

## Linguistics

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### Master of Arts in Linguistics

#### Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University's Graduate general admissions requirements; GPA of minimum 3.0, two letters of recommendation, and an essay on the reasons for pursuing an M.A. in Linguistics. International graduate student applicants whose native language is not English are required to submit a score for the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) or for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). A total score of 100 on the iBT TOEFL (equivalent to 600 on the paper-based version of the Test of English as a Foreign Language) is required.

#### Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts in Linguistics requires 36 graduate hours in Linguistics. Twenty-one of the 36 hours are in required courses, the remainder in electives. Beside maintaining an overall 3.0 average in all courses, students must also obtain a minimum of a 'B' in each of the required courses ('B-' is not acceptable in these courses) and a minimum of a 'C' in each elective course ('C-' is not acceptable). Course work will be as follows:

#### Required Courses: (15)

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics
LIN 5206	Phonetics
LIN 6323	Phonology
LIN 6510	Syntax I
LIN 6805	Semantics

**A minimum of one course from each of the following groups:**

#### Structure Courses: (3)

LIN 5501	English Syntax
LIN 5431	Morphology
SPN 5705	Structure of Spanish
FRE 5855	Structure of French
LIN 6572	Structure of a Non Indo-European Language
LIN 6520	Syntax II
LIN 5574	Languages of the World

#### History Courses: (3)

LIN 5107	History of the English Language
LIN 5146	Historical and Comparative Linguistics
SPN 5845	History of the Language
FRE 5845	History of the Language

The remaining hours must be selected from Linguistics (LIN) graduate offerings. Certain non-linguistics courses

can be accepted with the approval of the Linguistics Committee.

#### Foreign Language Requirement

Students with no background in foreign languages will be required to take LIN 6572 "Structure of a Non-Indo-European Language" as a part of their 36-hour program.

#### Examination Requirement

Students will be required to take a written comprehensive exam in the core areas of Linguistics. For any student who is writing a thesis and has a GPA of 3.7 or above, the thesis defense will constitute the comprehensive exam.

#### Thesis/Non-Thesis Options

Students may elect to follow a thesis or a non-thesis option. Those electing to write a thesis will take up to six credit hours in thesis research as part of their required 36 hours. When completed, the thesis will be defended orally before a committee made up of three graduate faculty members, including the thesis director. Those electing to follow the non-thesis option will take all 36 hours in non-thesis courses.

### Combined BA/MA in Linguistics

To be considered for admission to the combined bachelor's/master's degree program, students must have completed at least 75-90 credits in the bachelor's degree program at FIU and meet the admissions criteria for the graduate degree program to which they are applying. Students need only apply once to the combined degree program, but the application must be submitted to Graduate Admissions before the student starts the last 30 credits of the bachelor's degree program. A student admitted to the combined degree program will be considered to have undergraduate status until the student applies for graduation from their bachelor's degree program. Upon conferral of the bachelor's degree, the student will be granted graduate status and be eligible for graduate assistantships. Only 5000-level or higher courses, and no more than the number of credits specified by the program catalog, may be applied toward both degrees.

#### Admission Requirements

- Enrollment in undergraduate program in English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese at FIU.
- Must have completed 75-90 credits.
- Must have completed LIN 3013/LIN 3010 General Linguistics, LIN 4680 Modern English Grammar, FRE 3780 French Phonetics, or SPN 3733 General Linguistics with a grade of "A".
- Current GPA of 3.2 or higher.
- Two letters of faculty recommendation.
- A 2-4 page statement of purpose, explaining academic plans and goals.

#### Recommended Graduate Courses to Undergraduates

The following graduate courses are recommended to BA students. In order to complete their degree requirements, students may double-count up to 12 graduate credits of coursework toward the Bachelor's and M.A. degrees:

**A. English**

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics*
LIN 5501	English Syntax**
LIN 5107	History of the English Language***
LIN 5715	Language Acquisition
LIN 6602	Language Contact
LIN 5601	Sociolinguistics
LIN 5825	Pragmatics
LIN 5934	Special Topics in Linguistics

**B. Spanish**

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics*
SPN 5705	The Structure of Spanish**
SPN 5845	History of the Language***
LIN 5604	Spanish in the United States
SPN 5736	Spanish as a Heritage Language: Acquisition and Development
LIN 5603	Language Planning: Linguistic Minority Issues
LIN 5601	Sociolinguistics
LIN 5720	Second Language Acquisition
LIN 5825	Pragmatics
LIN 5934	Special Topics in Linguistics

**C. French**

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics*
FRE 5855	Structure of Modern French**
FRE 5845	History of Language I***
FRE 5846	History of Language II
FRE 5508	La Francophonie
FRE 5735	Special Topics in Linguistics
HAI 5235	Haitian Creole Seminar
LIN 5601	Sociolinguistics
LIN 5825	Pragmatics
LIN 5720	Second Language Acquisition
LIN 5934	Special Topics in Linguistics

**D. Portuguese**

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics*
LIN 5601	Sociolinguistics
LIN 5825	Pragmatics
LIN 5720	Second Language Acquisition
LIN 5934	Special Topics in Linguistics

\*MA core requirement – prerequisite to all other course requirements

\*\* Fulfills the 'structure course' requirement of MA

\*\*\* Fulfills the 'history course' requirement of MA

**M.A. Degree Requirements****1. Course Work** (36 graduate credit hours)

Core Courses: (a minimum of "B" is required in core courses)

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics
LIN 5206	Phonetics
LIN 6323	Phonology
LIN 6510	Syntax I
LIN 6805	Semantics

One History Course:

LIN 5107	History of the English Language
LIN 5146	Historical and Comparative Linguistics
SPN 5845	History of the Language
FRE 5845	History of the Language I

One Structure Course:

LIN 5501	English Syntax
SPN 5705	The Structure of Spanish
FRE 5855	Structure of Modern French

LIN 6572	Structure of a Non-Indo-European Language
LIN 5574	Languages of the World
LIN 5431	Morphology
LIN 6520	Syntax II
Electives: 5 LIN prefixed graduate courses	

**2. M.A. Comprehensive Exams**

In the final semester of studies, M.A. students must pass comprehensive exams in Syntax, Semantics, Phonetics, and Phonology.

**3. Awarding of Degrees**

- The BA will be awarded as soon as all BA requirements of the designated undergraduate program are completed.
- The MA will be awarded after all MA requirements of the Linguistics Program and the BA requirements are completed.

**Course Descriptions****Definition of Prefixes**

LIN - Linguistics.

F-Fall semester offering; S-Spring semester offering

**LIN 5017 Cognitive Linguistics (3).** Explores the nature of human reason and categorization as revealed by language. Examines the role of metaphor, imagination, and bodily experience in human thought processes. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5018 Introduction to Linguistics (3).** Introduction to linguistic theory and analysis, with special emphasis on the major components of languages and modern approaches to their analysis. (F)

**LIN 5019 Metaphor, Language, and Literature (3).** Examines nature of metaphor as a cognitive phenomenon; how we use metaphor to conceptualize basic physical and cultural notions; role of cognitive metaphor in literature. Prerequisites: LIN 3013 or LIN 5018.

**LIN 5107 History of the English Language (3).** Study of the development of the grammar and vocabulary represented in samples of the English language from the 8th century to modern times. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent. (F)

**LIN 5108 Language Universals (3).** Universal properties of language from two major perspectives: those of Typologists and of Universal Grammarians. A variety of linguistic structures and theoretical explanations are examined. Prerequisites: LIN 3013, or LIN 3010, or LIN 5018, or the equivalent.

**LIN 5146 Historical and Comparative Linguistics (3).** The study of linguistic methodology for determining historical and genetic relationships among languages. Diachronic syntax and its methodology will be included. The relevance of historical and comparative linguistics to similar processes found in language acquisition and to socio-linguistics will be studied. Prerequisite: LIN 5206.

**LIN 5206 Phonetics (3).** The study of the articulatory mechanisms used in producing speech sounds and of their acoustic properties. Ear training in the phonetic transcription of speech sounds used in the world's languages. (F)

**LIN 5207 Acoustic Phonetics (3).** Introduction to principles of acoustic and instrumental phonetics, including the physics of speech sounds and use of the sound spectrograph and other instruments. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent, plus one additional course in phonetics or phonology. Co-requisite: One of the prerequisites may be counted as a co-requisite.

**LIN 5211 Applied Phonetics (3).** Study of sounds and suprasegmentals of English. Comparison of phonetic features of English with those of other languages. Universal constraints and markedness in learning second/foreign language pronunciation. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, or LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5431 Morphology (3).** The study of linguistic methodology for determining the morphological and syntactic structures of languages. Distinct theoretical approaches to analysis will be emphasized. Recent developments in linguistics that bear on language-universal and language-specific aspects of morphology. Prerequisite: LIN 6323.

**LIN 5501 English Syntax (3).** This course will focus on syntactic analysis of English. Although the course itself is non-theoretical, it uses a variety of underlying theoretical approaches to train students in syntactic analysis. (F,S)

**LIN 5574 Languages of the World (3).** Introduces the student to the richness of human linguistic diversity while demonstrating concurrently the underlying universality of human language. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, or LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5601 Sociolinguistics (3).** Principles and theories of linguistic variation with special attention to correspondences between social and linguistic variables. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5603 Language Planning: Linguistic Minority Issues (3).** Introduction to the field of language planning. Minority linguistic issues in developing and developed nations: official languages, endangered languages, and language as problem and/or resource. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5604 Spanish in the United States (3).** An examination of the sociolinguistic research into Spanish in the U.S.: varieties of Spanish, language attitudes, language contact and change, and aspects of language use. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5613 Dialectology (3).** The geography of language variation: linguistic geography, atlases, national and regional studies. Dialectology within a modern sociolinguistic framework; research approaches. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5625 Studies in Bilingualism (3).** Readings and analysis of bilingual programs and binational goals. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5715 Language Acquisition (3).** The study of the processes underlying normal first-language acquisition. The focus is on the development of the subsystems of language (i.e., the phonological, morphological, syntactic,

and semantic subsystems) in the child's growing command of his or her native language.

**LIN 5720 Second Language Acquisition (3).** Research, theories, and issues in second language acquisition. Topics include the Monitor Model, the role of the first language, motivation, age, individual differences, code-switching, and the environment; affective variables and attitudes.

**LIN 5732 Speech Errors and Linguistic Knowledge (3).** This course focuses on the nature of linguistic errors produced by speakers in their native languages. Students will read research on errors produced by adult native speakers of a language, on first-language errors of children, and on errors made by persons acquiring a second language.

**LIN 5733 Methods of Teaching Accent Reduction (3).** Theory and methods regarding the teaching of pronunciation to non-native speakers of a language. Hands-on practice in helping non-native speakers improve their pronunciation. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5734 Teaching Linguistics (1).** Introduces graduate students to pedagogical issues and strategies in the teaching of linguistics. Topics include textbook selection, writing syllabi, student assessment, and professional ethics. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**LIN 5748 Survey of Applied Linguistics (3).** Application of linguistics to problems in many fields, such as literature, translation, criminal justice, speech pathology, computer science, communications, public policy, and language instruction. Prerequisites: LIN 3010 or LIN 3013 or LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5760 Research Methods in Language Variation (3).** Research in sociolinguistics, dialectology, bilingualism: problem definition, instrument design, data collection and analysis, including sampling techniques and statistical procedures. Prerequisites: LIN 5601, LIN 5625, LIN 5613 or other course in variation.

**LIN 5825 Pragmatics (3).** Study of the relationships between language form, meaning, and use. Special emphasis on speech act theory. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 5934 Special Topics in Linguistics (3).** Content to be determined by instructor. May be repeated for credit when content changes. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, or LIN 5018.

**LIN 6323 Phonology (3).** The study of phonological processes in languages and linguistic methodology for phonological analysis. Emphasis will be placed on recent theoretical questions concerning such issues as the abstractness of underlying forms, the naturalness of processes, and the relevance of markedness to a phonological description. Prerequisite: LIN 5206, Phonetics. (S)

**LIN 6510 Syntax I (3).** This course will expose students to the theoretical models on which much contemporary work in English grammar is based. Students will read works on selected topics such as structural linguistics, transformational grammar, and case grammar. Specific content may change from semester to semester. May be

re-taken for credit when content changes. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent. (S)

**LIN 6520 Syntax II (3).** In-depth analysis of contemporary theories of syntax. May be repeated for credit with content changes. Prerequisite: LIN 6510. (F)

**LIN 6562 Discourse Analysis (3).** The study of the organization of language above the sentence level, such as conversational interactions and written texts. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 6572 Structure of a Non-Indo-European Language (3).** An in-depth study of the structure of a non-Indo-European language. The particular language to be studied will be varied from semester to semester. Course may be repeated. Prerequisites: LIN 5018, LIN 5206, LIN 5222, and a course in syntax.

**LIN 6602 Language Contact (3).** A study of the language changes that occur when two or more languages come into contact with one another. The course will also examine the characteristics of the individuals and communities involved in such contact.

**LIN 6608 Seminar on Language, Race Identity, Nation and Power (3).** Explores the historical and social use of language in the construction of race, nation, identity and power. Prerequisite: Graduate standing.

**LIN 6706 Current Research Methods in Psycholinguistics (3).** Review of current research in psycholinguistics, including adult production and comprehension, first and second language acquisition, and language disorders. Students conduct original research in one of these areas. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, or LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

**LIN 6805 Semantics (3).** The study of linguistic semantics. Language-universal and language-specific properties of the semantic structure of words and sentences will be considered. Students will be exposed to a variety of approaches to the study of meaning. Prerequisites: Introductory course in Linguistics or permission of the instructor. (S)

**LIN 6905 Independent Study (VAR).** This course is designed for students who wish to pursue specialized topics in advanced Linguistics: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, psycholinguistics, historical linguistics, or language contact. Prerequisites: Introductory course in Linguistics or permission of the instructor.

**LIN 6934 Special Topics in Linguistics (3).** Content to be determined by students and instructor. (Approval of the Department required.)

**LIN 6937 Seminar in Linguistics (3).** Topics vary each semester. Prerequisite: A previous course in the same sub-area of Linguistics.

**LIN 6971 Thesis (1-6).** Prerequisite: Completion of all other requirements for the M.A. degree in Linguistics.