



University of New Hampshire
College of Liberal Arts

LINGUISTICS

DEGREE OPTIONS

Linguistics, B.A.

Linguistics is the study of one of the most important characteristics of human beings — language. Linguists are interested in understanding the properties common to all human languages along with language history, function and acquisition. What are the characteristics that all languages share and what makes each language distinctive? How does language vary according to region, social class, ethnicity and gender? Linguists also explore many specific aspects of individual languages, language groups and language uses. Linguistics cuts across the boundaries between the sciences and the humanities and is closely allied with many other fields, including anthropology, psychology, sociology, speech therapy and computer science. The UNH linguistics program is unique among regional institutions for its commitment to undergraduate education and its well-rounded curriculum.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Linguistics majors study two or more languages

Senior capstone project develops fieldwork and language documentation skills, working with a native speaker of an unfamiliar language in a creative and fun group setting.

Internship opportunities in teaching English as a second language

Double major options in international affairs, justice studies, psychology, anthropology, philosophy, English and other areas

TOPICS YOU MAY STUDY

Linguistic analysis

Phonetics and phonology

Syntax and semantics

Sociolinguistics

Psychology of language

Linguistic field methods

History of the English language

Languages of the world

Methods of foreign language teaching



“The linguistics program at UNH has challenged my preconceived notions about what language is and why we use it. Studying linguistics pushes us to reconsider language as a framework that we inhabit, renegotiate and rebuild when necessary; it is a living and breathing artifact that reflects how humans’ relationship with their environment has changed over time, and will continue to change.”

— RACHEL CAMPBELL '21

AS A LINGUISTICS MAJOR, AMONG YOUR POTENTIAL CAREERS ARE:

Analyst
Editor
English as a Second Language
teacher
Interpreter
Knowledge engineer
Lexicographer
Speech pathologist
Translator

Linguistics Program

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