

(Proposed changes October 31, 2009)

Linguistics And Cognitive Science

Telephone: (302) 831-6806; Fax: (302) 831-6896

<http://www.ling.udel.edu/ling/>

Faculty Listing: <http://www.ling.udel.edu/ling/>

The Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science offers programs leading to the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in **Linguistics and Cognitive Science**. In addition, the department offers the option of a combined B.S. in Cognitive Science and M.A. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science. The M.A. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science is a flexible degree, allowing students to design programs of study in areas of theoretical linguistics, cognitive science, and applied linguistics (including teaching English as a second language). **Areas for Ph.D. specialization include theoretical linguistics (syntax, semantics, phonology, morphology), experimental linguistics (psycholinguistics, first and second language acquisition, language processing), endangered and under-described languages (linguistic field methods, language typology, language documentation), and additional areas of cognitive science (philosophy of mind, animal and embodied cognition, perception, neurolinguistics, computational linguistics).**

Requirements For Admission

Students with a B.A./B.S. or M.A. /MS in linguistics or in an appropriate field may apply. (Students without a degree in linguistics proper may be asked to take additional courses to meet minimum training in linguistics.) Applicants are required to submit a completed application, a writing sample, three letters of recommendation, GRE scores (a minimum of 1050 on verbal and quantitative combined is normally required; the analytical score is also considered), official transcripts of all previous work, and a personal statement describing interests and objectives. Foreign students whose language of education is not English must also submit TOEFL scores. A minimum of 600/250/100 on the paper-based/computer-based/**IBT** TOEFL is normally required. For these foreign students, the TOEFL score will be considered as the verbal section of the GRE when the TOEFL score is higher. In all cases, however, scores on all sections of the GRE must be submitted. Foreign students whose native language is not English and who are awarded a teaching assistantship **must attend a one month International Teaching Assistant Training Program at UD before starting their academic studies. This training is conducted usually in August each year and is free of charge.** The TSE may be taken overseas at any TOEFL center. Students should consult the appropriate section of the catalog for details of this requirement.

Admission is selective and competitive based on the number of well-qualified applicants and the limits of available faculty and facilities. Those who meet stated minimum academic requirements are not guaranteed admission, nor are those who fail to meet those requirements necessarily precluded from admission if they offer other appropriate strengths.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available for Ph.D. students only and takes the form of teaching assistantships, graduate assistantships and research assistantships. Conditions on funding are stated in the Graduate Guidelines available from the department's Director of Graduate Studies and on the department website (<http://www.ling.udel.edu/ling/>).

Requirements For The Master's Degree

For the M.A. degree, students must complete 30 credit hours planned in consultation with the student's advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies or the **M.A. advisor**. These credits must include at least 21 credit hours in cognitive science or linguistics courses and at least one 800-level seminar in cognitive science or linguistics. Full details of all programs are available from the department's Director of Graduate Studies or the Cognitive Science Graduate Advisor.

Combined B.S. and M.A. Option

Qualified undergraduate students in the B.S. in Cognitive Science as well as students completing a bachelor's degree in related fields like Anthropology, Computer and Information Science, Philosophy and Psychology (and other fields by application) may apply for the Combined B.S. and M.A. option, which combines the requirements of the undergraduate **degree in cognitive science** and **the** master's degree in Cognitive Science and Linguistics. Whereas the traditional programs for the B.S. and M.A. degrees involve 4 years of undergraduate work and 2 years of graduate work, the Combined B.S. and M.A. option enables students to earn both degrees in a 5-year period. Students who complete the Combined B.S. and M.A. program will graduate with both a Bachelor of Science degree in Cognitive Science and a Master of Arts degree in Linguistics and Cognitive Science. **Students who are granted admission and are pursuing a degree other than the B.S. in Cognitive Science will be awarded the undergraduate degree in which they are enrolled and a Master of Arts degree in Linguistics and Cognitive Science.** Students who are candidates for the Combined B.S. and M.A. option, and who complete the requirements for the B.S. but fail to complete the additional M.A. requirements, will receive the B.S. degree, **or the bachelor's degree of the program they are enrolled in.**

a. Admission into the Combined B.S. and M.A. Program

Students may apply for admission to the Combined B.S. and M.A. program at the end of the sophomore year. The application process requires submission of a completed graduate application form for review by the Departmental Graduate Studies Committee. Initial admission will be based upon the student's ability to meet the following recommended entrance criteria:

- Combined mathematics and verbal SAT scores of at least 1200
- An undergraduate GPA of at least 3.25
- Completion of all core courses for the B.S other than [CGSC 485](#)
- Submission of an in-person writing sample, based on work completed in a Cognitive Science course

Admission is competitive so meeting the minimal requirements for admission does not guarantee admission nor does the failure to meet a requirement result in an automatic rejection. The GRE is not required for admission to the Combined B.S. and M.A. program by UD undergraduates.

b. Maintaining Status within the Program

Upon admission into the program and prior to the start of the junior year of study, the student will meet with his graduate advisor and submit a planned program of study, including all elective courses, to the Graduate Studies Committee. Planned programs of study are due by the end of fall semester of the student's junior year.

Continuation in the Combined B.S. and M.A. program is contingent upon maintaining a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 in undergraduate courses with CGSC and LING designations and in graduate coursework. Satisfactory progress includes following the prescribed program of study.

Each student's progress and GPA will be evaluated at the end of each academic year by the student's advisor and the Graduate Studies Committee. Students who fail to meet the minimum GPA requirements or fail to show progress toward the degree will be dropped from the Combined B.S. and M.A. program. They may, however, continue in the undergraduate major unless their undergraduate progress is unsatisfactory according to the rules in effect for the B.S. program.

c. Degree Requirements for the Master of Arts in Linguistics and Cognitive Science and the B.S. in Cognitive Science

The graduate level course requirements for students in the Combined B.S. and M.A. option are the same as those for the M.A. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science. The course requirements for the degree include 30 credit hours planned in consultation with the student's advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies, which must include at least 21 credit hours in the Linguistics Department and at least one 800-level seminar. The M.A. in Linguistics and Cognitive Science is a flexible program of study that provides training in both Linguistics and Cognitive Science. Separate tracks are provided for students whose emphasis is clearly in Cognitive Science or in Linguistics. In addition, students may propose a program of study that combines elements of the Linguistics and Cognitive Science tracks. See the Department's Graduate Policy Statement for additional information. Students in the Combined B.S. and M.A. option must fulfill all graduate and undergraduate course requirements for both the M.A. and their undergraduate degree.

d. Course Overlap

In the event that a student in the Combined B.S. and M.A. option completes a required graduate course as an undergraduate, and elects to count that course toward the bachelor's degree, he will be required to substitute another graduate course, the choice requiring approval of the Director of Graduate Studies. When a student completes a 400-level undergraduate course that has content very similar to that of a parallel 600-level graduate course, he must petition the Director of Graduate Studies to substitute another graduate course for the 600-level course in question.

e. Revisions to Planned Program of Study in Combined B.S. and M.A. Option

Students who wish to make changes to their program of study must first obtain permission from their advisor. The advisor must then make a written request to the Graduate Studies Committee to revise the program of study.

Requirements For The Ph.D. Degree

Students are required to take 60 credits beyond the B.A./B.S.: 51 credits in courses proper and 9 dissertation credits. Students entering with a credited M.A. /MS in an appropriate area as determined by the department must take 30 credits: 21 in courses proper and 9 in dissertation. All transfer credit must be in accord with the rules of the Graduate Office; approval of transferred courses is at the discretion of the Committee on Graduate Studies of the Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science. Students must take [LING 607](#) Phonology I, [LING 609](#) Syntax I, [LING 608](#) Phonology II, [LING 610](#) Syntax II, [CGSC 696](#) Psycholinguistics, and at least ~~three~~ **four** 800-level seminars **in core areas of linguistics**. No course can satisfy two requirements except that the ~~three~~ **four** 800-level seminars can count toward specialization requirements; transfer credit for these requirements may be accepted, but only under the conditions stated above. It is suggested that the remainder of the course work have an appropriate balance of work in the subfields of linguistics **and cognitive science** and, at the same time, be directed toward the major areas of research interest.

Students are required to take one major examination, the Qualifying Examination and to write one publishable research paper for admission to Doctoral Candidacy. After successful completion of all requirements, students are required to write a dissertation followed by an oral defense.

Students whose native language is English are required to demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English. The goal is for students to be able to function as a professional in the field of linguistics in general and in their chosen area of specialization. Proficiency may be either written or spoken. Students are responsible for presenting a rationale for the selection of a particular language and for requesting a speaking or reading proficiency test. Students whose native language is not English will be assumed to have proficiency in English and will have thereby satisfied the proficiency requirement.

The language requirements must be satisfied prior to acceptance of the Dissertation Prospectus. No language examinations taken at any other school will fulfill any language requirement.

Program In Cognitive Science

The program in Cognitive Science is administered by the Department of Linguistics and Cognitive Science. See M.A. **and Ph.D.** information (above) regarding the M.A. **and Ph.D.** in Linguistics and Cognitive Science. ~~While there is no Doctoral degree in Cognitive Science, the PhD in Linguistics allows a secondary specialization in Cognitive Science; and advanced degrees in related disciplines (e.g., Psychology) also permit students to develop concentrations in the field. There are also regular graduate course offerings in Cognitive Science that allow individualized training in the field.~~