

Linguistics

College of Arts and Humanities

Department of Linguistics

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B.A. in Linguistics

Options:

- Teaching English as a Second Language
- General Linguistics
- Computational Linguistics
- Interdisciplinary Language Studies

M.A. in Linguistics

Option:

- Teaching English as a Second Language

Minor in Linguistics

Minor in Computational Linguistics

Minor in Cognitive Science

(See Special Programs, page 496)

Minor in Japanese

Minor in English as a Second Language

Graduate Certificate in TESOL

The Department

Language is an essential part of our life. Nothing characterizes humanity more than the ability to use language. Linguists analyze sounds, words, sentences, and texts. Linguists also make valuable contributions to practical fields such as K-12 teaching, second and foreign language teaching, language planning, translation, computer science, forensic linguistics, and language disorders.

Computational applications of linguistics, such as speech synthesis, speech recognition, and machine-assisted translation, have also become increasingly important.

Our undergraduate and graduate programs develop intellectual skills that are essential



to professional careers or advanced degrees. Our courses provide analytical tools that can be applied to virtually any subject. They also help enhance critical thinking, satisfy broad intellectual interest, and enrich personal knowledge.

Our majors can be applied directly to various professional fields. They also serve as excellent preparation for pursuing advanced degrees in linguistics and other fields such as English, anthropology, psychology, sociology, computer science, and foreign languages. TESOL is an important part of our program and especially compatible with degrees in education and liberal studies. A Japanese minor can be profitably combined with majors in such areas as business, international relations, linguistics, and literature.

A Japanese Minor is also available for students with an interest in Japanese language and culture and/or plans to pursue careers in various areas, such as international business, marketing, economics, art and literature, etc., where a knowledge of the Japanese language and culture would be useful.

The B.A. Option in Computational Linguistics is for those students interested in text processing, forensic linguistics, software design, machine translation, and other professions dealing with the interface between computers and humans. Please contact the department.

Facilities

The Department of Linguistics has a computer lab for computer-assisted language learning (CALL), for language study, for the analysis of speech sounds, and for displaying the operation of the organs of speech. Computers are used for simulating speech and for mapping the geographical extent of language features, as well as for storing the data needed for the making of grammars and dictionaries. The Linguistics Department provides practical classroom teaching experience for qualified ESL students through employment in the American English Institute. For more, see American English Institute in the *Special Programs* section of this catalog. Also associated with the Linguistics Department is the Forensic Linguistics Institute (FLI). The FLI provides analyses in linguistic stylistics to extramural clients, thereby giving Fresno State linguistics majors opportunities for work, study, and research.

Career Opportunities

Many of our B.A. students want to pursue careers in education. There are several ways to do this. Students interested in teaching grades 7-12 can enroll in the English Department Credential Program with a linguistics emphasis. Students can double major in linguistics and liberal studies, or minor in linguistics with a liberal studies major to lead to a Multiple Subject Credential for