LINGUISTICS, PhD

Banner Code: LA-PHD-LING

Academic Advising
4200 Horizon Hall
Fairfax Campus

Email: english@gmu.edu
Website: english.gmu.edu/programs/la-phd-ling

The PhD in Linguistics trains students in the science of language. Students become specialists in the core areas of linguistics—phonology, syntax, and semantics—and learn to integrate this core with the study of second language acquisition. The program prepares students for positions in academia, industry, government, and a host of organizations concerned with language and second language acquisition. Graduates may become research and teaching professors, administrators of language-learning programs, and consultants in computational linguistic research.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions

Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions (http://catalog.gmu.edu/admissions/graduate-policies/).

For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (http://linguistics.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-PHD-LING/).

Policies

For policies governing all graduate degrees, see Graduate Policies (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/).

Reduction of Credit

For students entering the doctoral program with a master's degree, the number of required credits may be reduced by a maximum of 30 credits, subject to approval of the program faculty and the dean. Requests for reduction of credit are reviewed only after acceptance to the doctoral program.

Requirements

Degree Requirements

Total credits: 72

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Core Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LING 690</td>
<td>Phonology I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LING 692</td>
<td>Phonology II</td>
<td>3</td>
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LING 890 Advanced Phonology Seminar 3

Syntax

LING 786 Syntax I 3
LING 787 Syntax II 3
LING 886 Advanced Syntax Seminar 3

Semantics/Pragmatics

LING 785 Semantics and Pragmatics 3
LING 788 Semantics and Pragmatics II 3

Language Acquisition

Select two courses from the following: 6
LING 582 Second Language Acquisition
LING 782 Second Language Acquisition II
LING 882 Seminar in Language Acquisition

Research Methodology

LING 770 Research Methods 3

Qualifying Papers

LING 898 Advanced Qualifying Seminar (Students register for this course twice) 6

Total Credits 39

Two Seminars

Code | Title                         | Credits |
---|-------------------------------|---------|
Select 6 credits from the following: 6
LING 882 Seminar in Language Acquisition
LING 886 Advanced Syntax Seminar
LING 890 Advanced Phonology Seminar

Total Credits 6

1 Students take two seminar courses in two chosen fields. Seminar topics change every time they are offered. They may be repeated for credit.

Electives

Code | Title                                                  | Credits |
---|--------------------------------------------------------|---------|
Select five electives from the following: 15
LING 507 Field Work in Applied Linguistics
LING 521 Applied Linguistics: Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
LING 522 English Grammar and Pedagogy
LING 523 English Pronunciation and Pedagogy
LING 525 Practicum in ESL
LING 534 Historical Studies of the English Language
LING 580 First Language Acquisition
LING 581 Psycholinguistics
LING 650 Introduction to Sociolinguistics
LING 798 Directed Reading and Research
FREN 575 Grammatical Analysis
FRLN 565 Theory of Translation
SOCI 636 Statistical Reasoning
SPAN 500 History of the Spanish Language
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPAN 501</td>
<td>Applied Spanish Grammar</td>
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<tr>
<td>SPAN 502</td>
<td>Hispanic Sociolinguistics</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>PSYC 615</td>
<td>Language Development</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CS 580</td>
<td>Introduction to Artificial Intelligence</td>
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<td>CSI 600</td>
<td>Quantitative Foundations for Computational Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>CSS 600</td>
<td>Introduction to Computational Social Science</td>
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<td>NEUR 604</td>
<td>Ethics in Scientific Research</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>EDCI 516</td>
<td>Bilingualism and Language Acquisition Research</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDCI 569</td>
<td>Teaching English in the Secondary School</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Credits</td>
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<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
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**Program Outcomes**

- Understand the core concepts of phonology, syntax, and semantics, which are the fundamental theoretical areas of linguistics.
- Develop a thorough knowledge in a subfield of linguistics. This can be in the theoretical areas, such as phonology, syntax, semantics, or can be in an area such as areal linguistics, speech pathology, or computational linguistics. Because our program concentrates upon the acquisition of language, many students focus on some issue within the domain of first or second language acquisition.
- Show proficiency in research methodology. Performance in the program demonstrates the ability to adequately formulate a suitable and original research topic and show a continued trajectory toward elaboration and solution.
- Write and verbally present in an organized academic style, appropriate for the field of linguistics. Data is to be presented in a clear and conventional manner, and the argument should be built in a logical fashion.
- Effectively analyze linguistic data and information to arrive at informed conclusions.