Linguistics Department Profile

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The Department of Linguistics offers the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy in both linguistics and Hispanic linguistics, with areas of concentration in applied linguistics and sociolinguistics. Our MA program has been recognized as one of the best in the country, especially for students interested in teaching English as a second language. Two recent MA graduates have been accepted in the prestigious US State Department English Language Teaching Fellows program.

PROGRAMS OFFERED:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Major Field of Study</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Avg. Fall Student Applicants</th>
<th>Avg. New Students Enrolled</th>
<th>Average Yearly # of Degrees</th>
<th>Yearly Average Enrolled</th>
<th>Average Percentage of Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics</td>
<td>MA/Ph.D.</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>60+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Recent Ph.D.'s Placements:
Assistant Professor, National University of Singapore
Assistant Professor, Ball State University, Indiana
Assistant Professor, Dennison University, Ohio
Assistant Professor, Goucher College/Johns Hopkins University, Maryland
Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Montana (Hispanic Linguistics)
Lecturer, Stanford University, California
Lecturer, Hong Kong Institute of Education
Lecturer, University of Kansas
Research Associate, Center for the Advanced Study of Language, University of Maryland
Data Specialist, Amazon.com, Boston
Electronic Publications Associate, Office of Scholarly Communication and Publishing, University of Pittsburgh

Admissions Requirements:
MA – Well qualified students who hold a baccalaureate degree or its foreign equivalent. A minimum grade point average of B is the academic requirement for admission to full graduate status. An undergraduate degree in linguistics is not required, but some preparation in the structure of language is an advantage. Excellent spoken and written communication skills are expected.
Ph.D. – We only accept Ph.D. students with specialization in areas in which the core faculty members have expertise. The major substantive criteria for admission are evidence of excellent preparation and/or potential in linguistics, specific goals for research with a member of the Department’s graduate faculty, and excellent spoken and written communication skills. GRE scores must be submitted as well as a sample of the applicant’s best written work either in linguistics or a closely related field (e.g., anthropology or psychology) in support of their application.

**Admission Deadline:** December 15th

**Average GPA of Entering Students in AY 2015:** 3.5

**Average GRE's of Entering Students in AY2015:**
- Verbal: 154
- Quantitative: 151
- Analytical: 3.7

**Is the GRE Subject Test Required?**  
[ ] No  [X ] Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Can Students Earn a Degree Exclusively Through:</th>
<th>Percentage of Students fully FUNDED BY DEPARTMENT (e.g., Assistantships, Fellowships):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part-Time Study? [ ] Yes [ X ] No</td>
<td>[ ] 100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening/Weekend Study? [ ] Yes [ X ] No</td>
<td>[ ] Less than 50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ X ] 50-99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>[ ] None</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many years of support guaranteed from department: **2.0 years (MA), 5 years for Ph.D.**

Are Departmental Awards Available to Master’s Degree Students?  
[ X ] Yes [ ] No

**Special Program Highlights:**

The graduate program in **Applied Linguistics** is particularly strong at the MA level with TESOL and with second language acquisition at the PhD level. Theoretical insights into instructed SLA are particularly emphasized.

In **Sociolinguistics**, faculty members have particular expertise in language and gender, discourse, and identity and dialect.

The graduate program in **Hispanic Linguistics**, which is housed within the Department of Linguistics, is designed for students who want to combine solid training in applied linguistics, second language acquisition, or sociolinguistics with the advanced study of Spanish. The MA or PhD degree with a specialization in Hispanic Linguistics allows students to be well prepared for the job market by giving them the necessary education and experience to join Spanish departments or general linguistic departments.
Current Research Interests of Department's Faculty:

Theoretical linguistics:
Acoustic phonetics, phonology, morphology and syntax

Second Language Acquisition:
Acquisition of Spanish and English as second/foreign languages, second language acquisition of the lexicon, second language processing, tense and aspect, linguistic development in intensive English language programs

Sociolinguistics:
Variation, Discourse, Gender, Place, Pittsburgh, AAVE, Sociophonetics

Hispanic Linguistics
Second language phonology (especially suprasegmental phonology), second language variation in morpho-syntax, second language acquisition of Spanish

Language Contact:
Phonology, Intonation, Pidgins and Creoles

Language specializations:
Arabic
English
(Caribbean) Creoles
Japanese
Fijian and other languages of Oceania
Korean
Mandarin Chinese
Signed Languages
Spanish