Linguistics (LNGN)

LNGN 110 # - Language of Food 3 Credits
This course explores the intersection of language and food (or speaking and eating) by investigating what we can learn about language by studying "the language of food." The course introduces fundamental aspects of language and linguistics through an exploration of topics related to food: food terms, food metaphors, the language and structure of menus and recipes, the language of wine, the language of food advertising and labeling, and language practices related to food and eating (e.g., saying grace, making toasts, sharing recipes, etc.). The course examines how people talk about food, how people use food to talk about themselves and about others, and how "food talk" conveys a range of social and cultural meanings. Cognitive aspects of the language of food and taste as well as cross-linguistic similarities and differences will be considered. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 120 # - Language and Computers 3 Credits
This course introduces students to the fundamentals of how computers are used to represent, process, and organize textual and spoken information. It allows students to gain an effective understanding of how the computer works and where problems arise with the involvement of natural language. The course covers the central analytical concepts and provides students with tips on how to integrate this knowledge into their working practice. 1 hour lecture, 3 hours lab.

LNGN 130 # - Speech Processing 4 Credits
Students will apply laboratory methods to investigate the basic concepts of linguistics, psychology and physics that underlie our current knowledge of speech production and perception. The course also covers speech digitization, speech recognition and speech synthesis. 4 hour lab.

LNGN 210 # - Introduction to General Linguistics 3 Credits
The nature and structure of language; the basic techniques for analyzing linguistic structures; phonological, morphological, syntactic and semantic structure of languages, language and dialects; language change; the comparative method in linguistics; human and animal communication; differences between first and second language learning. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 220 # - Structure of American English 3 Credits
The phonology, morphology, syntax of American English, geographical and social dialects; traditional, structural and transformational approaches to grammar. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 230 # - Language in Society 3 Credits
Correlations between language varieties, their functions in particular settings, and the characteristics of their speakers. Black English. The role of second languages within a society: Pidgin, Creole, Lingua Franca, Diglossia, etc. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 240 # - Languages of the World 3 Credits
A survey of the languages of the world from the dual perspectives of their genealogical classification and their typological (or structural) characteristics. It is intended for both majors and non-majors, and presupposes no previous linguistic training. 3 hours lecture. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 245 # - Language and Culture 3 Credits
A study of language in its cultural context. Relationship of linguistic to non-linguistic variables: ethnosemantics, linguistic relativity principle, componental analysis. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 250 # - Language of Propaganda 3 Credits
This course is a multidisciplinary approach to the study of the use of language to manipulate and influence opinions via advertising, innuendo, jargon, emotive language, etc. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 255 # - Language and Gender 3 Credits
A sociolinguistic study of the interaction of language with sex and gender. Course includes a survey of the literature on language and gender plus practical experience in collecting and analyzing linguistic data. Meets Gen Ed 2002 - Social Science Perspectives. Meets World Cultures Requirement. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 260 # - Dialectology 3 Credits
Principles of dialect study; application to American dialects. The origin and development of American dialects in historical, literary, regional, social and urban perspectives. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 270 # - History of Linguistics 3 Credits
Linguistics from the ancient Sanskrit grammarians to the present. Present-day 'schools': Structuralism, glossematics, Prague school, London school, tagmemics, stratificational grammar, transformational grammar. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 280 # - Bilingualism 3 Credits
Compound and coordinate bilingualism; attitudes, motivation, etc.; functions of languages in multilingual settings; problems of newly-independent, multilingual nations in establishing national and standardized languages; analysis of bilingual speech; problems of educating minority groups in this country whose native language is not English. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 284 # - History of the English Language 3 Credits
English from its Indo-European origins up to and including the eighteenth-century grammarians. The Germanic strains; old, middle and modern English. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 288 # - Introduction to Cognitive Science 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): ANTH 100 or CSIT 111 or LNGN 210 or PHIL 100 or PSYC 101. An introduction to the multidisciplinary field of cognitive science. Topics include: the mind-body problem, thought as computation and the computer model of the mind, the role of representation in mental activity. Emphasis will be upon the methodological approaches found in artificial intelligence, cognitive psychology, cognitive anthropology, cognitive neuroscience, linguistics, and philosophy. Cross listed with Computer Science CMPT 288, Philosophy PHIL 288, and Psychology PSYC 288. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 290 # - Language of the Law 3 Credits
The course explores the interface between language and our legal system. Students study the legal language up to the present day. Topics to be covered include, among others, the impact of (il)literacy on the law, the linguistic ramifications of governing bilingual societies, the functions of written laws and legal language, and the social psychological impact of language use in modern-day litigation. Cross listed with Political Science and Law, LAWS290. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 300 # - Syntax 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. The study of sentence structure and the theories designed to describe it. Emphasis on structural grammar, the development of Generative Grammar and contemporary theoretical methods for describing sentence structure. Data will be taken from a number of different languages. Meets the University Writing Requirement for majors in Linguistics. 3 hours lecture.
LNGN 301 # - Semantics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 300. The systematic and objective study of meaning in language. Topics include: referential meaning, semantic fields, componential analysis, synonymy, polysemy, hyponymy, and sequential meaning. Data will be taken from a number of different languages. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 302 # - Pragmatics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 300. The study of pragmatics, an area of linguistics that examines language as situated speech and studies how context affects the interpretation of meaning. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 304 # - Principles of Discourse Analysis 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. This course introduces students to discourse analysis, the subfield of linguistics that analyzes naturally occurring connected speech and written texts and describes the nature of socially-situated language. Central issues in the study of discourse will be examined, including the relationship between linguistic form and function, the relationship between text and context, and the question of "textuality," that is, how a randomly ordered set of sentences is distinguished from a coherent text. Various approaches to discourse will be discussed including speech act theory, interactional sociolinguistics, conversation analysis, and critical discourse analysis. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 310 # - Morphology 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. Morphology is the study of the structure of words. Students will learn to analyze words by working with data from many languages, and they will study the kinds of morphological systems that exist in the languages of the world. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 320 # - Quantitative Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. Language is a complex yet systematic natural phenomenon. Linguists seek to uncover the underlying systems of language using the tools of mathematics: we count, measure or model various aspects of linguistic behavior in order to test hypotheses and discover patterns about how language works. This hands-on course will guide students through the most common quantitative methods in a range of linguistic subfields, using R or other statistical software packages. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 325 # - Principles of Second Language Learning 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. Open to Linguistics majors or admission into Teacher Education program. Theories of second language acquisition; error analysis; individual learner differences; the roles of input, interaction, and formal instruction in language acquisition. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 330 # - Scripting Tools for Text Analysis 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. The course provides an introduction to text analysis by computer with a primary emphasis on building software to perform analyses. The course will concentrate on scripting tools available in the Linux operating system and in Python. The course emphasizes the specific applications of computing to issues in linguistics and computational linguistics using these tools and combinations of the tools in short scripts. 3 hours lab.

LNGN 331 # - Phonetics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval (for Cognitive Science majors). A comprehensive introduction to phonetics, the study of the production of speech sounds and their acoustic characteristics. Students will learn to identify, classify, and transcribe sounds from a variety of languages. While intended primarily for Linguistics majors, this course will also be of interest to prospective language teachers and to majors in Speech, in Psychology, and in Communication Sciences and Disorders. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 332 # - Phonology 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 331 or departmental approval. Phonology studies how languages make use of a particular subset of all the possible speech sounds in a systematic way to produce meaningful units like words and sentences. The objectives of this course will be to give students experience in analyzing phonological data from a wide variety of languages and to survey current theories of phonology. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 340 # - Linguistic Annotation 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. Linguistic annotation of natural language is the practice of adding interpretative linguistic information to a corpus. Linguistic annotation of natural language corpora "adds value" to the corpus. It allows to manually or automatically extract linguistic examples to evaluate a theoretical hypothesis, help formalize and study linguistic phenomena. It is also the backbone of supervised methods for statistical natural language processing. This course introduces the students to the major aspects of linguistic annotation, such as creation/evaluation of annotation schemes, methods for automatic and manual annotation, use and evaluation of annotation software and frameworks, representation of linguistic data and annotations, evaluation of manual and automatically-produced annotations. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 350 # - Linguistics of American Sign Language and Other Signed Languages 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. This course takes a linguistic approach to signed languages and examines how linguistic analysis from phonetics and phonology to syntax and semantics applies to signed languages. The course also addresses acquisition, psycholinguistic, and sociolinguistic aspects of sign languages. Focus is on American Sign Language, the sign language of the Deaf in the United States, but other signed languages are also studied. Knowledge of American Sign Language is not required. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 351 # - Gesture, Sign, and Speech: The Multi-Modality of Communication 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210. Humans communicate using language, but they also communicate using gesture. This course examines these spontaneous movements of the hands and body and how they contribute to human communication. Topics include form-meaning patterns in gesture (e.g., pointing vs. iconic gestures), how gesture helps in language learning, and the role of gesture in thinking. Students will learn about gestural communication that accompanies both signed and spoken languages and how gesture is different from signed languages. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 352 # - Comparative and Historical Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or LNGN 284. Similarities and differences among languages and language families at one point in time and as these develop in time; reconstructing the common ancestor of related languages and determining general laws of linguistic change. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 354 # - Corpus Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. This course is an introduction to the use of corpora (electronic texts) in the study of language. Students are introduced to the field of corpus linguistics, learn how to utilize existing corpora, acquire the basic computational skills and quantitative methods necessary in carrying out a corpus investigation, find out how corpora are influencing recent trends in linguistic research, and have opportunities to apply corpus-based methods in their own work. 1 hour lecture, 3 hours lab.
LNGN 384 # - The Grammars of English 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): WRIT 106 or HONP 101 or LNGN 210. A critical overview of traditional, structural, and transformational-generative approaches to the problems of analyzing the grammar of the English language; practical applications for teaching English and for understanding grammatical principles as a means of more effective writing and literary analysis. Cross listed with English, ENGL 384. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 403 # - Methods and Material of TESL 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 325. The theory and practice of ESL instruction covering the major methodologies, planning lessons, testing language skills, selecting and developing materials and related topics. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 405 # - Field Experience in Teaching English as a Second Language 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 325. Opportunity to teach English as a second language will be arranged for each student in the program.

LNGN 420 # - Language and the Mind 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or PSYC 288 or LNGN 288 or PHIL 288 or CMPT 288. An introduction to the major theoretical and methodological principles of Noam Chomsky’s theory of Universal Grammar and what they tell us about structure of the human mind. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 430 # - Field Methods 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. Collecting linguistic data from an informant; human factors in field work; qualifications of the informant; elicitation techniques.

LNGN 445 # - Natural Language Processing 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. This course introduces students to the field of Natural Language Processing, that is, of the applications of computer technology to linguistics. The major topics will include language generation, syntactic parsing, and the analysis and synthesis of speech. Students will learn to write programs in PROLOG, one of the most widely used computer languages in language and artificial intelligence applications. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 450 # - Selected Topics in Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. Study of special problems and topics in linguistics. Topics announced each semester. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits as long as the topic is different. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 451 # - Selected Topics in Linguistics 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 210 or departmental approval. Study of special problems and topics in linguistics. Topics announced each semester. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits as long as the topic is different. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 460 # - Topics in the Structure of a Selected Language 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. An exploration of a single topic or a small set of topics related to a specific language. Selections of the topic(s) and language will depend on the interests of the students and the instructor, and on the availability of relevant material. The topics will be of general relevance to linguistics, and might relate to phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic, sociolinguistic, historical, or other issues. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits as long as the topic is different. 3 hours lecture.

LNGN 478 # - Independent Study 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. This course is designed (1) to allow students to explore areas of linguistics that are not covered in the normal course offerings of the department; (2) to permit an in-depth analysis of a given subject beyond the scope of a regular semester course; or (3) to provide advanced students with the possibility of research in areas of linguistics that are of special interest to them. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits.

LNGN 479 # - Independent Study 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): Departmental approval. This course is designed (1) to allow students to explore areas of linguistics that are not covered in the normal course offerings of the department; (2) to permit an in-depth analysis of a given subject beyond the scope of a regular semester course; or (3) to provide advanced students with the possibility of research in areas of linguistics that are of special interest to them. May be repeated once for a maximum of 6.0 credits.

LNGN 488 # - Seminar in Cognitive Science 3 Credits
Prerequisite(s): LNGN 300 or CMPT 288 or LNGN 288 or PHIL 288 or PSYC 288. Seminar discussion of foundation works and contemporary research articles in Cognitive Science. With the instructor’s guidance and supervision, each student will define an area of Cognitive Science for comprehensive in-depth review of research and write a literature review. Professional issues in Cognitive Science are discussed. Cross listed with Psychology PSYC 488. 3 hours seminar.