduction to the English Language

SPA 350/Introduction to Spanish Linguistics

SLP 102/Language, Speech and Communication Development in Children

**Linguistic History:** One course from the following:

SPA 372/History of the Spanish Language

LNG 202/Structure and History of the English Language

**Options:** Three courses (may take courses from the first two categories as well). At least two of these courses must be at the 300-level or above:

DHH 303/Language Development in Deaf and Hard of Hearing Individuals

LIT 391, SPA 499, or other appropriate Independent Study

LNG 311/Contemporary English Grammar

LNG 370/Topics in Linguistics

LNG 371/American English Dialects

LNG 372/World Englishes

MDL 390/Second Language Acquisition and Related Methodologies

PHL 421/Philosophy of Language

SPA 215/Spanish Phonetics

SPA 301/Advanced Spanish Grammar

SPA 373/Introduction to Hispanic Bilingualism

SLP 305/Acoustic Phonetics

SLP 307/Communication Disorders: Nature, Diagnosis and Treatment

SLP 308/Anatomy and Physiology of the Speech and Hearing Mechanism