Graduate Program In Linguistics
AT SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY

Surrounded by natural beauty in the stunning city of Vancouver, British Columbia, SFU Linguistics offers a rich environment of diverse theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of language. Graduate students in our program engage in challenging coursework and pursue unique research opportunities while working toward either an MA or a PhD degree.

Simon Fraser University is one of Canada’s top-ranked universities, with about 30,000 students, 5,500 of which are graduate students. The Department of Linguistics is one of the largest in Canada, with 15 research faculty members engaged in cutting-edge, grant-funded research.

The main Simon Fraser University campus is situated on Burnaby Mountain in Greater Vancouver, a cosmopolitan area with a metro population of about 2.5 million. This area of British Columbia is unique in Canada and is known for its mild climate, outdoor recreation, and its highly multicultural population.

Admission
Admission to the graduate program is based on several factors, including appropriate background in Linguistics, GPA, and the availability of a supervisor. For admission to the MA program, students must demonstrate an adequate background in linguistics. Admission to the PhD program presupposes an MA degree in linguistics. PhD students are expected to have developed an area of specialization as demonstrated by a thesis, project, or extended coursework. Application deadline: January 15 every year, for admission in September of that year.

If you have questions, the Graduate Program Assistant can be reached by:
E-mail: linggsec@sfu.ca
Telephone: 1-778-782-4725
Mail: Graduate Program Assistant
Department of Linguistics
Simon Fraser University
Robert C Brown Hall 9202
8888 University Drive
Burnaby BC Canada V5A 1S6

Links
For general information on the department, please visit:
www.sfu.ca/linguistics
For more information on program details, please consult our Prospective Students page:
http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/prospective-students.html
For information on specific research areas, please consult the faculty pages:
http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/people/faculty.html
For further details on our funding policy:
http://www.sfu.ca/linguistics/graduate/prospective-students/graduate-funding.html
The Office of Graduate Studies and Postdoctoral Fellows at SFU provides further information on admission and life as a graduate student:
http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies.html
Electronic application:
http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/future/application_process.html
Research strengths

The strength and expertise of our research lies in the following areas:

- Core linguistics: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics
- First Nations linguistics: Salish, Athapaskan, Algonquian, Halkomelem, language maintenance and revitalization, anthropological linguistics
- Applied linguistics: second language acquisition, computer-assisted language learning, language planning and literacy
- Linguistic variation: sociolinguistics, historical linguistics, typology, language contact
- Language and cognition: language acquisition, language learnability, neurolinguistics, psycholinguistics
- Computational linguistics: computational learning algorithms, corpus linguistics, text processing, Tree Adjoining Grammar
- Experimental linguistics: experimental phonetics, laboratory phonology, experimental syntax
- Discourse analysis and pragmatics: phrasal phonology and intonation, information structure, systemic functional linguistics, text analysis and narrative structure

Research facilities and labs

SFU Linguistics has its own computer lab, and every student receives shared office space with networked computers. In addition, Linguistics is part of a nexus of research labs that allow graduate students to engage in interdisciplinary research projects.

- Language and Brain Lab (Linguistics)
- Cognitive Science Lab (Cognitive Science, Linguistics)
- Natural Language Lab (Computing Science, Linguistics)
- Phonetics Lab (Linguistics)
- Phonology and Cognition Lab (Linguistics)
- Experimental Syntax Lab (Linguistics)
- Phonological Processing Lab (Linguistics)

Program requirements

The Department of Linguistics offers programs leading to M.A. (thesis-based) and Ph.D. degrees.

M.A. Program

24 credit hours (six courses) are required, which should include Ling 800 (Phonology), Ling 801 (Syntax) and Ling 851 (Research Techniques and Experimental Design). Students must also write and defend a thesis.

Ph.D. Program

Students must:
- Complete at least 20 linguistics credit hours (five courses after an M.A.)
- Write two qualifying papers
- Submit and defend a written dissertation proposal
- Write and defend a dissertation

Financial Support

We provide funding for graduate students in the form of entrance scholarships, graduate fellowships, research stipends and teaching assistantships. Canadian citizens and permanent residents are encouraged to apply for fellowships from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. In addition, several Commonwealth and private scholarships are available.

For more information, please visit:
http://www.sfu.ca/dean-gradstudies/awards.html