
Linguistics and Oriental Languages

OFFICE: Business Administration 327
TELEPHONE: (619) 594-5268
FAX: (619) 594-4877
WEB SITE: www.rohan.sdsu.edu/dept/linguist/loi.html

In the College of Arts and Letters

Faculty

Soonja Choi, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics, Chair of Department
Zev Bar-Lev, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Thomas S. Donahue, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
(Graduate Adviser)
Jean Mark Gawron, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Yoshiko Higurashi, Ph.D., Professor of Japanese
(Director, Japanese Language Program)
Ann M. Johns, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Jeffrey P. Kaplan, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Gail L. Robinson, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Robert Underhill, Ph.D., Professor of Linguistics
Ryu Kitajima, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Japanese
Deborah Poole, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Linguistics
Charlotte Webb, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Linguistics
(Certificate Adviser)
Zheng-sheng Zhang, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Chinese
Betty T. R. Samraj, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Linguistics
Ruey-Juan Regina Wu, M.A., Assistant Professor of Chinese

Associateships

Graduate teaching associateships in linguistics are offered each semester to a limited number of qualified students to teach the composition courses for international students. Those interested should send a letter of application to the graduate adviser.

General Information

The Department of Linguistics and Oriental Languages offers graduate study leading to the Master of Arts degree in linguistics. The interdisciplinary program provides broad educational opportunities through three specializations: 1) General Linguistics, for those planning to pursue a doctorate in theoretical areas (e.g., syntax or phonology) or for those who plan to work in a language-related field in industry or education; 2) ESL/Applied, for students planning to pursue a doctorate in applied linguistics, or intending to teach or design curriculum for ESL/EFL classrooms; 3) Computational Linguistics, for those planning a career in business or industry in computational linguistics, or a doctorate in this area. In addition to completing coursework for one of the specializations and demonstrating proficiency in a foreign language, students are required to submit a thesis (Plan A) or pass a comprehensive examination (Plan B).

All students who complete the required program will receive a Master of Arts degree in linguistics. If requested, the department will provide a letter designating a student's specialization for purposes of employment or application for further study. The specializations and language research interests of faculty members in this program are:

Zev Bar-Lev – ESL, discourse analysis, linguistics and computers; Hebrew, Arabic, and Russian.

Soonja Choi – Psycholinguistics, first and second language acquisition, cognition and language, ESL, materials development; Korean, French.

Thomas S. Donahue – American dialectology, sociolinguistics, historical linguistics; old English, middle English.

Ann M. Johns – ESL methodology, materials development, teaching second language reading and writing, discourse and genre analysis; Arabic and Chinese.

Jeffrey P. Kaplan – Syntax, semantics, pragmatics, discourse, language and law; Swahili.

Deborah Poole – Classroom interaction, discourse analysis, cross-cultural interaction, ESL methods and materials.

Gail L. Robinson – Second language methodology, second language and culture acquisition, psycholinguistics; Spanish.

Betty T. R. Samraj – Discourse analysis, writing in the disciplines, ESL methods and materials, systemic-functional linguistics.

Robert Underhill – Descriptive linguistics, phonology, syntax, discourse; Turkish, Native American languages, Southeast Asian languages.

Charlotte Webb – Phonology, second Language acquisition, sociolinguistics; Spanish, Chinese, Lapp.

Admission to Graduate Study

In addition to meeting the requirements for admission to the University with classified graduate standing, as described in Part Two of this bulletin, the student must have a Bachelor of Arts degree in linguistics or a related field that would demonstrate adequate preparation for the program.

Students applying for admission should electronically submit the University application available at www.csumentor.edu.

The following materials should be submitted as a complete package directly to the Department of Linguistics:

- (1) Two sets of official transcripts (in sealed envelopes). The grade point average required for admission to the M.A. program in linguistics is 3.0 in the last 60 semester units attempted;
- (2) GRE scores (official notification). All students are required to have GRE scores of 1050 or better on the combined verbal/quantitative portions of the test (with a minimum of 500 on each part);
- (3) TOEFL scores: Students who have a B.A. from a university where English is not the primary medium of instruction are required to have TOEFL scores of 570 or better. The TWE (Test of Written English) is also required, and will primarily be used to advise students regarding their program of courses;
- (4) Candidates must also submit with the application a statement of purpose (250-500 words) which demonstrates an understanding of the SDSU program and which show interest in an area of research that is within the department's score of expertise;
- (5) Applicants should arrange two letters of recommendation be sent directly from the recommenders (who can evaluate the applicant's academic potential) to the Department of Linguistics graduate adviser.

A student who is deficient in any of the above requirements may be considered for conditional admission. A candidate may be required to complete specified courses within a specific time period in addition to completing the minimum 30 units required for the degree.

The Fall 2002 graduate application deadline for the Department of Linguistics is May 15, 2002; for Spring 2003 the deadline is November 1, 2002. In order to ensure consideration, you must have ALL application materials to both the Office of Graduate Admissions and the department by the deadline.

Mail or deliver your complete admissions package to:

Department of Linguistics (Business Administration 327)
(Attention: Graduate Adviser)
San Diego State University
5500 Campanile Drive
San Diego, CA 92182-7727

For additional information, contact Yasmine Panahi at ypanahi@mail.sdsu.edu and request an M.A. information packet.

Advancement to Candidacy

All candidates must satisfy the general requirements for advancement to candidacy as described in Part Two of this bulletin. In addition to the requirements listed, students must demonstrate reading or speaking knowledge of at least one foreign language prior to advancement to candidacy.

Specific Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree

(Major Code: 15051)

In addition to meeting the requirements for classified graduate standing and the basic requirements for the Master of Arts degree, as described in Part Two of this bulletin, the student must complete a graduate program of at least 30 units of 500-, 600-, and 700-level courses including Linguistics 622 and 795. A minimum of 15 of the units taken must be from 600- or 700-level courses.

Students selecting the General Linguistics specialization must complete Linguistics 621 and six units from the following: Linguistics 610, 620, 640, 651, 654, and 660.

Students selecting the ESL/Applied specialization must complete either Linguistics 521 or 621, Linguistics 652, and at least six units from the following: Linguistics 623, 650, 653, and 655. An internship, Linguistics 740, is required of all students selecting this specialization who have not taught ESL previously.

Students selecting the Computational Linguistics specialization must complete Linguistics 571, 581, 582, 621, and nine units selected from Linguistics 596 (when offered with computational linguistics content), 620, 654, 681, 682, 696 (when offered with computational linguistics content); Computer Science 550, 560, 562, 596 (when offered with computational linguistics content), 620A, 650 (when offered with computational linguistics content), 696 (when offered with computational linguistics content). **A prerequisite to the Computational Linguistics specialization is completion of Linguistics 570 or equivalent.**

Students selecting one specialization may enroll in courses from the other specialization as electives.

With the approval of the graduate adviser, a maximum of six units selected from the following courses will be accepted for graduate credit in linguistics: Anthropology 604; Communication 530, 584, 765; Communicative Disorders 790, 792, 793; Rhetoric and Writing Studies 602; Russian 580; Spanish 561, 770.

Plan A or Plan B

With approval of the graduate adviser, a student may choose either Plan A, the normal option which requires a thesis, or in special circumstances and with the prior approval of the graduate adviser, Plan B, which requires a written comprehensive examination. Plan A students must select a committee of three faculty, two of whom are from the department, to supervise the thesis. In consultation with the graduate adviser, students select one of two options upon approval of an official program and advancement to candidacy.

Advanced Certificate in Applied Linguistics and English as a Second Language (ESL)

The Department of Linguistics and Oriental Languages offers a Basic and an Advanced Certificate in Applied Linguistics and English as a Second Language (ESL). The Advanced Certificate requires Linguistics 652; two courses from Linguistics 650, 653, 655, and 795 (when offered with applied linguistics content); and one course from Linguistics 530, 622, 623, 651, 654, and 795. The prerequisite to the Advanced Certificate is the Basic Certificate or its equivalent. A student's entire program comprising Basic and Advanced Certificates must include at least one course from Linguistics 530, 622, and 623. Under certain circumstances comparable courses taken at other institutions may count toward the Certificate. Such courses must be evaluated and approved by the certificate adviser. For information on the Basic Certificate, please see the *General Catalog*.

Courses Acceptable on Master's Degree Programs in Linguistics (LING)

UPPER DIVISION COURSES

520. Fundamentals of Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Principles of modern linguistics, with attention to English grammar (syntax, morphology, phonology). Language change, dialects, sociolinguistics, psycholinguistics, language acquisition.

521. Phonology (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Introduction to the theoretical principles of transformational-generative phonology.

522. Syntax (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Introduction to the theoretical principles of transformational-generative syntax.

524. American Dialectology (3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Development of American English. Regional, social, and ethnic differences in pronunciation, grammar, and vocabulary. Differences in men's and women's language. Black English.

525. Semantics and Pragmatics (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Advanced semantic theory; systematic analysis of the interaction of sequences of language with real world context in which they are used.

530. English Grammar (3)

Prerequisite: Six upper division units in linguistics.

English morphology, syntax, and discourse structure, including simple and complex sentence structure; lexical categories and sub-categories; discourse functions of selected constructions. Problems and solutions in teaching English grammar.

550. Theory and Practice of English as a Second Language (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

The nature of language learning; evaluation of techniques and materials for the teaching of English as a second language.

551. Sociolinguistics (3)

Prerequisite: A course in introductory linguistics.

Investigation of the correlation of social structure and linguistic behavior.

552. Psycholinguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Psychological and mental processes related to comprehension, production, perception, and acquisition of language in adults and children.

553. Bilingualism (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520 or Communicative Disorders 300.

Bilingual societies; language choice by bilinguals; bilingual language acquisition; effects of bilingualism on language structure and use.

554. Child Language Acquisition (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Theories and research methods in child language acquisition; quantitative and qualitative analyses of data at various levels of grammar (phonology, morphology, lexicon, syntax, and discourse) using language and acquisition corpora.

555. Practical Issues in Teaching English as a Second Language (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520; and credit or concurrent registration in Linguistics 550.

Practical approaches to applications of the theory of English as a Second Language (ESL) and methodology for speaking, reading, listening, writing; techniques for facilitating growth of communicative competence.

570. Mathematical Linguistics (3)

Prerequisites: Two linguistics courses.

Mathematical tools for linguistics: set theory; basic algebraic structures such as groups, lattices, and Boolean algebras; formal language theory; propositional and 1st-order logic. Some emphasis on proofs. Applications to linguistics.

571. Computational Corpus Linguistics (3)

Prerequisites: Two linguistics courses.

Practical introduction to computation with text corpora and introduction to Perl. Tokenizing, part-of-speech tagging, and lemmatizing (stemming) large corpora. Writing of Perl programs required.

581. Computational Linguistics (3)

(Same course as Computer Science 581.)

Prerequisites: Linguistics 570 or Mathematics 245; Linguistics 571 or Computer Science 320.

Basic concepts in computational linguistics including regular expressions, finite-state automata, finite-state transducers, weighted finite-state automata, and n-gram language models. Applications to phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax. Probabilistic models. Statistical techniques for speech recognition.

582. Computational Syntax and Semantics (3)

Prerequisites: Linguistics 522 and 581.

Review of finite-state and context free languages; unification grammars; problems of meaning and intention in computational systems. Example applications from information retrieval, dialogue, and machine translation systems.

596. Selected Topics in Linguistics (1-3)

Prerequisite: Upper division standing.

Advanced study of selected topics. See Class Schedule for specific content. May be repeated with new content. Limit of nine units of any combination of 296, 496, 596 courses applicable to a bachelor's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

GRADUATE COURSES

610. Topics in Historical Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Three upper division units in linguistics, preferably Linguistics 410, 520, or 521.

Methods and principles used in historical study of language; processes of language change in phonology, syntax, and semantics; linguistics reconstruction; origin of language; language families; development of writing. Analysis of Indo-European, Old English, or Middle English. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units.

620. Advanced Formal Syntax (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 522.

Advanced study of formal syntactic theory.

621. Advanced English Phonology (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 521.

English phonetics, phonemics, and phonological rules. Phonological differences among American English dialects. Survey of contemporary approaches to phonology.

622. Discourse and Syntax (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 522.

Functional and discourse-oriented approaches to syntax and syntactic approaches to discourse.

623. Immigrant Languages (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 420 or 520.

Contrastive structure of selected languages representing significant immigrant populations in San Diego; emphasis on phonological, orthographic, morphological, lexical and syntactic features.

640. Field Methods in Linguistics (3)

Prerequisites: Linguistics 521 and credit or concurrent registration in Linguistics 622.

Principles and techniques of linguistic analysis working directly with native informants, including phonemic, grammatical, and syntactic analysis and text collection and interpretation.

650. Materials Development in Applied Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 550.

Materials development and adaptation for teaching English as a second language and foreign language.

651. Sociology of Language (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 551.

Public and private reasons for planned language behavior. Creoles, personal speech interaction patterns, bilingualism, cultural diversity in language use, social-theoretical background, language planning, and social uses of sexism in language.

652. Second Language Acquisition (3)

Prerequisites: Linguistics 452 or 552; and 550.

Analyses of theories of second language acquisition; theoretical and empirical bases of current second language teaching methodologies.

653. ESL Reading and Writing (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 550.

Application of discourse and reading theory to the teaching and testing of ESL reading and writing. Issues of coherence, process-product, genre studies.

654. Language and Cognition (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 552.

Language production, comprehension, and acquisition, as these relate to human cognition.

655. English for Specific Purposes and Content-Based Instruction (3)

Prerequisites: Linguistics 420 or 520, and 550.

Theory, practice, and history of these two related approaches to ESL/EFL.

660. History of Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Two courses in linguistics or equivalent background.

Background and development of modern linguistic theory.

681. Statistical Methods in Computational Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 581.

Statistical methods for computational linguistics. Markov chains, hidden Markov models, statistical estimators for n-gram models, finding collocation and subcategorization frames, collecting selectional preferences, part-of-speech tagging, word sense disambiguation, probabilistic context-free grammars.

682. Computational Sentence and Discourse Semantics (3)

Prerequisite: Linguistics 582.

Computational issues in logical representations of sentence and discourse semantics. Semantic components of unification-based natural language understanding systems: compositional rules, syntactic and semantic processing, contextual pragmatic resolution, translation to application semantics. Quantifier scope, anaphora, ellipsis, reference resolution, conjunction.

696. Advanced Topics in Linguistics (1-3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Advanced study in specific areas of linguistics. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree. Maximum combined credit of six units of Linguistics 596 and 696 applicable to a 30-unit master's degree.

740. Internship in English as a Second Language and Foreign Language Teaching (3) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Linguistics 550.

Internship in teaching English as a second language and English as a foreign language, offering work experience with practicing professionals.

750. Directed Language Study (3)

Prerequisite: Consent of instructor.

Directed independent study of a foreign language not offered at San Diego State University with aim of acquiring a developing competency in the language. May include speaking, listening, reading, writing, and grammar. May be repeated with approval of graduate adviser.

795. Seminar in Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: Completion of three units of 600- and 700-numbered courses in the master's program for linguistics.

Research in linguistics, course content varying according to instructor. May be repeated with new content. See Class Schedule for specific content. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

798. Special Study (1-3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisite: Consent of staff; to be arranged with department chair or instructor.

Individual study. Maximum credit six units applicable to a master's degree.

799A. Thesis (3) Cr/NC/RP

Prerequisites: An officially appointed thesis committee and advancement to candidacy.

Preparation of a project or thesis for the master's degree.

799B. Thesis Extension (0) Cr/NC

Prerequisite: Prior registration in Thesis 799A with an assigned grade symbol of RP.

Registration required in any semester or term following assignment of RP in Course 799A in which the student expects to use the facilities and resources of the University; also student must be registered in the course when the completed thesis is granted final approval.

