

For Students in LING Courses

**Upcoming Linguistics Courses  
& Major and Minor(s)**

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Florian Schwarz

# Linguistics

- Humans beings have **unique linguistic capacities**, very different from animal communication
- Studying human language provides key insights into human nature
- LING 001 introduces you to key areas
- Further linguistics courses dive deeper
- Common thread:
  - hone analytical skills while studying fundamental aspects of what makes humans what they are
  - Interface between humanities and natural and social sciences

# Ling 104

- Language and The Brain
  - introduction to the brain basis of language
  - combines concepts from linguistics, psychology, cognitive science, and neuroscience
  - includes perspectives on
    - brain areas involved in language processing & acquisition
    - relation to other cognitive functions
    - language related brain impairments
- No background necessary!

# Ling 105

- Intro to Cognitive Science
- Interdisciplinary introduction to formal and empirical approaches to studying the mind
- bridges computer science, linguistics, neuroscience, philosophy, and psychology
- Fulfills **Formal Reasoning requirement**

# LING 115

- Writing Systems (generally offered every fall)
  - Looks at different systems of encoding language in written form
  - Cultural influences on writing systems
  - Decipherment
  - Spoken vs. Written Language
  - Linguistic Structure and Writing Systems
  - Social dimension & acquisition of writing
- **Counts for Sector II: History & Tradition**

# LING 150

- Introduction to Sentence Structure (New!)
  - Introduce basic concepts of sentence structures
  - Looks at different realizations across languages: English, Spanish, Latin, Biblical Hebrew, Mandarin, Navajo (plus students' languages as possible)
  - Improve writing skills and ability to learn foreign languages by making structures accessible

# LING 175

- Language, Cognition, and Culture (New!)
  - How does language relate to other cognitive systems?
  - Relation between language and thought
  - Relation between words and concepts
  - Language Acquisition and Conceptual Development
  - Cross-linguistic and cross-cultural perspectives

# LING 217

- Origins and Evolution of Language
  - Where does language come from?
  - Language vs. other communication systems
  - Language as a window onto what it means to be human



# LING 220

- Introduction to Speech Analysis
  - Experimental investigations of speech sounds
  - production & perception
  - speech analysis tools & techniques
  - basics of phonetics
  - Includes lab sessions
- Fulfills **Quantitative Data Analysis requirement**

# LING 250

- Introduction to Syntax  
(generally offered every fall)
  - Study syntactic structures in detail
  - Phrase structure
  - Movement
  - Binding
  - Cross-linguistic explorations
- **Required for Linguistics Major**

# LING 270

- Language Acquisition  
(generally offered every fall)
  - How do children learn a grammar from what they hear?
  - How does language acquisition relate to general cognitive and perceptual development?
  - Lots of overlap with questions in psychology

# LING 295

- Thinking with Models
  - Modeling as a perspective on understanding real-world phenomena
  - Focus on computational modeling
  - Learn how to program agent-based models in NetLogo

# More Advanced Courses

- LING 304: Neurolinguistics
- LING 310: History of the English Language
- LING 380: Semantics I
- LING 411: Old English
- LING 495 Games and Signals

# Planned for Spring 2021 (TBC)

- Ling 102\* Sociolinguistics (Sector I; Quantitative Data Analysis)
- LING 106\* Formal Linguistics (Formal Reasoning)
- LING 110 The History of Words
- LING 170 Experimental Approaches in Language
- LING 210\* Intro to Language Change
- LING 230\* Sound Structure of Language (Ling Major req.)
- LING 302 Linguistic Field Methods
- LING 404 Morphology I
- LING 455 Experiments in the Study of Meaning
- LING 496 Agents and Evolution

# LING 102

- Introduction to Sociolinguistics  
(generally offered every spring)
  - How do social context and social identity shape language use?
  - How does sociolinguistic variation accumulate into language change over time?
  - Regional dialects, linguistic discrimination, style-shifting and code-switching
  - **Counts for Sector I:** Society AND fulfills **Quantitative Data Analysis** requirement

**Required for LING Major**

# Why Major in Linguistics?

- <http://www.linguisticsociety.org/content/why-major-linguistics>
- Analytical reasoning skills
- Interdisciplinary outlook (social, psychological, mathematical, computational,...)
- Key language skills sought after in many industries:

IT, Law, Medicine, Branding, educational testing,...



# The Linguistics Major

- Requirements
  - 4 credits required courses
  - 6 linguistics credits
  - 4 related credits

# The Linguistics Major

- Required Courses: (4 credits)
- LING 102 -- Introduction to Sociolinguistics
- LING 230 -- Sound Structure of Language
- LING 250 -- Introduction to Syntax
- LING 300 -- Tutorial in Linguistics

# The Linguistics Major

- Elective Linguistics Courses: (6 credits)
- Six credits in linguistics must include at least three credits at the 200-level or higher: Linguistics Course Register.
- More details at

<http://www.ling.upenn.edu/undergraduate/major-linguistics-class-2019/undergraduate-major-linguistics-class-2019>

# The Linguistics Major

- Popular Double-Major Combinations
  - Cognitive Science
  - Psychology
  - Computer Science
  - Philosophy

# The Linguistics Major

- Form for Major/minor declarations:

To **declare a Linguistics major or minor**, fill out **this form**:

<https://forms.gle/TgkG99LZcVu8dRsg9>

(students outside of SAS should email the undergraduate chair, as the form is restricted to SAS accounts).

# The Linguistics Minor

- Requirements:
- 6 courses in linguistics
- Can double-count towards other majors and college requirements
- Details at

<http://www.ling.upenn.edu/undergraduate/minor-linguistics>

# The ASL Minor

- Learn about language in another modality
- Both theoretical and language learning
- Details at

<http://www.ling.upenn.edu/undergraduate/minor-asl>

# Linguistics Advising

- Undergraduate chair: Florian Schwarz
- Office hours:  
Mondays 4-5 & Tuesdays 2:30-3:30  
(or by appointment)

Zoom: <https://sasupenn.zoom.us/j/178622529>

- Contact: [ugrad-chair@ling.upenn.edu](mailto:ugrad-chair@ling.upenn.edu)