

LANGUAGE AND MIND (BA)

Department Website (<http://as.nyu.edu/philosophy/>)

NYSED: 21237 **HEGIS:** 4903.00 **CIP:** 24.0103

Program Description

The College's Language and Mind major is an interdisciplinary approach to understanding the human mind through the study of language. At the core of Cognitive Science, this endeavor has emerged as a preeminent research frontier, forging links across the humanities, the social sciences and the hard sciences. Reflecting the interdisciplinary character of this frontier, the Language and Mind program is strongly integrative, drawing courses from three departments: Linguistics, Psychology and Philosophy. Human language is at the center of the Language and Mind study program, but the major is broader than Linguistics; the program also incorporates Psychological experimentation techniques and Philosophical inquiry. The aim is to give students the necessary background for exploration of new perspectives for both language and the human mind.

This major, intended as an introduction to cognitive science, is administered by the Departments of Linguistics (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/linguistics/homepage.html>), Philosophy (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/philosophy/about.html>), and Psychology (<https://as.nyu.edu/departments/psychology/about.html>).

Joint Honors

For the requirements of joint honors in language and mind, students should follow the same procedure for honors in linguistics, except that their proposal should identify faculty members from two departments in the language and mind major (linguistics, philosophy, and psychology) who will be co-advisers. The thesis topic must reflect contributions to both disciplines.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

The major requirements (40 credits) must be completed with a grade of C or higher. Courses graded Pass/Fail do not count. Joint majors should consult with the directors of undergraduate studies of the three participating departments for advisement.

| Course | Title | Credits |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| General Education Requirements | | |
| First-Year Seminar | | 4 |
| EXPOS-UA 1 | Writing The Essay: | 4 |
| Foreign Language ¹ | | 16 |
| Physical Science | | 4 |
| Life Science | | 4 |
| Texts and Ideas | | 4 |
| Cultures and Contexts | | 4 |
| Expressive Culture | | 4 |

Major Requirements

Linguistics Courses

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|---|-------------------------------|---|
| LING-UA 3/ PSYCH-UA 27 or LING-UA 1 | Language and Mind Language | 4 |
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Select two of the following: 8

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| LING-UA 4 | Intro to Semantics | |
| LING-UA 12 | Phonological Analysis | |
| LING-UA 13 | Grammatical Analysis | |

Select one of the following: 4

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| LING-UA 4 | Intro to Semantics | |
| LING-UA 5/ PSYCH-UA 56 | Intro Psycholinguistics | |
| LING-UA 6 | Patterns in Language | |

LING-UA 7

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|------------|-----------------------|--|
| LING-UA 11 | Sound and Language | |
| LING-UA 12 | Phonological Analysis | |
| LING-UA 13 | Grammatical Analysis | |
| LING-UA 19 | Advanced Semantics | |

LING-UA 35

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| LING-UA 37 | The Syntax/Semantics Interface Cross-linguistically | |
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| LING-UA 43/ PSYCH-UA 300 | Neural Bases of Language | |
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| LING-UA/ PSYCH-UA 48 | Linguistics as Cognitive Science | |
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| LING-UA 52/ DS-UA 203 | Machine Learning for Language Understanding | |
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| LING-UA 54 | Learning to Speak: First and Second Lang Acquisition of Sound | |
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| LING-UA 55 | Intro to Morphology at An Advanced Level | |
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| LING-UA/ PSYCH-UA 59 | First Language Acquisition | |
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Philosophy Course

Select one of the following: 4

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| PHIL-UA 5 | Minds and Machines | |
| PHIL-UA 70 | Logic | |
| PHIL-UA 85 | Philosophy of Language | |

Psychology Courses

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| PSYCH-UA 10 or PSYCH-UA 11 | Statistics for The Behavioral Sciences Statistics and Data Analysis for Research in Psychology | 4 |
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| PSYCH-UA 29 | Cognition | 4 |
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Select one of the following: 4

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| PSYCH-UA 56/ LING-UA 5 | Psycholinguistics | |
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| PSYCH-UA 300 | Spec Topics Psych: (Language Acquisition and Cognitive Development) | |
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| PSYCH-UA 300/LING-UA 43 | Spec Topics Psych: (Neural Bases of Language) | |
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| PSYCH-UA 300 | Spec Topics Psych: (Speech: A Window into the Developing Mind) | |
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Select one of the following: 4

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|--|---|------------|
| PSYCH-UA 22 | Perception | |
| PSYCH-UA 25 | Cognitive Neuroscience | |
| PSYCH-UA 46 | Lab in Cognition and Perception | |
| PSYCH-UA 56/ | Psycholinguistics | |
| LING-UA 5 | | |
| PSYCH-UA 300 | Spec Topics Psych: (Language Acquisition and Cognitive Development) | |
| PSYCH-UA 300/LING-UA 43 | Spec Topics Psych: (Neural Bases of Language) | |
| Additional Course | | |
| Select one course from the lists above that has not already been taken to satisfy the departmental components. | | 4 |
| Electives | | |
| Other Elective Credits | | 44 |
| Total Credits | | 128 |

1

The foreign language requirement is satisfied upon successful completion through the Intermediate level of a language. This may be accomplished in fewer than 16 credits, but those credits must then be completed as elective credit.

Sample Plan of Study

| Course | Title | Credits |
|--|--|-----------|
| 1st Semester/Term | | |
| LING-UA 1 or LING-UA 3 | Language or Language and Mind | 4 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| First-Year Seminar | | 4 |
| Texts and Ideas | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 2nd Semester/Term | | |
| PSYCH-UA 1 | Intro to Psychology ¹ | 4 |
| EXPOS-UA 1 | Writing The Essay: | 4 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| Cultures and Contexts | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 3rd Semester/Term | | |
| LING-UA 11 | Sound and Language ² | 4 |
| PSYCH-UA 10 or PSYCH-UA 11 | Statistics for The Behavioral Sciences or Statistics and Data Analysis for Research in Psychology | 4 |
| PSYCH-UA 29 | Cognition | 4 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 4th Semester/Term | | |
| LING-UA 12 | Phonological Analysis ¹ | 4 |
| Select one of the following: (see footnote below) ² | | 4 |
| Foreign Language | | 4 |
| Expressive Culture | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 5th Semester/Term | | |
| LING-UA 13 | Grammatical Analysis ³ | 4 |
| Physical Science | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Select one of the following: (see footnote below) ⁴ | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 6th Semester/Term | | |
| Select one of the following: | | 4 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| PHIL-UA 5 | Minds and Machines | |
| PHIL-UA 70 | Logic | |
| PHIL-UA 85 | Philosophy of Language | |
| Life Science | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 7th Semester/Term | | |
| Joint Major Elective ⁵ | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| 8th Semester/Term | | |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Elective | | 4 |
| Credits | | 16 |
| Total Credits | | 128 |

1

Prerequisite for entering major; does not count toward its requirements.

2

Select one of the following: PSYCH-UA 56/LING-UA 5 Psycholinguistics or PSYCH-UA 300 Language Acquisition and Cognitive Development or PSYCH-UA 300/LING-UA 43 Neural Bases of Language or PSYCH-UA 300 Speech: A Window into the Developing Mind.

3

Consult list of all approved LING-UA courses.

4

Select one of the following: PSYCH-UA 22 Perception or PSYCH-UA 25 Cognitive Neuroscience or PSYCH-UA 46 Laboratory in Cognition and Perception or PSYCH-UA 56/LING-UA 5 Psycholinguistics or PSYCH-UA 300 Language Acquisition and Cognitive Development or PSYCH-UA 300/LING-UA 43 Neural Bases of Language.

5

Select from LING-UA, PHIL-UA, or PSYCH-UA courses.

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of program requirements, students are expected to have developed:

1. An understanding of how the fields of linguistics, psychology, and philosophy approach the study of the human language faculty within the cognitive sciences.
2. An understanding of linguistic approaches to the study of human language in the areas of phonetics, phonology, syntax, and semantics.
3. The ability to analyze, interpret, and assess linguistic and behavioral data that contribute to the cognitive science of language.
4. Knowledge of different experimental methods used to study the human language faculty.
5. The ability to discuss technical work in the cognitive science of language, both in writing and orally, to an interdisciplinary audience.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

College of Arts and Science Policies

A full list of relevant academic policies can be found on the CAS Academic Policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/arts-science/academic-policies/>).