LINGUISTICS (HBA)
Department of Language Studies

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. It seeks to understand how language is acquired; what the processes and challenges are of learning two or more languages; how linguistic and social interpretation are essential to the creation of meaning; as well as how individual circumstances impact the use of language. Linguistics offers students extensive knowledge and skills: an understanding of the structure and functions of language, through experimental, theoretical, and socially-informed approaches; insight into how to use language appropriately, by studying the practical aspects of English grammar and by exploring the social value of linguistic structures; experience with the hands-on study of linguistic data, through specific courses in experimental linguistics, as well as through opportunities to be involved in faculty research projects.

MAKE THE MOST OF YOUR TIME AT UTM!

We want to help you maximize your university experience, so we've pulled together information and interesting suggestions to get you started, although there are many more! As you review the chart on the inside pages, note that many of the suggestions need not be restricted to the year they are mentioned. In fact, activities such as joining an academic society, engaging with faculty and seeking opportunities to gain experience should occur in each year of your study at UTM. Read through the chart and create your own plan using My Program Plan found at www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans

Programs of Study (POSt)

- Major Program ERMAJ1850 Linguistic Studies (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN0506 Linguistic Studies (Arts)
- Minor Program ERMIN1200 English Language Linguistics (Arts)

Check out...

How are children able to learn more than one language at a time? Take LIN388H5 to examine the bilingual brain, the nature of input and age constraints on language acquisition. Curious about cross-cultural communication? In LIN486H5 you'll examine the cross-cultural language use by second language learners.

What can I do with my degree?

The career you choose will depend on your experience and interests. Visit the Career Centre to explore your career options.

Careers for graduates: A degree in linguistics can prepare you for a career in speech language processing, audiology, computer programming, speech and text analysis, artificial intelligence, voice coaching, teaching, publishing, lexicography, national security, international affairs, forensics, medicine and technology, law, developmental psychology, anthropology, philosophy.

Workplaces: Hospitals; Speech language pathology and audiology businesses; Government; Publishing houses; Newspapers/magazines; Language schools; Acting schools and theatre; Media; Elementary/middle/high schools; Colleges; Universities; Law firms.
**LINGUISTICS MAJOR Program Plan**

**PLAN YOUR ACADEMICS**

**1ST YEAR**
- Enrol in courses LIN101H5 and 102H5 (or LIN100YS).
- Choose a program of study (Subject POS) once you complete 4.0 credits. Use the Degree Explorer Planner and the Academic Calendar to plan your degree.
- Start strong and get informed with utmONE and LAUNCH through the Centre for Student Engagement (CSE). Join a RGASC Peer Facilitated Study Group.

**2ND YEAR**
- Consider applying for Research Opportunity Program (ROP) courses LIN399YS and LIN399Y5. Visit the EEU website for ROP Course Prerequisites. Attend the RGASC’s Program for Accessing Research Training (P.A.R.T.) to enhance your research skills.

**BUILD SKILLS**

- Use the Co-Curricular Record (CCR). Search for opportunities beyond the classroom, and keep track of your accomplishments.
- Attend the Get Experience Fair through the Career Centre (CC) to learn about on- and off-campus opportunities.

**BUILD A NETWORK**

- Networking simply means talking to people and developing relationships with them. Start by joining the Language Studies Academic Society (LSAS). Follow them on Facebook @utmLSAS.
- Go to the LSAS Meet and Greet. Visit the UTM Library Reference Desk.
- Attend events held by the International Education Centre (IEC), whether you are an international or domestic student. Explore different cultures through food, music, and sport or through sight-seeing around the GTA.
- Embark on a UTM Abroad Experience through the IEC. Take advantage of this opportunity to travel as part of a class, or a co-curricular opportunity, and learn about a topic of interest in a unique location.

**BUILD A GLOBAL MINDSET**

- Attend the Program Selection & Career Options workshop offered by the Office of the Registrar and the CC.
- Check out Careers by Major at the CC to see potential career options.
- Explore careers through the CC’s Extern Job Shadowing Program.
- Considering further education? Attend the CC’s Graduate and Professional Schools Fair. Talk to professors – they are potential mentors and references.

**PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE**

- What’s your next step after undergrad?
- Considering further education? Research application requirements, prepare for admission tests (LSAT, GMAT) and research funding options (OGS, SSHRC).
- Market your skills to employers. Get your resume critiqued at the CC. Attend the CC workshop Now That I’m Graduating: What’s Next? Write a strong application for further education. Attend the CC’s Mastering the Personal Statement workshop.

**HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM PLAN**

Read through each year. Investigate what appeals to you here and in any other Program Plans that apply to you.

Visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/program-plans) to create your own plan using My Program Plan. Update your plan yearly.

*Consult the Academic Calendar for greater detail on course requirements, program notes and degree requirements.*

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Skills developed in Linguistics

To be competitive in the job market, it is essential that you can explain your skills to an employer. Visit the Career Centre to learn how to articulate and market the following skills:

**Technical:** knowledge of language use and language faculty; understanding of how humans process and produce language; and understanding of language variation and change.

**Research:** conduct hands-on study of linguistic data related to theoretical and experimental linguistics; apply methodologies from many disciplines; and detail-oriented.

**Analytical:** analyze and interpret various kinds of quantitative and qualitative information as well as critical thinking.

**Communication & interpersonal:** proficiency in critical reading and writing and oral expression; knowledge of how language is used in social contexts; knowledge of the structure of at least one other language besides English.

Get involved

Check out the 100+ student organizations on campus. Here are a few:

- Language Studies Academic Society (LSAS)
- UTM Student Union (UTMSU)
- UTM Athletics Council (UTMAC)

For a listing of clubs on campus visit [www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/clubs).

Services that support you

- Accessibility Services (AS)
- Career Centre (CC)
- Centre for Student Engagement (CSE)
- Experiential Education Unit (EEU)
- Health & Counselling Centre (HCC)
- Indigenous Centre (IC)
- International Education Centre (IEC)
- Office of the Registrar (OR)
- Recreation, Athletics and Wellness Centre (RAWC)
- Robert Gillespie Academic Skills Centre (RGASC)
- UTM Library, Hazel McCallion Academic Learning Centre (HMALC)

Future Students

Admission to UTM

All program areas require an Ontario Secondary School Diploma, or equivalent, with six Grade 12 U/M courses, or equivalent, including English. The admission average is calculated with English plus the next best five courses. The approximate average required for admission is mid- to high-70s. More information is available at [utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook](http://utm.utoronto.ca/viewbook).

**NOTE:** During the application process, applicants will select the Humanities admissions category, but will not officially be admitted to a formal program of study (Specialist, Major, and/or Minor) until after first year.

**Sneak Peek**

Investigate phonetics in LIN228H5! You’ll discover what sounds are most commonly used in languages and learn to recognize and produce them. Curious about sociolinguistics? Take LIN256H5 and get introduced! You’ll study the social implications of linguistic variation.

Undergraduate linguistics is an essential component of a liberal education because any academic discipline that considers human nature — anthropology, communication, literature, language studies, neuroscience, philosophy, psychology, teaching and learning, among others — must have something to say about the nature of language, how it works, and how it is used.

Student Recruitment & Admissions

Innovation Complex, Room 1270
University of Toronto Mississauga
3359 Mississauga Rd
Mississauga ON Canada L5L 1C6

905-828-5400
[www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca/future-students)