

LINGUISTICS, MINOR

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Career Paths

Courses in linguistics provide students the opportunity to practice and hone skills such as analytical reasoning, critical thinking, formulating hypotheses and argumentation, so linguistics students can easily pursue a variety of different career paths. The skills gained by our students provide good preparation for careers in information science and technology, education (especially language teaching), speech pathology, or audiology. Linguistics also provides good preparation for legal studies, law enforcement and related careers, as well as fields requiring precise use of language, such as advertising, publishing, or journalism. Students interested in international business or global studies would also benefit from studying linguistics.

Careers

Information Science and Technology: Linguistics training can provide tools to be applied in areas of speech recognition, text-to-speech synthesis, artificial intelligence, natural language processing, computer-mediated language learning, and other technological domains.

Language Teaching: Students who study linguistics are uniquely positioned to understand language structures, particularly grammar and pronunciation. These skills transfer very well into the language classroom, whether teaching English as a Foreign Language, or helping English speakers learn another language. Other career paths would include those in the fields of advertising and publishing, law enforcement and intelligence, legal and forensic consultation, speech pathology, speech and hearing science, government services and NGO work.

Opportunities for Graduate Studies

A linguistics minor or major is useful to students wanting to pursue the following types of graduate studies: M.A. or Ph.D. in Linguistics M.A. or Ph.D. in a particular language, or language education M.A. (or Ph.D.) in communication sciences and disorders (speech pathology, audiology, etc.) M.A. or Ph.D. in Computer Science Law School (JD) At Penn State, the Linguistics program offers a Dual-Title Doctoral Degree in Language Science to graduate students enrolled in the doctoral programs in Communication Sciences and Disorders, German, Psychology, or Spanish. Dual-title degree students receive interdisciplinary training in the theoretical and methodological approaches of several disciplines (i.e., linguistics, psychology, speech-language pathology, and cognitive neuroscience).

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES
(<https://linguistics.la.psu.edu/graduate/>)