LINGUISTICS (LING)

LING 1: The Study of Language
3 Credits

In this course, we survey essential topics in the study of language with a view toward providing an overview of the approaches, methods, and goals of linguistics. We examine fundamental questions like what are the origins of human language? How does language work? How do human languages differ and how are they alike? How do children learn languages? Why does language change? What is the link between language and culture? Why do people have such strong opinions about others’ language use? What is the impact of language loss in human society? We will address these questions and others through readings, problems and discussion. The goal of this course is to provide evidence and analytical methods by which students can critically evaluate their own and other people’s views of language. The course also focuses on helping students gain proficiency in the general skill of how to use data (in this case, qualitative language data), to make a well-supported scientific argument.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS)
GenEd Learning Objective: Critical and Analytical Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

LING 97: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 98: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 100: Foundations of Linguistics
3 Credits

The course consists of a general survey of language and linguistics. A number of topics relating to human knowledge and use of language are systematically and scientifically investigated. The focus of the course is not on any specific language or languages; rather, it is on properties common to all languages and on ways in which languages may differ. The focus is on examination of speakers’ knowledge of language and the idea of language as a system of human communication; the course provides students with the tools needed for the recording, investigation, and close analysis of language. Areas of study include phonetics and phonology (the details of sound analysis), morphology (word structure), syntax (sentence structure), and semantics and pragmatics (the deep investigation of meaning). Another part of the course teaches the students about aspects of language in society through topics such as sociolinguistics and/or historical linguistics. This aspect of the course is crucial to students’ understanding of how language and culture reflect and affect each other. The course uses examples from English and from non-English languages and cultures in order to investigate these topics, though no previous knowledge of any language other than English is presumed. A knowledge of basic linguistics is, however, generally very helpful in the learning of foreign languages.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)
United States Cultures (US)
General Education: Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS)
GenEd Learning Objective: Critical and Analytical Thinking
GenEd Learning Objective: Key Literacies

LING 197: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 199: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 294: Research Project
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 297: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 299: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 395: Internship
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Supervised off-campus, nongroup instruction including field experiences, practica, or internships. Written and oral critique of activity required.

Prerequisite: prior approval of proposed assignment by instructor
morality, syntax and semantics, as the course teaches students how to use methodologies within those subfields to investigate historical phenomena. The course will also investigate how linguistic analysis can be used to inform the study of human history. Topics include how languages change and evolve over time; language families, language change due to language contact, and the connection between language, history and archaeology. Students will thus also learn what language can teach us about the history of people groups around the world.

**Prerequisite:** LING 100

**Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences**

LING 405: Introduction to Historical Linguistics

3 Credits

Introduction to Historical Linguistics is designed to teach the theories, methods, and data linguists used to study ancient and modern languages and language families, and the connections that can be traced through language between seemingly diverse peoples and cultures. This course will teach the methodologies used by historical linguists to seek to understand language change, and to reconstruct ancient language forms. These methodologies require students to already have a basic understanding of linguistics, in particular phonetics, phonology,
LING 446: L1 Acquisition

3 Credits

How children learn their first language; psycholinguistic aspects of lexical, syntactic, semantic, and phonological development. LING 446 (PSYCH 427) L1 Acquisition (3) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course focuses on how children learn their first language from the theoretical perspectives of imitation theories, social construction theories, and innateness theories. In addition, the course covers the various stages of language acquisition including phonological (sound system), morphological (word meaning), syntactical (grammar) and semantic (meaning) development from birth to adulthood. Other related subfields covered in the course include the acquisition of Pidgin and Creole languages, bilingual and multilingual acquisition, and language acquisition and linguistic change.

Prerequisite: LING 100 or PSYCH 100
Cross-listed with: PSYCH 427
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 447: Bilingualism

3 Credits

Explores the social and psychological aspects of bilingualism; topics include languages in contact, transference, maintenance, and loss. LING 447 Bilingualism (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course presents a panoramic view of the major questions, research methods and results in bilingualism research. We will cover the following topics, in addition to those topics that emerge from students’ research: bilingualism in society; political and social results of language contact; effects of social attitudes on bilinguals; how bilingualism affect language: transfer, code-switch, language contact and language change; the bilingual brain, psycholinguistic effects of having two grammars in sentence production, phonological perception and lexical storage; childhood bilingualism; developmental and educational consequences of bilingualism.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 448: Sociolinguistics

3 Credits

Issues in the study of language in its sociocultural context; analysis of social dialects and speech styles. LING 448 Sociolinguistics (3) (BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course investigates sociolinguistics variation and linguistic change. We will be concerned with identifying the mechanisms by which changes come about and are transmitted within a linguistic system. The course contrasts traditional studies of change and variation which concentrate on linguistic internal factors to those that are based on sociolinguistic factors. Research from a wide variety of languages and cultures will be examined.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 449: Semantics I

3 Credits

The study of meaning in human language; methods of analysis; study of sense, reference, compositionality, quantification, presupposition, and sentence-level meaning. LING 449 Semantics I (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. This course examines our best understanding of how humans produce and understand utterances to have particular meanings. This course examines lexical semantics, which is concerned with word meaning, phrasal semantics, which examines phrase meanings and with pragmatics, the study of meaning in contexts. Because meanings cannot always be built up or deduced from the combined meaning of smaller elements, students will attempt to divulge the semantic principles at work in human language through a wide variety of problems and activities.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 457: Psychology of Language

3 Credits

Overview of psychological research and theory on language processes, including speech perception, word recognition, meaning representation, comprehension, and language acquisition. LING (PSYCH) 457 Psychology of Language (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. How do we process language? Why do we easily adjust to a speaker with a foreign accent? How do young children come to speak the language to which they are exposed? Why is it difficult to learn a second language as an adult? This course focuses on the cognitive processes engaged by language use. Topics to be covered include speech perception, word recognition, representation of word meaning, comprehension of sentences, spoken production of words and sentences, and first and second language acquisition. In addition, the role of language in the study of thought and the role of biological mechanisms in theories of language learning will be discussed, as well as ways in which research on the language of special populations (e.g., deaf signers, dyslexics, aphasics) can inform theories of language processing and representation.

Prerequisite: PSYCH100 or LING 100
Cross-listed with: PSYCH 457
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 493: Field Methods

3 Credits

Primary linguistic investigation of a language different from English; field work with a native speaker; data gathering; linguistic analysis. LING 493 Field Methods (3)(BA) This course meets the Bachelor of Arts degree requirements. In this course, students work directly (in groups) with a native speaker of a foreign language with which no one in the class has any prior familiarity. The students will work to uncover the set of sounds relevant to the language in question by winnowing down possible sound contrasts made in human languages. They will begin to construct a lexicon (vocabulary) built with a phonetic alphabet to discover how words are formed in the language. They will refine their techniques of questioning their research participant based on principles of linguistic field work. Finally, groups will present their findings for discussion and revision.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 494: Research Project

1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12

Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.

Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
LING 494H: Research Project
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Supervised student activities on research projects identified on an individual or small-group basis.
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences Honors

LING 496: Independent Studies
1-18 Credits/Maximum of 18
Creative projects, including research and design, which are supervised on an individual basis and which fall outside the scope of formal courses.
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 497: Special Topics
1-9 Credits/Maximum of 9
Formal courses given infrequently to explore, in depth, a comparatively narrow subject which may be taught in one year or semester.
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences

LING 499: Foreign Studies
1-12 Credits/Maximum of 12
Courses offered in foreign countries by individual or group instruction.
Bachelor of Arts: Social and Behavioral Sciences
International Cultures (IL)