LINGUISTICS, PHD

Banner Code: LA-PHD-LING

Academic Advising

4200 Horizon Hall
Fairfax Campus

Email: english@gmu.edu
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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

Code	Title	Credits
Phonology		
LING 690	Phonology I	3
LING 692	Phonology II	3
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		**6**
LING 898	Advanced Qualifying Seminar (Students register for this course twice)	
Total Credits		39

Two Seminars

Code	Title	Credits
Select 6 credits from the following: [1]		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	

SPAN 501	Applied Spanish Grammar	
SPAN 502	Hispanic Sociolinguistics	
PSYC 615	Language Development	
CS 580	Introduction to Artificial Intelligence	
CSI 600	Quantitative Foundations for Computational Sciences	
CSS 600	Introduction to Computational Social Science	
NEUR 604	Ethics in Scientific Research	
EDCI 516	Bilingualism and Language Acquisition Research	
EDCI 569		
Total Credits		15

Advancement to Candidacy

To advance to candidacy, students must complete all coursework required on their approved program of study. Students must also successfully pass a written qualifying exam and an oral qualifying exam. In addition, students must have a dissertation committee appointed by the Dean's Office as well as an approved proposal. Evidence of the approved proposal must be on file in the Dean's Office before a student can advance to candidacy.

Dissertation

Once enrolled in LING 999 Doctoral Dissertation, students must follow the university's continuous registration policy as specified in AP.6.10.6 Dissertation Research (http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-10-6). Students who defend in the summer must be registered for at least 1 credit of LING 999 Doctoral Dissertation.

Students apply to this degree a minimum of 12 dissertation credits (LING 998 Doctoral Dissertation Proposal and LING 999 Doctoral Dissertation combined) with at least 3 credits of LING 999 Doctoral Dissertation. Because of the continuous registration policy, students may be required to register for additional credits of these courses.

Code	Title	Credits
Dissertation Research		12
LING 998	Doctoral Dissertation Proposal	
LING 999	Doctoral Dissertation	
Total Credits		12

Program Outcomes

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.