APPLIED LINGUISTICS (APLN)

APLN 500 # - Language and Linguistics 3 Credits
An overview of the study of language and linguistics intended to provide
students with a clear understanding of human language and with the
conceptual foundations of linguistics. The course will expose students
to several major areas within linguistics: language acquisition, phonetics,
phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics. It will
introduce the major tenets and principles of linguistics without surveying
the areas treated in the other graduate courses in the department. It is a
prerequisite for all other courses in the M.A. program. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 502 # - Sociolinguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. The study of language in its social context with a
focus on language variation. Topics include language and social class,
language and ethnicity, language and gender, and the study of standard
versus nonstandard varieties of language. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 504 # - Syntax 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. An investigation of the findings of theoretical syntax
and the valuable insights which these provide for syntactic analysis in
language teaching, for language-learning texts, for translation, for work in
artificial intelligence, etc. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 505 # - Semantics and Pragmatics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. An exploration of the main tenets of contemporary
semantics and pragmatics, the areas of linguistics that examine various
aspects of meaning. The course investigates the boundaries between
semantics and pragmatics by studying utterance meaning as well as
lexical and sentence meaning. Students will learn about the applications
of semantics and pragmatics to a variety of areas of applied linguistics. 3
hours lecture.

APLN 506 # - Phonetics and Phonology 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. The study of the basic principles of phonetics and
phonology, and the relevance of these principles to a variety of
applications, including foreign-language teaching, speech pathology, and
the analysis and synthesis of speech by computer. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 508 # - Research Design in Applied Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. A course to teach students in research design,
methodology and data collection procedures. Students learn basic skills
which prepare them for administrative and research positions in fields
such as language planning, ESL curriculum evaluation and language
learning measurement. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 510 # - Discourse Analysis 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. An investigation of the techniques used in discourse
analysis, the branch of linguistics which studies how to analyze naturally
occurring connected speech. Discourse analysis is the study of the
organization of language above the sentence level including the structure
of conversations. It considers language in a social context, in particular
the language used in verbal interactions. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 512 # - Cross-Cultural Discourse Analysis 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 510. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. A discourse analytic examination and comparison of the
verbal practices and communicative strategies of different linguistic,
social, and cultural groups. Students will broaden their understanding of
discourse analysis by investigating verbal interactions that take place
in different languages and within a variety of cultural contexts. 3 hours
lecture.

APLN 518 # - Forensic Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied
Linguistics only. The study of the role of the linguist in the field of
law. The course analyzes the difference between "truth" as defined by
science and by the law. It describes how linguists can serve as "expert
witnesses" in civil cases and in a wide range of criminal investigations.
It also explores how dialect study, discourse analysis, lexical analysis,
phonetics, pragmatics, etc. can provide linguistic evidence crucial to
litigation. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 520 # - Current Theories of Second Language Acquisition 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. An in-depth analysis of the processes of
child and adult second language acquisition (SLA) and how it differs
from first language acquisition and the implications of these theories
for the teaching and learning of second languages. The application of
sociolinguistics and psycholinguistics to language teaching. 3 hours
lecture.

APLN 522 # - Sociocultural Theory and Second Language Acquisition/
Learning 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. An examination of the basic tenets of
sociocultural theory of mind and their application to various aspects
of second language acquisition/learning. The results of recent studies
present evidence that collaborative mental activity carried out through
linguistic means promotes second language learning. At the core of this
theory is the principle of linguistically mediated cognition; that is, growth
in mental abilities is mediated through language working in collaboration
with others. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 524 # - Advanced Structure of American English 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. A detailed analysis of the phonological and
grammatical structures of American English; advanced study of the
social and stylistic varieties of American English; various theories of
English grammar are studied. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 525 # - Methodology of Teaching ESL 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 520. The study of current issues in the teaching
of English as a Second Language. Issues may include innovative
teaching methodologies, the application of language learning theories to
classroom teaching and the adaptation and development of instructional
materials. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 526 # - Computer-Assisted Language Instruction 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Special fee. Designed for prospective and
experienced foreign language and ESL teachers who are interested in
exploring the following areas: the use of network-based computer
instruction; authentic interactive language instruction via the World
Wide Web; and the use and evaluation of currently available software
and CD Roms for teaching second and foreign languages. This course
is intended to introduce students to the use of computer-mediated
language instruction and to the evaluation and selection of software for
language learning. 3 hours lecture.
APLN 528 # - Language Testing and Assessment 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 520 and 525. Basic concepts of testing: reliability, validity, correlation, etc. Statistical concepts: correlation coefficient, standard deviation, etc. Testing individual language skills: listening, reading, writing and oral proficiency. Testing communicative competence. Measuring language dominance in bilingualism. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 529 # - TESL Practicum 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 525 may be taken as prerequisite or corequisite. Completion of other required courses for TESL certification. To provide students who are seeking certification in Teaching English as a Second Language as a second teaching field, with an opportunity to teach ESL in a formal classroom setting. Arrangements will be made on an individual basis for each student. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 530 # - Language Policy and Language Planning 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. The study of the problems facing multilingual societies. The course explores the function of standard languages and the competition which often exists among different populations and languages. Topics include the role of language in ethnic loyalty, the dynamics of language loss and maintenance and the linguistic, economic, sociological, political and educational aspects of language planning. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 532 # - Language and Culture in Minority Education 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. An investigation of the intimate connection between language, culture, and ethnic pride and identity. Study of the communication problems faced by bilingual children due to differences in verbal and non-verbal patterns of communication; survey of various instructional methods and models employed in teaching children from different linguistic and cultural backgrounds; study of the correlation between language and various socio-cultural factors. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 534 # - Languages in Contact 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. A study of the effects of bilingualism and multilingualism on society and on the languages involved. By examining a variety of examples, students become familiar with the possible outcomes of language contact and with the factors that play a role in language-policy decisions in multilingual societies. Pidgins and creoles are also studied. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 535 # - Language Policy in Nations in Transition 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. This course explores the language policy issues that arise in nations in transitions, the ways in which such countries have dealt with or are dealing with these issues, and the outcomes of their actions. The general approach will be to examine a variety of contemporary and historical case studies—i.e. cases of language policy formation in developing countries around the world. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 536 # - Languages of the USA 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. A survey of the indigenous, colonial, and immigrant languages of the U.S. and how they are used in education and general communication. Also studied are factors affecting the maintenance or loss of languages and the shift from native languages to English with discussion of the mutual effects of language contact. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 538 # - Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Language Socialization 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. An exploration of the contribution that linguistics makes for teaching second language learners to read English. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 540 # - Literacy 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. An overview of how reading and writing are acquired among various societies throughout the world and what educational implications this knowledge has in applied contexts, such as in the teaching of English as a Second Language. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 542 # - Cross-cultural Perspectives on Literacy 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. An exploration of the nature of written language and its role in cognition and in social and intellectual life. The linguistic, psychological, and functional differences between speaking, writing, and reading are studied. Literate and nonliterate societies are examined. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 544 # - Linguistics and Reading 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. A study of the insights into the reading process provided by the linguist’s description of what the speaker knows about language; an analysis of what the process of language acquisition tells us about the process by which children learn to read; an investigation of the connection between dialect differences and reading difficulties and an exploration of the contribution that linguistics makes for teaching second language learners to read English. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 550 # - Computational Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. Special fee. A survey of the field of existing computer systems for analyzing natural language. The following areas are covered: parsing, semantic analysis and discourse analysis. Students will be required to analyze human language using a specific programming language such as PROLOG, LISP, or Pascal. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 552 # - Current Issues in Natural Language Processing 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. Special fee. An investigation of the two methodologies that dominate speech and natural language processing: rule-based and probabilistic system design. The two methodologies will be compared in light of their suitability for language processing applications in syntactic and morphological analysis, speech synthesis and recognition, and text classification and information retrieval. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 553 # - Text Analysis Tools 3 Credits
Special fee. An introduction to the computer analysis of text for use in research and teaching. Students learn to develop software to search and manipulate written text and transcribed speech. Applications in computer assisted language learning, corpus linguistics, lexicography, and translation are considered. 1.5 hours lecture, 1.5 hours lab.

APLN 560 # - Translation Theory 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. An exploration of the principles involved in providing semantic “equivalents” between two languages, emphasizing the problems of translating a variety of different types of texts which reflect major cross-cultural differences. 3 hours lecture.
APLN 565 # - Lexicography 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. The study of the principles of compiling dictionaries. Topics include: the collection and evaluation of citations, semantic fields, defining, recording pronunciations, and determining usage. Attention will be paid to the differences among different types of dictionaries. Sample dictionaries are examined and students carry out their own lexicographic project. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 570 # - The Structure of American Sign Language 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. The study of American sign language, or ASL, the manual language of many deaf Americans. This course approaches ASL from a linguistic perspective, examining its semantics, grammar, and "phonology", and comparing ASL with English and other spoken languages. ASL is also compared with other manual languages used in America, including signed English and "total communication". The educational implications of ASL and other manual languages are discussed. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 580 # - Corpus Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Special fee. Corpus Linguistics investigates how linguistic phenomena can be studied using large collections of language data that are available as machine-readable texts (corpora). This course introduces students to some of the commonly used methods and techniques for working with these large quantities of spoken and written language corpora. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 582 # - Language and Mobile Communication 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. This course investigates linguistic aspects of mobile and computer-mediated communication in a variety of contexts and within specific social networks. Using publicly available corpora and a corpus of SMS text messages, students investigate various aspects of language on the go. These include linguistic simplifications, the structure of messages, stylistic variation, linguistic creativity, and the construction of personalized telephony-based networks. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 590 # - Selected Topics in Applied Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. An intensive study in a particular area of applied linguistics to address topics not covered in other courses. Topics reflect current issues in applied linguistics. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits as long as the topic is different. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 591 # - Topics in Cognitive Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): APLN 500. This course explores language as a cognitive function and examines the functioning of the mind through the study of language. It examines how cognitive mechanisms like memory, categorization, attention, and imagery are used during language behavior, and how psychologically viable models of language cover broad ranges of linguistic phenomena. It surveys the theoretical foundations of Cognitive Linguistics and the empirical evidence and arguments for it. Overall, the course considers the relationship between language and cognitive processing in the human brain, explains the conceptual structures and cognitive processes governing linguistic representation and behavior, and studies cognitive approaches to linguistic analysis, lexical semantics, and closely related frameworks of cognitive grammar and construction grammar. 3 hours lecture.

APLN 594 # - Independent Study 1-3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. This course allows MA students to explore areas in Applied Linguistics that are not covered in the normal course offerings. May be repeated for a maximum of 6.0 credits.

APLN 596 # - Independent Study 1-3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. This course allows MA students to explore areas in Applied Linguistics that are not covered in the normal course offerings. May be repeated for a maximum of 6.0 credits.

APLN 605 # - Research Questions in Applied Linguistics 1 Credit
Prerequisite(s): All other required courses for the MA degree in Applied Linguistics. Restricted to MA students in Applied Linguistics only. Research on an approved topic or on an approved reading list in Applied Linguistics. For this requirement, students write a paper based on a research topic that they choose or write a response to a research topic provided to them based on readings that they choose. The papers and/or responses will be read and approved by three faculty members. For this final research requirement, students give an oral presentation at a Linguistics Department colloquium. A grade of In Progress (IP) will be used until the research is completed; may be repeated two times.

APLN 610 # - Seminar for Thesis Students in Applied Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. A seminar for the M.A. student who is completing a thesis. This seminar is designed to facilitate the writing of the thesis by providing students with an opportunity to discuss their work with a faculty facilitator and other M.A. students. This course will be taken after the other core courses have been completed and a thesis topic has been approved. 3 hours seminar.