

Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics

The primary objective of the Ph.D. Program in Linguistics at UT Arlington is to train professionals with a common grounding in linguistic research (with an emphasis on data collection and management), as well as research expertise in two specialized areas of linguistics. The degree prepares graduates for employment in field work, field program administration, literacy consultation and language planning, teaching, work in industry and other forms of employment appropriate to professional linguists.

(Please note, this page describes the curriculum for PhD students who started the program BEFORE the Fall semester of 2006. Students starting in Fall 2006 or later should check the new catalog requirements at [http://ling.uta.edu/degrees/phd-linguistics/.](http://ling.uta.edu/degrees/phd-linguistics/))

Ph.D. Degree Plan

I. Course requirements

- A. Foundation Courses (4 courses, 12 credits): The purpose behind the foundation courses is to provide students with the sorts of professional skills necessary for successful careers in linguistic research, teaching, and administration.
1. Required: 3 courses, 9 credits
 - a. LING 5380 (Field Methods)
 - b. LING 5381 (Computer and Natural Language)
 - c. LING 6300 (Professional Writing for Linguistics)
 2. Choice: 1 course, 3 credits
 - a. LING 6380 (Advanced Field Methods)
 - b. LING 6381 (Research Design and Statistics)
- B. Elective Courses (6 courses; 18 credits): Elective courses allow students to develop expertise in their two areas of specialization, as well as a third support area, thereby supplementing their previous academic training in linguistics and/or a related field.
1. Areas of specialization: minimum 4 courses, 12 credits (2 courses, 6 credits in *primary area*; 2 courses, 6 credits in *secondary area*); maximum 6 courses, 18 credits.
 - a. Phonetics and phonological theory
LING 5320, LING 5321, LING 5322, LING 5334
 - b. Grammatical theory
LING 5330, LING 5331, LING 5332, LING 5333,
LING 5334, LING 5335, LING 5371
 - c. Sociolinguistics
LING 5310, LING 5311, LING 5312, LING 5313,
LING 5344, LING 5351
 - d. Discourse analysis
LING 5332, LING 5350, LING 5351
 - e. Literacy
LING 5341, LING 5342, LING 5343, LING 5344
 - f. Translation and semantics
LING 5340, LING 5345
 2. Support courses: maximum 2 courses, 6 credits

ANTH 5330, 5369, 5370
CSE 5360, 5361, 5363, 5366
ENGL 5334, 5354, 5355
LING 5301, 5302, 5303, 5304, 5306
READ 5316, 5350, 5355, 5357, 5361
SOCI 5310
Other courses as approved by the linguistics faculty

C. Dissertation: 12 credits

1. Proposal: LING 6391: Research in Linguistics—includes oral exam
2. Dissertation: LING 6999

II. Foreign language requirement

This is a three-part requirement to be fulfilled using either two (2) or three (3) foreign languages other than English.

1. Research language: met by written translation exam
2. Spoken (or signed) language: met by a, b, or c
 - a. 4 semesters of study; B or better in each
 - b. Conversational exam
 - c. Other (determined by committee)
3. Non-Western Language (NWL): structural knowledge, met by a, b, or c
 - a. LING 5360
 - b. Substantial documented research paper
 - c. Master's thesis

NOTES:

- English may **not** be used to fulfill any part of the Foreign Language Requirement.
- Native speaker status may satisfy (1) and (2) but **not** (3); structural knowledge requires documented academic study of the language in question.

III. Diagnostic evaluation

- A. Preliminary exam (within first 18 credits in program)
- B. 3.5 GPA in foundation coursework

The Ph.D. Diagnostic Examination is usually taken at the end of the second or third semester of study. The examination covers material from four core areas of linguistics:

First Half

Part I, Phonological Theory

Part II, Survey of Linguistic Theories/Readings in Linguistics

Second Half

Part III, Grammatical Theory

Part IV, Sociolinguistics/Historical Linguistics

Students who have already passed this examination as part of their M.A. requirements at UTA will need to have their scores evaluated in the context of Ph.D.-level criteria. All other students must sit for the examination.

IV. Professional activities

- A. Oral presentations: 2

1. At conferences or colloquiums
 2. In 2 areas of linguistics
- B. Research papers: 2 (MA thesis may be used for 1.)
1. For peer review: 2
 2. Accepted for publication: 1

Admissions Requirements

The *Graduate Admissions Guide* gives information about graduate study at UTA and about the admission process. In the *Guide* there are application forms for U.S. citizens. U.S. resident aliens or international student should contact the Graduate School directly for the appropriate application form. For more information about admissions procedures and applications, visit the UTA Graduate School's Web Page for Prospective Students.

A) Admission Factors

1) Quantitative Factors

a) For M.A. program applicants, undergraduate grade point average (GPA) is determined by the UT Arlington Graduate School. For Ph.D. program applicants, GPA is based on all graduate work completed.

b) For every applicant, Graduate Record Examination (GRE) scores are based on all three parts of the general exam: verbal, quantitative, and analytical (V+Q+A).

2) Qualitative Factors

a) Letters of recommendation: Each applicant must present three (3) letters of recommendation that clearly indicate that the applicant is prepared for and capable of successful graduate study in linguistics at UT Arlington. The letters should further indicate that the applicant is capable of completing the appropriate degree program.

b) Personal Statement: Each applicant must write a statement that explains how graduate study in linguistics is related to both his/her previous academic training and his/her career goals. The statement will be evaluated on the degree to which it is clear, reasonable, and consistent with the research and teaching agenda of the current faculty in linguistics at UT Arlington. It should also convey a level of commitment and maturity commensurate with the applicant's desired degree goals.

c) Undergraduate Preparation: Applicants must have passed the following six courses or reasonable equivalents as determined by the graduate advisor (UT Arlington equivalents are noted in parentheses):

- English composition (ENGL 1302);
 - college-level mathematics (MATH 1302);
 - a laboratory science (any 1000-level course in BIOL, CHEM, GEOL or PHYS; LING 5322 may also be used to fulfill this requirement);
 - linguistic analysis, with a grade of "B" or better (LING 3311/5300);
 - phonetics and phonology, with a grade of "B" or better (LING 3330); and
 - grammar and morphology, with a grade of "B" or better (LING 3340).

Prospective students lacking any of these prerequisite courses may enroll in them at UT Arlington. The

English, math and science courses listed above are offered each semester; the linguistics courses are offered in the spring semester of each year, thereby preparing otherwise qualified applicants for unconditional graduate-school enrollment in the following fall semester.

d) Previous Graduate Work (Ph.D. Applicants only): Ph.D. applicants must present at least 30 semester credits of previous graduate-level coursework (in any field, not necessarily linguistics).

B) Evaluation Metrics

Admission criteria for the Ph.D. in Linguistics program are listed in the Graduate Catalog pages [here](#):

Fellowships for Graduate Study in Linguistics at UT Arlington

Graduate School Fellowships (*new students only*)

The UT Arlington Graduate School provides a limited number of fellowships for new graduate students. Fellowships, when available, will be awarded on a competitive basis. Nominees for a UTA Graduate School Fellowship in Linguistics will be selected based on the following criteria:

- Candidates must be new students entering in the fall semester, with a minimum of 6 hours of enrollment in both long semesters to retain their fellowships.
- The minimum undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.3, as calculated by the Graduate School, plus a GPA of 3.3 for any graduate credit hours.
- Transcript of a completed bachelor's degree from an accredited institution.
- Three letters of recommendation. The Program in Linguistics will use the same letters submitted for admission.
- A written statement explaining the applicant's reasons for graduate study in Linguistics.

Linguistics Scholarships (*new and continuing students*)

The UT Arlington Program in Linguistics also provides a limited amount of funding to students pursuing a Graduate Degree in Linguistics. These "Linguistics Scholarships" are awarded on a competitive basis, with the minimum criterion being a GPA of 3.3, calculated as follows:

For new students: GPA as computed for the admissions process.

For returning students:

- part-time students: the most recently completed 9 credit hours of letter-graded courses completed as a Linguistics Graduate Student at UT Arlington.
- full-time students: the most recently completed academic semester in which the student took least 6 hours of letter-graded courses.

The maximum amount that shall be awarded to any scholarship applicant enrolled full-time during the award period will be \$1000 for the academic year. Students who are awarded scholarships but who are not enrolled for a least 9 credit hours will have the total amount of the scholarship prorated to reflect the percentage time enrolled (e.g. 3 credit hours per semester = \$333 for the academic year).

Because the amount of funds available for Linguistics Scholarships fluctuates from year to year, there may be occasions upon which the number of applicants exceeds the number of students that can be supported. In such circumstances, applicants will be ranked according to the GPA criterion specified above; those students

with the highest GPAs will receive preference in funding. Moreover, returning students will also be evaluated as to whether or not they are making reasonable progress toward the completion of their degree, with preference given to those students who have taken fewer than 12 credit hours of courses titled "Thesis" or 18 credit hours of courses titled "Dissertation."