INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. Linguists seek to understand the use, structure, and meaning of language by investigating languages from around the world, how languages change over time, and the relationship of language to society and cognition. Linguistics is interdisciplinary, drawing on and contributing to work in anthropology, philosophy, psychology, and computer science. Through a strong tradition of research collaboration, linguists at Berkeley conduct cutting-edge research on language, deepening and enriching our understanding of this unique human trait.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

• Join a student organization such as the Society of Linguistics Undergraduate Students (SLUGS).
• Work directly with a graduate student on research through the Linguistics Research Apprentice Practicum.
• Visit the California Language Archive, a catalog of indigenous language materials.
• Participate in the Linguistic Society of America (LSA) Linguistic Institute.

THE MAJOR CURRICULUM

Students in linguistics benefit from an intense, personalized academic experience through smaller classes and ample opportunities to work with faculty and graduate students on research projects. The four main components of the major are: 1) The Lower Division Requirement, 2) The Prerequisite to Declare, 3) The Binned Courses Requirement, and 4) The Upper Division Electives Requirement. The foundational course is LINGUIS-100 ("Introduction to Linguistic Science"), a general survey of linguistics. Students then take upper division courses which focus on different aspects of language.

"The staff, faculty, and graduate students have been personally invested in my development as a student. There is plenty of opportunity to get involved with research.

– 2017 Linguistics Graduate

HOW TO USE THIS MAP

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
LinguisTics Bachelor of Arts

DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

FIRST YEAR
- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plan.
- Familiarize yourself with major and college requirements.
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Continue taking the major’s Upper Division Course Bins requirements and start approved upper division electives.
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask the major advisor about the Linguistics Honors Program.
- Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

SECOND YEAR
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Continue taking the major’s Upper Division Course Bins requirements and start approved upper division electives.
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask the major advisor about the Linguistics Honors Program.
- Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

THIRD YEAR
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
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- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask the major advisor about the Linguistics Honors Program.
- Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

FOURTH YEAR
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and explore related programs.
- Consider participating in the Linguistics Enrichment Experience Program (LEEP).
- Enroll in LINGUIŠ 100, the only prerequisite to declare the major.
- After completing LINGUIŠ 100, declare the major by submitting your Major Declaration Petition.
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- Continue taking the major’s Upper Division Course Bins requirements and start approved upper division electives.
- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Ask the major advisor about the Linguistics Honors Program.
- Complete any “bucket list” courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?

The Linguistics major provides a variety of career and graduate school possibilities. Graduates go on to work in a range of fields, including health services, speech technology, legal consulting, writing, teaching, data mining, lexicography, and translation.

Jobs and Employers
- Analytical Linguist, Google Assistant Language Teacher, JET Behavioral Interventionist, Co. for Autism and Related Disorders
- Biological Research Asst., UC Berkeley
- Content Manager Educational Technology Editor Forensic Linguist
- Linguist, Sensory, Inc.
- Linguistic Localization Consultant
- Litigation Paralegal Trainee, ComputerLaw Group
- Professional Brand Namier Research scientist
- Site Reliability Engineer, Google Software Engineer, Abstract
- Technical Writer
- UI/UX/Web Developer, AXA Rosenberg
- User Experience Strategist
- Video Editor, Udemy

Graduate Programs
- Computer Engineering, Masters
- Elementary Education, Masters
- Law, JD
- Linguistics, PhD
- Spanish Language and Lit., Masters
- Speech-Language Pathology, Masters
- Urban Community Planning, Masters

Examples gathered from the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.