

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN LINGUISTICS (M091)— NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

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Linguistics is the scientific study of language. Our dynamic curriculum combines core studies in the structure of language with current approaches in sociolinguistics, minority language education, language acquisition, development and the brain, multilingualism and heritage language maintenance, multiculturalism, World Englishes, endangered languages, discourse analysis, and identity studies. A Minor in linguistics, in addition to directly applying to the teaching of English as a second or foreign language, and other languages, is a recognized asset for careers in curriculum development, publishing, product branding, speech pathology, natural language processing, translation, law, and other professions within education, social and behavioral sciences, especially those concerned with language policies and practices in multilingual settings.

Through their course work and hands-on research, students will be introduced to

- The nature and structure of language;
- The principles and methods of language analysis;
- The relationship between language and cultural, national, social, and personal identity;
- The role of language as a mediator of intercultural understanding.



COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE MINOR IN LINGUISTICS (M091)

Students should consult the Academic Catalog for the University's graduation requirements to ensure the completion of the requisite number of 200 and 300 level semester hours. Please contact your advisor for more information and to discuss your course sequence.

Required Courses: 9 credit hours

LING 201 Introduction to General Linguistics _____	3 cr.
LING 300 English and Grammar in the Classroom _____	3 cr.
LING 322 Introduction to Sociolinguistics _____	3 cr.

Electives: 9 credit hours in Linguistics

One 300-level course _____	3 cr.
Two additional courses (any level) _____	6 cr.
TOTAL: _____	
18 cr.	

Students should keep in mind their responsibilities:

- To transfer credits from another university to the minor program, a student must receive written approval from the linguistics undergraduate advisor at the time the minor is declared.
- Students must see the undergraduate advisor at least once a year, to avoid having their graduation delayed by unforeseen circumstances, such as changes in course scheduling.

UNDERGRADUATE MINOR COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

NOTE: *LING 110: Lexicology, and LING 120: Language and Human Behavior fulfill the university's General Education requirement. LING 120 also fulfills the Improving Human Relations requirement of the State of Illinois for obtaining a bachelor's degree.*

LING-109. First Year Experience: Language And Diversity In Chicago. 3 Hours.

Hands-on research, using Chicago's rich diversity of languages in contact as a laboratory, will enable you to understand the mechanisms, dynamics and manipulations of language and language use. Students will explore the following questions: What is language? What makes it universal? What makes it unique? How can it be used as a tool? How does it unite or divide? What is language contact and how does it affect you? What is the relationship between language and identity? What is language diversity and what brings it about? How does an awareness of language make you a stronger, more confident communicator?

LING-110. Lexicology: The Study Of Words. 3 Hours.

Introduction to the study of words, with particular attention to English from an historical, structural and sociolinguistic perspective. This course meets one of the Humanities requirements of the General Education Program.

LING-120. Language And Human Behavior. 3 Hours.

Introduction to basic principles of psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics. Subjects covered may include dialect variation, language and the brain, child language acquisition, language and gender, conversational analysis, non-verbal behavioral, pidgins and creoles, and sign language. The course is designed for students having no background in linguistics. This course meets one of the Humanities requirements of the General Education Program as well as the Improving Human Relations requirement.

LING-201. Introduction To General Linguistics. 3 Hours.

Nature and structure of languages and American English in particular. An overview of the description of language systems in terms of phonology (sound systems), morphology (word formation) and syntax (sentence organization). May also include an introduction to the areas of semantics (word meaning), pragmatics (the rules of the use of language in social contexts and conversation), and dialectology (cultural and geographical varieties of language use), and a look at the history of English and its relationship to other languages.

LING-300. English Grammar In The Classroom. 3 Hours.

This course introduces the basics of sentence structure in English with the purpose of enabling future teachers to teach English grammar successfully in a multicultural classroom. To this end, students will learn forms and functions of spoken and written English and learn grammatical terminology. They will also investigate issues related to standard and non-standard varieties of English and to the relationship between grammar and language instruction.

Prerequisite: LING-120 minimum grade of C or LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-301. History Of The English Language. 3 Hours.

Historical descriptive linguistic survey of English from its origins to modern English.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-302. Theory Of Grammar. 3 Hours.

LING-303. Grammars Of English. 3 Hours.

A descriptive and historical analysis of English grammar.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-304. Introduction To Phonetics & Phonology. 3 Hours.

This class provides a foundation in the acoustic and articulatory properties of the sounds used in human languages and introduces theories about the systematic variation of sounds in ordinary speech. Through reading, problem solving and class discussion, students become familiar with basic phonetics, the analysis of sounds into features, both rule-based and constraint-based theories of sound variation, and the structure of sound at the segment, syllable and phrase levels. Prereq: or consent of instructor.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-310. Historical/Comparative Linguistics. 3 Hours.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-316. Languages And Cultures: Middle East. 3 Hours.

This courses introduces students to the languages, cultures, values, preconceptions and misconceptions associated with the region known as the Middle East. A variety of sources, including academic texts, articles, fiction, poetry, film and the visual arts are incorporated to better grasp and appreciate the complex of languages and cultures of the region. Check the current schedule for the focus country. By permission of instructor.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C or LING-322 minimum grade of C or ANTH-212 minimum grade of C or HIST-111F minimum grade of C or HIST-391 minimum grade of C.

LING-320G. Language And Culture: Aboriginal Australia. 3 Hours.

This course focuses on the languages and cultures of Aboriginal Australia. It will examine a number of different linguistic features (phonological, morphological, and syntactic) found in a variety of Australian languages. In Addition to structural features, the course will examine Aboriginal languages and their interaction within the social and cultural setting of traditional life as well as issues involving language and cultural contact with European powers.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-320N. Language And Culture: Native American. 3 Hours.

This course focuses on the languages and cultures of Native America. It will examine a number of different linguistic features (phonological, morphological, and syntactic) found in a variety of North American languages. In addition to structural features, the course will examine languages and their interaction with social and cultural domains as well as issues of language contact.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-322. Introduction To Sociolinguistics. 3 Hours.

A look at language variation based on social contexts. Includes ethnic, regional and social dialects, language and gender, and pidgin and creole language systems.

LING-323. First & Second Language Acquisition. 3 Hours.

Survey of recent theories and research on children's acquisition of phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic systems of their first language. Survey of recent theories and research on second language acquisition.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-326. Narratives Of The Jewish Experience. 3 Hours.

This course focuses on stories told in contemporary Jewish communities as illustrative of the Jewish experience. Narrative is both representative and constructive of life experience, memory, and identity. We will listen to and analyze stories collected by others and available to wide audiences, and to stories we collect through interactions and interviews. Analyses will be conducted within a narratological framework that blends discursive and psycho-analytic theory and practice. Students will gather oral narratives from family members, community members, political and religious leaders, and educators with the goal of analyzing how stories both reveal and construct personal and social identities.

LING-337. Ethnography Of Communication. 3 Hours.

This course adopts ethnographic methodology to explore the acquisition and performance of communicative competence in a variety of professional settings. The concept of communicative competence has its origins in the field of sociolinguistics - the branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and culture or, as sometimes defined, language in society. Key to one segment of sociolinguistic research and practice is the field of ethnography of communication, initiated by anthropological linguist Dell Hymes and John Gumperz. Ethnography of communication focuses on identifying and analyzing "the situations and uses, the patterns and functions of speaking as an activity in its own right" (Hymes 1974). In so doing, the theory and application of this field focuses on identifying the norms of appropriate language use in interaction in given social domains.

Prerequisite: LING-322 minimum grade of B.

LING-338. Introduction To Syntactic Theory. 3 Hours.

Following the ground work established over the past 15 years, this course will introduce students to modern syntactic theory as practiced within the Minimalist Program. An emphasis will be placed on the methodological and theoretical achievements of this area of research as developed in the past decade. Students will further examine the notions of functional and lexical projections, empty categories, feature checking operations, various kinds of movement and merge operations, and locality constraints.

Prerequisites: LING-201 minimum grade of B and LING-303 minimum grade of B.

LING-344. Linguistics And Reading. 3 Hours.

Relationship between language and structure and the reading process with emphasis on the practical problems such as the variety of dialectically different sound-symbol-correspondences in English, the perception of speech sounds, the reader's interpretation of syntactic and semantic structures, various alphabetic systems for teaching beginning reading, and an analysis of linguistic texts for teaching reading. Designed to be useful to the inservice classroom teacher as well as to undergraduates.

LING-347. The Origin Of Language. 3 Hours.

Organized as a seminar, this course discusses recent theories concerned with how, when and why language appeared in the human lineage. Students are introduced to scholarship from a range of fields including linguistics, cognitive science, philosophy, anthropology, primatology and evolutionary biology to address questions including: What is language? What cognitive and social preconditions underlie it? What are the similarities and differences between human language and other animals' communication systems? What language-specific biological wiring may exist at the core of the human language faculty? How was language adaptive for those humans? Did language emerge relatively recently and suddenly, or gradually over millions of years? Permission of instructor required.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C or BIO-201 minimum grade of C or ANTH-212 minimum grade of C or ANTH-215 minimum grade of C.

LING-361. Introduction To World Englishes. 3 Hours.

Examination of issues involved in the development, spread, and maintenance of varieties of English throughout the world, now commonly referred to as Global or World Englishes. This course emphasizes the historical, political, and ideological issues of globalization, nativization, post-colonialism, standardization, and pedagogy of native and non-native varieties of English.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-362. Linguistics And Literature. 3 Hours.

This course presents an introduction to linguistic and discourse-analytic approaches to style in literary works. The study of literary language, most typically the domain of courses in literature, is also undertaken by linguists for the obvious reason that literature, as language, is composed of the structures and used for the functions that are the focus of formal and applied linguistic analysis. Linguistics and Literature focuses on the stylistic use of phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic features; paralinguistic features of intonation, pitch, rhythm, stress, loudness, and speed; and

speech acts and pragmatic conventions of indirectness; entailment, presupposition, implication, and persuasion. By permission of instructor.

Prerequisite: LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-363. Graphic Narratives: Literary, Cultural, And Linguistic Approaches. 3 Hours.

This course situates the graphic narrative as a complex, cultural form that deserves academic attention. Together, we will analyze how images and words interact in graphic narratives to create new identity formations, new cultural meanings, new knowledge webs, new histories, and new narratives.

Prerequisite: LING-120 minimum grade of C or LING-201 minimum grade of C.

LING-391F. Advanced Grammatical Analysis: Mandan. 3 Hours.

This is a course in advanced linguistic analysis. It focuses on the extremely endangered Siouan language, Mandan. Students will learn how to do linguistic research through a critical analysis of existent Mandan texts and explore various aspects of Mandan grammar. Topics may include any aspect of morphology, syntax, or narrative discourse structure.

Prerequisites: LING-201 minimum grade of B and LING-303 minimum grade of B and LING-322 minimum grade of B.

LING-391N. Advanced Grammatical Analysis: Biloxi. 3 Hours.

This is a course in advanced linguistic analysis. It focuses on the extinct Siouan language, Biloxi. Students will learn how to do linguistic research through a critical analysis of existent Biloxi texts and explore various aspects of Biloxi grammar. Topics may include any aspect of morphology, syntax, or narrative discourse structure.

Prerequisites: LING-201 minimum grade of B and LING-303 minimum grade of B and LING-322 minimum grade of B.

LING-391O. Advanced Grammatical Analysis: Crow. 3 Hours.

This is a course in advanced linguistic analysis. It focuses on the endangered Siouan language, Crow. Students will learn how to do linguistic research through a critical analysis of existent Crow texts and explore various aspects of Crow grammar. Topics may include any aspect of morphology, syntax, or narrative discourse structure.

Prerequisites: LING-201 minimum grade of B and LING-303 minimum grade of B and LING-322 minimum grade of B

**Topics may include any aspect of morphology, syntax, or narrative discourse structure.*