Linguistics Major

Students must also complete the Undergraduate Registration Requirement (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/requirements-policies/undergraduate-registration-requirement) and the degree requirements of their home school.

Course Title
Department Courses (12 units)

3 introductory courses:
- LING 250-0 Sound Patterns in Human Language
- LING 260-0 Formal Analysis of Words & Sentences
- LING 270-0 Meaning

9 courses beyond the 200 level: 1,2
Should include these three: 3
- LING 350-0 Fundamentals of Laboratory Phonology
- LING 360-0 Fundamentals of Syntax
- LING 370-0 Fundamentals of Meaning

Related Courses (4 units)
Selected with the linguistics director of undergraduate studies. 4

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1 Only 1 of the 9 may be LING 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar in Linguistics or LING 399-0 Independent Study.
2 Certain exceptions or substitutions, such as COG_SCI 210-0 Language and the Brain, may be granted with the consent of the director of undergraduate studies.
3 A methods course such as LING 330-0 Research Methods in Linguistics or LING 334-0 Introduction to Computational Linguistics may be substituted for 1 of these courses.
4 For pre-approved related courses, see the list on the department webpage (https://www.linguistics.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/courses/related-courses.html).

Adjunct major in MMSS

Linguistics majors pursuing an adjunct major in Mathematical Methods in the Social Sciences (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/mathematical-methods-social-sciences) (MMSS) may double-count the following MMSS courses towards linguistics major requirements (for triple major limitations see MMSS Adjunct Major (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/mathematical-methods-social-sciences/mmss-adjunct-major)):

- MMSS 311-1 and MMSS 311-2 may be counted as elective 300-level Linguistics courses.
- MMSS 211-1, MMSS 211-2 and MMSS 211-3 may be counted towards the Linguistics Related Courses requirement.

Honors in Linguistics

In the spring or summer before senior year, eligible students majoring in linguistics are invited to participate in the honors program, under the supervision of a faculty advisor. Criteria for participation in the honors program include completion of prerequisite and core coursework and sufficiently high grades in the major and overall. Students then undertake the research and writing of a thesis in conjunction with 2 additional linguistics courses beyond those required for the major. These courses may be selected from LING 398-0 Undergraduate Seminar in Linguistics, LING 399-0 Independent Study, and 400-level courses.

Students participating in the honors program must meet with the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Linguistics to approve their work plan no later than the first week of Fall Quarter in their senior year. The honors thesis must be submitted to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Linguistics no later than April 30 of the student’s senior year.

Students whose theses and grades meet program criteria are recommended to the college for graduation with honors. For more information see the director of undergraduate studies and the catalog entry for Honors in the Major (https://catalogs.northwestern.edu/undergraduate/arts-sciences/#academicoptionstext).