

L I N G U I S T I C S

PREPARATION FOR THE MAJOR

High School Preparation

Recommended as part of or in addition to UC's "a-g" admission requirements:

- English composition and literature
- Two or more years of foreign language
- Social science courses.

Transfer Preparation

To make normal progress in the major, complete the following courses prior to transfer:

- Introduction to linguistics
- Two years of one foreign language
- One year of a second foreign language

Please see the UCSB *General Catalog* (www.catalog.ucsb.edu) or your school counselor for more information on course preparation. California community college students should see www.assist.org.

Language permeates human thought, behavior, and interaction. Our ability to communicate through spoken and written language, more than any other attribute, distinguishes us as human beings. Linguistics is the study of the uniquely human tool of language.

The field of linguistics includes several specialties:

- Theoretical and descriptive linguistics uncover the universal principles of language, those which govern the structure of sounds, words, phrases, sentences, and discourse. They also explore how these principles are expressed in particular languages and how they change over time.
- Sociolinguistics and anthropological linguistics study the relation between language and culture, and society.
- Psycholinguistics explores language as cognitive behavior, including children's acquisition of language and language production and comprehension.

Linguists also relate the study of language to subject areas such as biology, sociology, philosophy, literature, and education, especially with respect to language teaching.

Two Linguistics Majors

UCSB's Department of Linguistics offers the Bachelor of Arts (BA) in Linguistics and a new major: a Bachelor of Arts in Language, Culture and Society which focuses on language in its social setting.

All students majoring in Linguistics take core courses in phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax and language change. They also choose an additional course in semantics, discourse or language acquisition, and enroll in four electives. Students choose these electives with advice from faculty members.

In addition to the requirements in Linguistics, students must satisfy a foreign language requirement. They must complete a minimum of two years of study of one foreign language and one year of study of another. Requirements are described in the UCSB General Catalog.

Students who wish to specialize in a particular language are encouraged to pursue the emphasis from among Chinese, English, French, German, Japanese, Slavic, and Spanish. These emphases include—in addition to core linguistic courses—courses in the history and structure of the language chosen. There is also an emphasis in Socio-Cultural Linguistics which covers the relationship between language use and social identity.

The Linguistics Department is small and the atmosphere casual. Courses typically enroll 30 or fewer students. The result is ample opportunity for individualized study and close interaction with and direct guidance from faculty.

The Minor in Linguistics

The Linguistics Department offers a minor in General Linguistics, which focuses on language structure. The minor is intended for students majoring in related disciplines who want some directed linguistics training as part of their record.

Linguistics and Careers

The study of linguistics, like the study of all liberal arts, is primarily an educative and humanizing experience designed to prepare students for a broad range of careers as well as continued study in graduate school and professional programs. Linguistics majors develop skills and abilities that can be applied in a number of areas. For example, Linguistics majors develop effective oral and written communication skills, receive training in the techniques and methodology of basic investigative research, and develop planning and organizational skills as well as critical analysis skills.

UCSB's Linguistics majors are well prepared to pursue graduate study in areas such as linguistics, anthropology, psychology, sociology, education, philosophy, and languages. Santa Barbara's Linguistics graduates have been awarded fellowships and teaching assistantships at some of the most prestigious graduate schools in the country. With additional specialized coursework, linguistics can prepare students for entrance into professional programs leading ultimately to careers in education, clinical linguistics, counseling and social service work, computer science, business, and law.

Linguistics students also can consider careers in publishing, journalism, and library science. Positions in these areas include editorial assistant or editorial researcher, technical writer, reporter, interviewer, copy reader or copy writer, and library assistant or library administrator. Students who pursue fluency in a second language can consider careers in translating, interpreting, diplomacy, and foreign service. All Linguistics students can consider careers in federal, state, and local government as well as in politics.

Students interested in teaching and research at the university level should complete the Ph.D. degree. Students interested in teaching at a community college should pursue graduate work at least through the master's degree. Teaching at the high school (secondary) level requires a California teaching credential. Students interested in this last option should consult the credential advisor in UCSB's Graduate School of Education early in their academic careers.

For more information about UCSB's Linguistics major, please call or write to:

Department of Linguistics
South Hall 3607
University of California, Santa Barbara
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-3100
805/893-3776
e-mail: rthea@linguistics.ucsb.edu
website: www.linguistics.ucsb.edu