

# LINGUISTIC STUDIES

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wp.stolaf.edu/linguistics (<http://wp.stolaf.edu/linguistics>)

Because language is so fundamental to everything that we do, an understanding of linguistics is part of a well-rounded liberal arts education. In addition, the study of linguistics prepares students for careers and advanced work in fields such as anthropology, business, communications, computer science, education, English as a second language (ESL), foreign languages, journalism, neuroscience, speech and hearing sciences, philosophy, psychology, and other fields requiring analytical, communication, and research skills. Studying linguistics enhances your understanding of how language is organized and how it functions. The linguistic studies program offers a concentration that encompasses a wide variety of disciplines and perspectives on language. With a concentration in linguistic studies, you have the opportunity to explore the interdisciplinary nature of the study of language and linguistics as well as interact with and learn from others with similar interests.

## Overview of the Concentration

Linguistic studies encompasses all areas related to the scientific study of the nature, structure, and function of language. Linguistic studies treats language both as a fundamental human faculty and as a changing social institution. The field of linguistics includes the relationship between language and logic, the underlying structures of the brain, social implications of language, language acquisition (including bilingualism and second-language acquisition), psychology of language, philosophy of language, dialects and dialectology, language and literature, the history and development of specific language families, human-machine interaction, artificial intelligence, and global communication and understanding.

## Intended Learning Outcomes for the Concentration (<http://wp.stolaf.edu/curriculum-committee/linguistic-studies-concentration-ilos>)

## Special Programs

In addition to taking courses, students can gain experience in the field and pursue special areas of interest in several ways. Full-time internships may be arranged during Interim. Internship possibilities include working in bilingual education, language immersion, or ESL programs in schools; assisting in language research laboratories; and exploring the world of publishing. Internships are valuable for confirming one's academic interest in linguistic studies, learning new skills, and gaining paraprofessional field experience.

Independent study and research projects, usually completed during the junior or senior year, allow students to explore topics in greater depth than is possible in a regular course. In recent years, topics have included the study of American sign language, Spanish language immersion programs at the elementary school level, and the translation of psychological tests.

Students may also pursue their study of linguistics through off-campus coursework in conjunction with St. Olaf's off-campus and international

studies programs in locations as diverse as England, France, Germany, Norway, the People's Republic of China, Russia, Scotland, Spain, and Tanzania.

## Requirements

The linguistic studies concentration consists of a minimum of five courses:

LNGST 250	English Language and Linguistics	1.00
Three approved departmental offerings at any level (with the requirement that students take no more than two of these three courses within the same department)		3.00
One approved level III seminar or approved advanced study experience		1.00
Total Credits		5

Students wishing to receive credit toward the concentration through independent study, independent research, or internships should consult with the director of linguistic studies

## Courses

### Required Course

#### LNGST 250: English Language and Linguistics

Students learn about and analyze the English language, beginning with the building blocks of language: morphology, syntax, semantics, and phonetics/phonology. Students also explore the ways humans acquire language, social and geographical influences on English, and major changes during the history of the English language. The course serves as an introduction to the linguistics concentration, and fulfills the linguistics requirement of the Communication Arts and Literature license.

**Prerequisite:** FYW.

### Other Approved Courses

ASIAN 126 Language in Japanese Society

ASIAN 200 Topics in Asian Studies (only when topic is Introduction to East Asian Language Teaching and Learning)

ASIAN 240 Talking in Japan and the U.S.: Language, Identity, and Beyond

ASIAN 282 Second Language Acquisition and Pedagogy in an Asian Context

ASIAN 300 Topics in Asian Studies (only when topic is East Asian Languages and Linguistics)

CSCI 121 Principles of Computer Science or CSCI 125 Computer Science for Scientists and Mathematicians or CSCI 251 Software Design and Implementation (at most, one of these)

CSCI 276 Programming Languages

CSCI 333 Theory of Computation

EDUC 245 Teaching and Learning English Grammar (0.50)

EDUC 246 English Language Learners: Issues in Education

EDUC 321 Teaching of Reading, 5-12 (0.50)

EDUC 345 Teaching of Communication Arts/Literature, 5-12

EDUC 347 Teaching ESL, K-12

EDUC 348 Assessment of ESL, K-12

EDUC 353 Teaching of World Languages, K-12

FREN 272 Contemporary France

FREN 372 Topics in Francophone Studies (only when topic is Translation: An Art or Science?)

GREEK 231 Intermediate Greek

GREEK 253 New Testament Greek

GREEK 375 Homer and Greek Epic

LATIN 231 Intermediate Latin

LATIN 235 Medieval Latin

LNGST 396 Directed Undergraduate Research

NORW 244 The Sámi: Traditions in Transition

PHIL 240 Formal Logic

PSYCH 222 Psychology of Hearing

PSYCH 237 Cognitive Psychology

PSYCH 339 Cognitive Neuroscience

PSYCH 396 Directed Undergraduate Research (when topic is Research in Auditory Cognition)

SOAN 234 Native North American Cultures and Religions

SOAN 242 Contemporary Native American Issues

SPAN 270 Spain's Cultural and Linguistic Legacy (abroad) (when taught by Maggie Broner)

SPAN 274 Contemporary Issues in the Spanish-Speaking World (when taught by Maggie Broner)

SPAN 276 Spanish as a First and Second Language

SPAN 311 Language in Society

THEAT 200 Training the Speaking Voice

Other courses may be approved in consultation with the director of linguistic studies.

## Faculty

**Director, 2016-2017**

**Jeremy L. Loebach**

Assistant Professor of Psychology  
cognitive neuroscience; speech and hearing sciences; psycholinguistics

**Wendy W. Allen**

Professor of Romance Languages - French

contemporary France; the Maghreb; second language acquisition; intercultural education

**Maggie A. Broner**

Associate Professor of Romance Languages - Spanish  
Hispanic linguistics; culture; second language acquisition

**Richard A. Brown** (on leave spring)

Professor of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
computer science; parallel/distributed systems

**Christopher M. Brunelle**

Assistant Professor of Classics  
Latin poetry; classical languages and literature

**Heather Campbell**

Associate Professor of Education  
ESL; reading; special education; Director of Assessment

**Kris A. Cropsey**

Instructor in Romance Languages - Spanish  
Hispanic linguistics; sociolinguistics; second language acquisition; teacher education

**Kari Lie Dorer**

Associate Professor of Norwegian  
Norwegian language and culture; applied linguistics; Sami studies; Nordic film.

**Dana L. Gross**

Professor of Psychology, Associate Dean of Interdisciplinary and General Studies  
developmental psychology; off-campus study

**Anne H. Groton**

Professor of Classics  
Greek and Roman drama; classical languages and literature

**Rika Ito**

Associate Professor of Asian Studies  
language change and variation; sociolinguistics; language and gender; Japanese

**Elizabeth A. Leer**

Associate Professor of Education  
English education; reading; curriculum and instruction

**Julie M. Legler**

Professor of Mathematics, Statistics, and Computer Science  
biostatistics

**Karen E.S. Marsalek**

Associate Professor of English  
medieval and early modern literature, especially drama; history of the English language

**James M. May**

Professor of Classics  
Greek and Roman rhetoric; classical languages and literature; Latin education

**Steve T. Reece**

Professor of Classics  
Greek and Roman epic; classical languages and literature

**Marc Robinson**

Professor of Russian Language and Area Studies  
Russian language; Russian film and literature; Russian theater

**Gregory A. Walter**

Associate Professor of Religion  
theology

**Lisa A. Whitlatch**

Visiting Assistant Professor of Classics  
ancient animals; classical languages and literature

**Karen Wilson**

Professor of Theater  
theater; ethics and theater; directing; voice/phonetics

**Ka F. Wong**

Associate Professor of Asian Studies  
language pedagogy; cultural studies; Asian American studies; visual culture

**Ying Zhou**

Assistant Professor of Asian Studies  
second language acquisition and language pedagogy