

DEPARTMENT OF LINGUISTICS

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It is hard to imagine spending one waking moment without language. Whether we are alone or among other people, whether we dream or daydream, whether we write poetry, follow a recipe, cheer for the home team, speak or sing, language is involved. All normal children acquire a native language, no matter where they are born, what the language is or what their home life is like. People who are deaf have language; so do those who are blind, mute, completely paralyzed, mentally retarded or emotionally disturbed. Language can be disrupted by injury or disease, processed by machines, altered for special occasions and exploited for ulterior motives. Despite this extraordinary presence, versatility and variability, every human language, whether Old English or Modern Japanese, shares universal features. Linguistics is the discipline that studies such matters concerning language.

Because language is so pervasive and so peculiarly human, students of linguistics find careers in many different areas. Some, such as teachers, computer scientists and speech therapists, use linguistics directly; others, such as market analysts, editors and advertising executives, use it indirectly. Still others use their undergraduate major in linguistics as a springboard to careers in law, education, business, artificial intelligence and international relations, as well as graduate study in linguistics and other fields.

Requirements for the liberal arts major in linguistics, B.A. program

To earn a liberal arts major in linguistics, students must complete the following program of study. Credit toward the major will only be allowed for courses completed with a grade of 2.0 or higher. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 is required for courses included in the major:

1. A minimum of 32 credits including:
 - a. LIN 201 (*with a grade of 3.0 or higher*)
 - b. LIN 302 or 307
 - c. LIN 303 and 304
 - d. LIN 403 or 404
 - e. LIN 470 (*fulfills the university general education requirement for the capstone experience and for a writing intensive course in the major or general education*).
 - f. Eight credits of 300-400 level ALS or LIN courses.
2. At least 8 additional credits from LIN or ALS courses or from ENG 215; MTH 302, 415, 475; FRH 215, 312, 314; SPN 313, 314; PHL 107, 329, 333, 370, 437; or PSY 316.

3. Either a) two year's study of a single foreign language through the 215 level or higher, or (LIN 409 and one year's study of a single foreign language through the 115 level or higher.
4. Only two ALS or LIN courses at the 100 and 200 level will be accepted for credit toward the major.

Requirements for the modified major in linguistics with a minor in computer science, B.A. program

To earn the minor, students must complete:

1. A minimum of 24 credits in linguistics courses to include LIN 201 (*with a grade of 3.0 or higher*), 303, 304, 470 and either 403 or 404. LIN 470 (*fulfills the university general education requirement for the capstone experience and for a writing intensive course in the major or general education*).
2. A minimum of 20 credits in CSE courses as follows: CSE 120, and 130; and three courses chosen from CSE 220, 247, 248, 251, 230. At least 12 of these credits must be taken at Oakland University. An average grade of at least 2.0 is required in courses counted toward this minor. See requirements for the minor in computing in the *School of Engineering and Computer Science* section of this catalog.
3. PHL 370.

Note: Credits toward the modified major will only be allowed for courses completed with a grade point of 2.0 or higher. A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 is required for all ALS and LIN courses in the modified major.

Departmental honors

The Department of Linguistics offers departmental honors to students who achieve a grade point average of 3.60 or above in specified courses. In the case of the liberal arts major, the courses include the seven required LIN and ALS courses and the three additional courses listed above. In the case of the modified major with a minor in computer science, the courses include the six required LIN and ALS courses, the five required CSE courses and PHL 370.

The department also recommends honors for students who have modified majors in other departments with concentrations in linguistics.

Requirements for the liberal arts minor in linguistics

To earn a liberal arts minor in linguistics, students must complete a minimum of 20 credits to include:

1. LIN 201 (*with a grade of 3.0 or higher*), 303, 304 and either 403 or 404.
2. At least 4 credits from 300-400 level LIN or ALS courses.
3. Credit toward the minor will only be allowed for courses completed with a grade of 2.0.

A cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 is required for courses included in the minor.

Requirements for a modified major with a concentration in linguistics

Students may elect a modified major in anthropology, communication, English, philosophy, psychology, or sociology, with a concentration in linguistics.

The core in linguistics requires 16 credits including LIN 201 (*with a grade of 3.0 or higher*), 303, 304 and either 403 or 404. An additional 4 credits in linguistics courses for the specific concentrations are ALS 374 or 375 (anthropology), LIN 305 (communication), LIN 376 (English), LIN 307 or 475 (philosophy),

ALS 335 (psychology), and ALS 376 (sociology). For requirements in the modified majors, students should consult the appropriate department.

Certificate in teaching English as a Second Language

Students may earn a certificate in teaching English as a second language (TESL) by completing the following courses: LIN 201 (*with a grade of 3.0 or higher*), ALS 418 and 419. In all cases a student must complete 12 credits in linguistics courses at OU and must satisfy the eligibility requirement described in Practicum Eligibility to obtain the certificate. Students interested in this certificate should contact an adviser in the Department of Linguistics.

Practicum Eligibility

Eligibility for the Practicum (ALS 419) requires completion of ALS 418 with a grade of 3.0 or higher. Non-native speaker of English, in addition, must satisfactorily complete an oral and written examination of English.

Course Offerings

The department offers selected courses from this catalog as warranted by student needs and availability of faculty. Specific offerings for each term may be found in the *Schedule of Classes*.

APPLIED LANGUAGE STUDIES

ALS 102 Studies in Vocabulary and Etymology (4)

A basic course in vocabulary building. The origin of scientific and literary terms, foreign phrases in current use, borrowing of words into English from other languages, and the relationship between meaning and culture and meaning and context. Course not applicable to LIN programs.

ALS 176 The Humanity of Language (4)

An introduction to the interrelationships of language and other cultural subsystems. Linguistic knowledge, the child's acquisition of language, sound and writing systems, meaning and communication, language and social groups are among the topics discussed. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in the foreign language and culture knowledge exploration area.*

ALS 300 Topics in Applied Language Science (4)

Specific topics and issues in the study of language in its cultural, social or historical contexts. May be repeated for additional credit under different subtitle.

ALS 317 Models of Second Language Acquisition (4)

Development of second language ability among children and adults. Topics will include first language acquisition theory, the relationship of second language acquisition to linguistic theory, and will review and evaluate competing models of second language development.

ALS 320 Linguistics and Reading (4)

Linguistic description and analysis of the process of getting meaning from print. The course will review competing linguistic models of the reading process and insights from first and second language acquisition, psycholinguistics, reading disorders and studies in writing.

ALS 334 Language Development in Children (4)

Language acquisition in normal and abnormal children: stages of the acquisition process, the role of the environment, the relationship between language and the development of other skills, and language acquisition in children with sensory or psychological disorders.

ALS 335 Psycholinguistics (4)

The psychology of language, the accommodation between the cognitive and physical structure of humans and the structure of language, the nature of the language learning process, and the consequences of language use. Identical with PSY 370. *Satisfies the university general education requirement for a writing intensive course in the major. Prerequisite for writing intensive: completion of the university writing foundation requirement.*

ALS 340 The Biology of Language (4)

Animal communication and the evolution of man's capacity for language, development of language in normal and abnormal children, disorders of speech, hearing and language, language and the brain, and genetic aspects of language.

ALS 360 Neurolinguistics (4)

The neurology of language: essentials of neuroanatomy, neurological mechanisms underlying language, aphasia and kindred disorders of speech; the relationship of language to memory, intelligence and cognition; and language and mental retardation and psychological disorders.

ALS 374 Cross-Cultural Communication (4)

A theoretical and practical examination of the role of language and nonverbal modes in intercultural communication. Problems and strategies for developing awareness of and operational skills in intercultural processes. Identical with AN 374. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in U.S. diversity.*

ALS 375 Language and Culture (4)

Language viewed as cultural behavior: its system, acquisition and use; its relation to history, attitudes and behavior; and standard languages, social dialects, pidgins and creoles. Identical with AN 375.

ALS 376 Language and Society (4)

Language in its social context, intrasocietal variation, social evaluation of language varieties (style, dialect) as an influence in language change, and the choice of a language variety as an index of group solidarity, social ideology and individual attitudes. Identical with SOC 376.

ALS 418 The Teaching of English as a Second Language (4)

Approaches, methods and techniques of teaching pronunciation, grammar and vocabulary. The use of language tests and laboratory techniques.

Prerequisite: LIN 201.

ALS 419 Practicum (4)

Internship in an assigned ESL program under the guidance of a university instructor. Offered fall, winter and summer. Availability in summer is limited. For eligibility requirement, see Practicum Eligibility. May be repeated for up to 8 credits.

Prerequisite: ALS 418 and permission of instructor.

ALS 438 Theory and Practice in Language Testing (4)

A study of the different types of aptitude and achievement tests used in different language settings, including research and educational situations. Brief introduction to test statistics and computerized analysis of test scores. Practical aspects of testing: design, scoring and administration.

Prerequisite: ALS 317 or ALS 418 or permission of instructor.

LINGUISTICS**LIN 177 Introduction to Language Science (4)**

A basic introduction to the modern study of language as rule-governed behavior. Among the topics considered are the linguistic principles pertaining to sounds, words, sentences and meanings in cultural subsystems that enable people to communicate. Examples and analysis of English and other languages.

LIN 180 Linguistic Analysis (4)

Introduction to the analytical and theoretical concepts used by linguists to describe the structure of human language. Focus on an analysis of both sound and phrase structures. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in the formal reasoning knowledge foundation area.*

LIN 181 Introduction to the Development of the English Language (4)

An introduction to the development of the English language from its Anglo-Saxon beginnings to the present, including the development of the sounds, words, sentences and meanings of English. Discussion of the spread and dominance of English as a world language and the many varieties of English will also be included. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in foreign language and culture knowledge exploration area.*

LIN 182 Language and the Brain (4)

Overview of the anatomy and physiology of language in the brain, including discussion of human characteristics that make language possible, human problems with language that result from various pathologies, and the mind-brain relationship. Consideration of the nature of language as a specifically human phenomenon. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in the natural science and technology knowledge exploration area.*

LIN 183 Formal Rules of Sound Structure (4)

Introduction to the description, organization and formal analysis of data dealing with the sound structure of human language. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in the formal reasoning knowledge foundation area.*

LIN 184 Formal Rules of Phrase Structure (4)

Introduction to the description, organization and formal analysis of data dealing with the phrase structure of human language. *Satisfies the university general education requirement in the formal reasoning knowledge foundation area.*

LIN 201 Introduction to Linguistics (4)

Introduction to the modern study of human language. Emphasis on the analysis of sound and structure, variation and change, and linguistic universals. A grade of 3.0 or higher is required for admission to a major or minor in linguistics.

LIN 207 Meaning in Language (4)

Broad examination of how humans use language to convey meanings of various kinds, including literal, non-literal, and interpersonal meaning, and ways in which language reflects how humans think. Identical with COM 207.

LIN 300 Topics in Linguistics (4)

Topics and problems selected by the instructor.
Prerequisite: Permission of the Department of Linguistics.

LIN 301 Linguistic Structures (4)

An introduction to synchronic linguistic analysis, with structural problems in natural languages.
Prerequisite: LIN 201.

LIN 302 Historical Linguistics (4)

Diachronic linguistic analysis: language change, dialect geography, establishment of genealogical relationships, the reconstruction of earlier stages of languages and the relationship of language change to synchronic analysis.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

LIN 303 Introduction to Phonology (4)

Fundamentals of phonological analysis using data from a variety of languages.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

LIN 304 Introduction to Syntax (4)

Fundamentals of syntactic analysis using data from a variety of languages.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

LIN 305 Phonetic Theory (4)

Introduction to articulatory and acoustic descriptions of spoken language, and training in the recognition of production of sounds found in languages other than English.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

LIN 307 Introduction to Semantics (4)

Fundamentals of semantic analysis using data from a variety of languages.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 with a grade of 3.0 or higher.

LIN 315 Computer Parsing of Natural Languages (4)

An examination of the syntactic and semantic properties of natural language and a survey of the techniques for computer parsing. Student projects in the computer analysis of language.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 and CSE 130.

LIN 357 Cognitive Linguistics (4)

A cognitive/functional approach to grammatical theory focusing on the relation between language and cognition in the study of semantic, lexical and grammatical structure.
Prerequisite: LIN 201 or permission of instructor.

LIN 376 History of the English Language (4)

Identical with ENG 376.
Prerequisite: WRT 160.

LIN 403 Phonological Theory (4)

A presentation of theory and application of phonological analysis with emphasis on original work.
Prerequisite: LIN 303 with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

LIN 404 Syntactic Theory (4)

Presentation of theory and application of syntactic analysis, with emphasis on original work.
Prerequisite: LIN 304 with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

LIN 407 Semantic Theory (4)

Presentation of theory and application of semantic analysis with emphasis on original work.
Prerequisite: LIN 307 with a grade of 2.0 or higher.

LIN 409 Studies in the Structure of a Language (4)

Study of the structural aspects of an individual language to be determined by the instructor
Prerequisite: LIN 303 or 304.

LIN 413 Advanced Phonology (4)

Advanced course in phonology with emphasis on current issues in phonological theory.
Prerequisite: LIN 403.

LIN 414 Advanced Syntax (4)

Advanced course in syntax with emphasis on current issues in syntactic theory.
Prerequisite: LIN 404.

LIN 417 Advanced Semantics (4)

Advanced course in semantics with emphasis on current issues in semantic theory.
Prerequisite: LIN 407.

LIN 470 The History of Linguistics (4)

Examination of the major movements and trends in the history of linguistics from ancient India to the present. *Satisfies the university general education requirement for a writing intensive course in the major or general education, not both. Prerequisite for writing intensive: completion of the university writing foundation requirement. Satisfies the university general education requirement for the capstone experience.*

Prerequisite: Senior standing and 12 credits in LIN courses numbered above 300 including LIN 303 and 304.

LIN 475 Philosophy of Language (4)

Identical with PHL 475.

Prerequisite: Junior standing. LIN 207 or one course in logic (PHL 107 strongly recommended).

LIN 480 Seminar in Linguistics (4)

Topics and problems selected by the instructor.

Prerequisite: LIN 201 and permission of the instructor.

LIN 490 Independent Study (2 or 4)

Special research projects in linguistics. Graded numerically or S/U by written agreement with linguistics faculty supervisor.

Prerequisite: LIN 201 and permission of the instructor.

LATIN LANGUAGE AND ROMAN CULTURE**LTN 114-115 Introduction to Latin Language and Roman Culture (4 each)**

A two-semester sequence in the fundamentals of Latin language and classical Roman culture. A beginning course. LTN 114 must be taken first. *LTN 114 or 115 satisfies the university general education requirement in the foreign language and culture knowledge exploration area.*

English as a Second Language Center (ESL)

The English as a Second Language Center offers classes in English as a Second Language (ESL) to help individuals improve English language skills (speaking, accent reduction, listening comprehension, reading, writing and vocabulary development). These courses are intended for university students, faculty and staff as well as international students, business personnel and other individuals who currently are not enrolled in a degree program at Oakland University. These classes can be taken as continuing education classes (CE) as well. Students should consult the English as a Second Language Center for placement in appropriate classes and to take these courses for CE credit.

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

These courses cannot be used to satisfy any portion of the university requirement in writing proficiency. No more than 16 credits in courses numbered 050-099 may count toward graduation requirements. Course numbers beginning with 05 are elementary level courses; 06, intermediate level; and 07, advanced level. Courses beginning with 08 have a business focus, and those beginning with 09 are for graduate students.

ESL 050 Listening and Speaking I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. To aid students in developing general listening and speaking skills through guided conversational practice. Students will be instructed in appropriate conversational techniques and will practice in group discussions. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 051 Reading and Vocabulary Development I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to help students develop general-purpose reading skills and strategies. Emphasis on vocabulary development to enhance reading facility. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 052 Writing and Sentence Structure for Academic Purposes I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed for students of ESL to improve basic writing skills. To be taken before content courses. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 053 Conversation I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Guides students toward appropriate production of the vowels, consonants, stress, rhythm and intonation patterns of American English. Through structured conversation students will be introduced to slang, idioms, and informal words and expressions as encountered in everyday communicative situations. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 054 Academic Communication I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to provide an introduction to the skills necessary to succeed in the academic setting. Focus is on non-verbal communication and classroom etiquette. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 055 Introduction to American Culture and Customs (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Introduction to the environment and culture of the United States. Students will participate in reading, writing, listening and speaking tasks as they relate to practical cultural information.

ESL 056 Language Lab and Computer Literacy I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Practice in the development of computer literacy skills necessary for use in language laboratories and with internet-based programs in English as a Second Language. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 057 Topics in English as a Second Language I (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Intensive study of particular topics in English as a Second language such as vocabulary enhancement through reading and writing. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 060 Listening and Speaking II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. To help students develop the necessary listening and speaking skills for an academic environment. Focus will be on listening and speaking in a variety of class settings (lecture, seminar, discussion) and will include note-taking and subject comprehension. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 061 Reading and Vocabulary Development II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to help students develop reading skills and strategies for academic purposes. Emphasizes critical analysis, handling heavy reading loads and developing appropriate technical vocabularies. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 062 Writing and Sentence Structure for Academic Purposes II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Improving basic knowledge of paragraph structure, linear sequencing and grammatical structures used in writing. Focus on organization and coherence, and practice in transitions, conciseness and patterns of organization. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 063 Conversation II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Provides intermediate students with structured conversation, study and practice. Designed to expand communication skills in English as a Second Language. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 064 Academic Communication II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to expand the skills necessary to succeed in the academic setting. Focus is on processing/synthesizing of information received aurally. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 066 Language Lab and Computer Literacy II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Practice in the development of intermediate computer literacy skills necessary for use in language laboratories and with internet based programs in English as a Second Language. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 067 Topics in English as a Second Language II (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. An intensive study of intermediate topics in English as a Second Language such as the development of fluency with simple grammatical structures through reading, writing, speaking and listening. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 070 Listening and Speaking III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to help students reduce their accent for improved listener comprehension. Focus on accuracy in articulation at both the individual sound level and the sentential level. Will use interactive phonetics software to provide feedback. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 071 Reading and Vocabulary Development III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to help students refine reading skills and strategies for academic purposes. Emphasizes critical analysis and handling heavy reading loads and developing appropriate technical vocabularies. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 072 Writing and Sentence Structure for Academic Purposes III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to help students improve their writing skills. Combines extensive practice in rhetorical techniques with a review of grammatical structures. May be taken concurrently with content courses with the approval of the content course department. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 073 Conversation III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Provides advanced students with structured conversation, study and practice. Designed for effective communication with native speakers of English in a variety of diverse settings. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 074 Academic Communication III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Guides students toward mastery of the skills necessary to succeed in the academic setting. Focus is on student demonstration of their ability to communicate effectively in a variety of academic situations such that they are prepared for integration into general education courses. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 076 Language Lab and Computer Literacy III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Practice in the development of advanced computer literacy skills necessary for use in language laboratories and with internet based programs in English as a Second Language. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 077 Topics in English as a Second Language III (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. An intensive study of advanced topics in English as a Second Language such as the development of fluency with complex grammatical structures through reading, writing, speaking and listening. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 079 Independent Study in English as a Second Language (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Provides students with the opportunity to design a course of study that meets their particular English language needs. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Permission of instructor.

ESL 080 Listening and Speaking in the Business Setting (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed for students who are either working in American business or plan to do so. Students will learn effective listening and speaking skills through oral presentations, accent reduction techniques and business jargon usage. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 081 Reading and Vocabulary in the Business Setting (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to improve students' reading skills for the business environment and to familiarize students with the American business culture. Emphasizes handling of specialized subject matter, critical analysis and business vocabulary. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 082 Writing and Grammar in the Business Setting (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to instruct students in the writing styles appropriate for American business. Students will learn to write typical business documents while emphasizing correct and appropriate grammar and vocabulary. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 085 Cross-Cultural Communication in the Business Setting (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. Focus on common business customs and practices in the United States. Students will participate in reading, listening and speaking tasks as they relate to the American business environment.

ESL 087 Topics in the Business Setting (2 or 4)

For non-native speakers only. For students who either are working in American business or plan to do so. A variety of professional and business topics will be offered which will match the student's current career or future career goals. May be repeated for up to 12 credits.

Prerequisite: Placement.

ESL 090 English for Instructional Purposes (4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed for international students who will be teaching assistants. Emphasis on improving presentation skills, particularly pronunciation, and on addressing issues relevant to student-teacher interaction.

Prerequisite: Graduate assistantship.

ESL 092 Research Papers and Thesis Writing for Graduate Students (4)

For non-native speakers only. Designed to aid graduate students with the tasks of writing substantive research papers or theses.

Prerequisite: Graduate student standing.