

Linguistics

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Master of Arts in Linguistics

Admission Requirements

Applicants must meet the University's Graduate School general admissions requirements; GPA of minimum 3.0, two letters of recommendation, and a statement of purpose 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), for the International English Language Testing System (IELTS), or for the Pearson Test of English (PTE). A total score of 100 on the iBT TOEFL (equivalent to 600 on the paper-based version of the TOEFL), or a score of 6.5 on the IELTS, or a minimum score of 53 on the PTE is required.

Degree Requirements

The Master of Arts in Linguistics requires 36 graduate hours in Linguistics. Twenty-one of the 36 hours are in core required courses, the remainder in electives. In addition to 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 is as follows:

Required Courses: 21 hours, made up of A and B:

A.		
LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics*	3
LIN 5206	Phonetics	3
LIN 6085	Research Methods in Experimental Linguistics	3
LIN 6323	Phonology	3
LIN 6510	Syntax I	3
LIN 6805	Semantics	3

B. Linguistic Structure Course: 3 hours

A student must fulfill this requirement by taking a structure course on a non-Indo-European Language:

LIN 5108	Language Universals	3
	or	
LIN 5574	Languages of the World	3
	or	
LIN 6572	Structure of a Non-Indo-European Language	3

Electives

15 hours more of electives (or 18 more if LIN 5018 has been waived)

*LIN 5018 will only be required of those students who have insufficient background in Linguistics. Students with a prior course in linguistics may opt out of this requirement after passing a qualifying exam on the course materials.

Masters Research Project

All students will be required to produce a research paper of publishable standard by the end of their second year. (LIN 6910, Research Project for Publication I, may be taken to facilitate completion of this requirement.) The research project must be presented in an open forum at the end of the year.

Combined BA/MA in Linguistics Degree Pathway

To be considered for admission to the combined Bachelor's/Master's degree pathway, students must have completed at least 75 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 pathway; the application is submitted to Graduate Admissions typically before the student starts the last 30 credits of the Bachelor's degree program. A student admitted to the combined degree pathway will be considered to have undergraduate status until the student applies for graduation from his/her 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

1. Enrollment in undergraduate program in English, Spanish, French, or Portuguese at FIU.
2. Must have completed 75 credits.
3. 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".
4. Current GPA of 3.2 or higher.
5. Two letters of faculty recommendation.
6. A 2-4 page statement of purpose, explaining academic plans and goals.

Recommended Graduate Courses for 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 5107	History of the English Language
LIN 5108	Language Universals**
LIN 5206	Phonetics***
LIN 5501	English Syntax
LIN 5574	Languages of the World**
LIN 6510	Syntax I***
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 one of the core requirements of MA

M.A. Degree Requirements

1. Course Work (36 graduate credit hours)

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

LIN 5018	Introduction to Linguistics	3
LIN 5206	Phonetics	3
LIN 6085	Research Methods in Experimental Linguistics	3
LIN 6323	Phonology	3
LIN 6510	Syntax I	3
LIN 6805	Semantics	3

One course about the structure of a non-Indo-European Language:

LIN 5108	Language Universals	3
	or	
LIN 5574	Languages of the World	3
	or	
LIN 6572	Structure of a Non-Indo-European Language	3

Electives: 5 LIN prefixed graduate courses (or 6, if LIN 5018 has been waived)

2. Master's Research Project/Comprehensive Exams

3. Awarding of Degrees

a) The BA will be awarded when all BA requirements of the designated undergraduate program are completed.

b) 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; MHF-Mathematics: History and Foundations.

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 the 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.

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 5626 Language Acquisition and Processing in Bilinguals (3). This course covers language acquisition, interaction, and processing in bilingual children and adults, language and cognition in bilinguals, and issues of assessment of bilinguals. Prerequisites: LIN 5018 or equivalent.

LIN 5689 Seminar in Lexicon Grammar (3). This course introduces students to research in Lexicon Grammar -- syntactic analyses based on a formal classification of large portions of the lexicon. Idioms and NLP applications are also discussed. Prerequisites: LIN 5018 and one structure course (e.g. LIN 5501, SPN 5705, or FRE 5855).

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 6085 Research Methods in Experimental Linguistics (3). Focus: conducting experimental linguistic research and the range of methods used; formulating a research question, designing a study, collecting pilot data, and carrying out analyses on results. Prerequisites: LIN 3010, LIN 3013, or LIN 5018 or the equivalent.

LIN 6165 Field Methods (3). Elicitation, recording and analysis of linguistic data in field research. Prerequisite: LIN 5018.

LIN 6226 Phonetics II (3). Acoustic and auditory phonetics. Cross-language speech perception. Feature systems and place of articulation. Stress and rhythm. Experimental phonetics. Prerequisite: LIN 5206.

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 6336 Phonology II (3). Optimality in phonological theory. Syllable structure and prosody. Licensing and underspecification in OT. Phonological acquisition and disorders in OT. Can OT account for phonological opacity? Prerequisite: LIN 6323.

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). Study of recent developments in syntactic theory within generative grammar. This course builds on Syntax I and provides discussion of major issues in prominent literature in linguistic theory. 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 6773 Introduction to Computational Linguistics (3). Introduction to basic programming using the R programming language and regular expressions.

LIN 6796 Neurolinguistics (3). Exploration of the neural basis for the production and acquisition of language, including multilingual populations.

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. (F)

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 and permission of the instructor.

LIN 6910 Research Project for Publication I (3). Students carry out a comprehensive research project for publishable standard. For Linguistics MA and PhD students, for the second year Research Paper for Publication. May be repeated. Prerequisite: LIN 6085.

LIN 6911 Doctoral Research Project for Publication (3). Students conduct an in-depth research project as one of the qualifying steps completed in the third year of PhD studies to proceed to the dissertation project for the PhD. May be repeated. Prerequisites: LIN 6085; LIN 6910.

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.

MHF 5345 Mathematical Logic for Linguistics (3). Formal logical systems and applications. Propositional and predicate calculus, proof systems, completeness and incompleteness theorems, recursion. Chomsky hierarchy, formal grammars. Does not fulfill requirements for Mathematics Degree. Prerequisites: MAD 3512 or permission of the instructor.