

PhD Ling

Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics

Under Review | Fall 2027

Proposal Information

Status

Active

Workflow Status

In Progress

Refresh  **Form Submission, Proposer** collapse ▼

Submitted for Approval | Proposer

✓ Lacey Chrisco | 11/14/2025 4:17 PM

Department Chair Approval, Linguistics

Approved | Department Chair

✓ Jill Morford | 11/14/2025 4:31 PM

Registrar Technical Check Approval, Registrar Technical Check

Approved | Registrar Technical Check

— Michael Raine

✓ Maggie Sumruld | 11/17/2025 4:13 PM

College/School Approval, College of Arts & Sciences: Social Sciences & Interdisciplinary

Approved | College or School approver

✓ Keith Hunley | 2/09/2026 10:33 AM

Library Approval, Main Campus Library

Approved | Library Approval

— Sever Bordeianu

✓ Caitlin Wells | 2/11/2026 11:00 AM

SGPC Approval, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee

Approved | Chair

✓ Robben Brown | 9/03/2026 2:38 PM

FSCC Member notification, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Notification Sent | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Member

- ☒ Joe Anderson
- ☒ Laura Belmonte
- ☒ Sara Ice
- ☒ Mary Rice
- ☒ John Russell
- ☒ SueNoell Stone
- ☒ Jonathan Wheeler
- ☒ Kirsten Thomson
- ☒ Paulo Dutra
- ☒ Randi Archuleta
- ☒ Joan Lucas
- ☒ Julia So
- ☒ Jennifer Henry
- ☒ Christopher Holden
- ☒ Justine Ponce

- ☑ Isabella Goss
- ☑ Vanessa Ferguson
- ☑ Lauren McQuiston
- ☑ Jennifer Laws

Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Approval, Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

Approved | Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee Chair

- ✓ Janet Vassilev

FSCC approved this 9/11/26.

9/11/2026 2:09 PM

- Nicole Capehart

Provost Approval, Main Campus Provost

Approved | Provost

- ✓ Pamela Cheek | 10/02/2026 11:43 AM

Faculty Senate Approval, Faculty Senate

Waiting for Approval | Faculty Senate Approval

Nancy Middlebrook

Theresa Sherman

HLC Notification

Notification

Joseph Suilmann

External Review - HED CIP code approval, External Review

Approval | HED CIP code approval

Michael Raine

Maggie Sumruld

Reg. Final Approval/Processing, Registrar

Approval | Registrar final approval

Michael Raine

Maggie Sumruld

Notification, Proposer

Notification | Proposer

Lacey Chrisco

Notification, Faculty Senate Graduate and Professional Committee

Notification | Chair

Robben Brown

EMRT notification, EMRT users

Notification | EMRT user

Enrollment Mgt Reporting Team

Notification, LoboTrax Team

Notification | LoboTrax Staff

Sherri DeLeve

Paula Freitag

Hannah Epstein

Allie Martinez

Glenda Johnson

Changes

- College
- Program Description
- Admissions Requirements
- Requirements
- Proposed Effective Term and Year

Show All ▼

Proposal Information

Proposed

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Naomi Shin

Proposed

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

naomishin@unm.edu

Existing

Sponsoring faculty/staff member

Rosa Vallejos Yopán

Existing

Sponsoring faculty/staff email

rvallejos@unm.edu

Proposed

College

College of Arts & Sciences:
Social Sciences &
Interdisciplinary

Department

Linguistics

Campus

Main Campus

Existing

College

College of Arts & Sciences

Effective Term and Year

Proposed
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2027

Existing
Proposed Effective Term and Year
Fall 2024

Justification

Proposed
Program Justification

In Fall 2025 we adjusted our admissions criteria to allow highly competitive students with a BA to enter the PhD program directly. The modifications we are now proposing in our PhD program are necessary since not all students beginning the PhD have completed a MA in Linguistics. Under the modified program, students in our MA program who transition into our PhD program will be able to complete the PhD program more rapidly, while students who initiate the PhD after a BA will be provided with all of the training necessary for a doctoral student.

This proposal includes two additional non-curricular edits. We have added the department's B- minimum grade policy. While this aligns with Grad Studies policy, GS allows up to two grades of C, C+ or CR grade to count, while the Linguistics Department does not. Because the department policy is stricter than GS policy, it is being added to the catalog. In addition, the Linguistics faculty voted in the 10/20/25 faculty meeting to approve adjusting the Fall Admissions deadline from December 15 to December 1. Moving the deadline up would allow the department to send decision letters to applicants sooner, supporting the department's efforts to recruit top candidates.

REG NOTE: There are proposals for LING 503 and 506 in the workflow. Here they look like two classes with the same title, but this is not the case, and will resolve itself when the courses are approved.

Existing
Program Justification

Modification of requirements: although the listing is restructured, the actual changes to requirements are minor. The most significant one is the reduction in number of required phonetics/phonology courses from two to one.

Graduate program revision
No

Program Category and Level

Program Category	Program Level	Degree, Minor, or Certificate Name
Degree	Graduate	Doctor of Philosophy in Linguistics

Certificate or Degree Type

Doctor of Philosophy

Degree/Certificate Level

Doctoral

Is this program also offered online?

No

File Uploads

Document uploads

Associated Quali Forms

Proposed

Select any associated program forms that exist

Select any associated course forms that exist

LING 506 - Usage-based Phonology (3)

LING 503 - Phonetic Analysis (3)

Existing

Select any associated course forms that exist

Shared Credit and Dual Degree information

Interdepartmental Program

No

Catalog Information

Proposed

Program Description

The Ph.D. program requires a minimum of 48 credit hours of graduate coursework. This may include up to 30 credit hours of appropriate courses from the M.A. but at least 18 credit hours must be work beyond the M.A. At least 24 credit hours must be completed at UNM and at least 18 credit hours must be completed at UNM after admission to the doctoral program.

Required Research Skills

- reading, writing, and conversational ability in a language other than the student's native language (this requirement may be fulfilled by four semesters of college language courses with a grade of "B" or better);
- knowledge of the structure of a non-Indo-European language;
- coursework in statistics up to and including analysis of variance or the equivalent.

Before advancing to candidacy, Ph.D. students are required to complete one qualifying paper and submit it to a refereed journal once it is approved by a committee of qualified faculty, and to prepare and present a dissertation prospectus.

Minimum Grades. Department policy is that graduate students must receive a B- or better in all graduate and pre-requisite courses in linguistics. Courses in which the student earns a lower grade must be re-taken, or another course substituted to fulfill a requirement.

Existing

Program Description

The Ph.D. program requires a minimum of 48 credit hours of graduate coursework. This may include up to 30 credit hours of appropriate courses from the M.A. but at least 18 credit hours must be work beyond the M.A. At least 24 credit hours must be completed at UNM and at least 18 credit hours must be at the 500- or 600-level.

Required Research Skills

- reading, writing, and conversational ability in a language other than the student's native language (this requirement may be fulfilled by four semesters of college language courses with a grade of "B" or better);
- knowledge of the structure of a non-Indo-European language;
- coursework in statistics up to and including analysis of variance or the equivalent.

Before advancing to candidacy, Ph.D. students are required to complete one qualifying paper and submit it to a refereed journal once it is approved by a committee of qualified faculty, and to prepare and present a dissertation prospectus.

Proposed

Admissions Requirements

Admission to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Linguistics is highly selective. Students applying to the Ph.D. may apply with either a bachelor's degree or a master's degree. The following criteria must be met:

- 1) completion of coursework equivalent to the University of New Mexico B.A. in Linguistics with an average of "B+" or better;
- 2) paper of publishable quality demonstrating ability to carry out independent research; and
- 3) willingness of a University of New Mexico Linguistics faculty member to serve as the student's mentor.

Application Deadlines

Fall semester: For best consideration: December 1

All applications seeking financial aid must be received by December 1

Final deadline (no financial aid available): March 31st

Spring semester: None accepted

Summer semester: None accepted

Existing

Admissions Requirements

Admission to the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in Linguistics is highly selective. Students applying to the Ph.D. may apply with either a bachelor's degree or a master's degree. The following criteria must be met:

- 1) completion of coursework equivalent to the University of New Mexico B.A. in Linguistics with an average of "B+" or better;
- 2) paper of publishable quality demonstrating ability to carry out independent research; and
- 3) willingness of a University of New Mexico Linguistics faculty member to serve as the student's mentor.

Application Deadlines

Fall semester: December 15

Spring semester: None accepted

Summer semester: None accepted

All applications seeking financial aid must be received by December 15.

Graduation Requirements

Professional Credential/Licensure Program Information

License/Certification associated with program

No

Professional Accrediting Bodies

Degree Information

Degree Hours

66

Minimum Major Hours

Degree Requirements

Requirements

- Complete all of the following
 - **Complete the following:**
 - **LING503 - Phonetic Analysis (3)**
 - **LING512 - Morphosyntax (3)**
 - **Complete one course from each of these six areas:**
 - **Phonology**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - ~~LING502 - Current Approaches to Phonology (3)~~
 - ~~LING503 - Phonetic Analysis (3)~~
 - **Complete the following:**
 - **LING506 - Usage-based Phonology (3)**
 - **Semantics and Discourse**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - LING529 - Discourse Analysis (3)
 - ~~LING535 - Language Contact (3)~~
 - **LING519 - Cognitive Linguistics (3)**
 - **LING525 - Semantic Analysis (3)**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - ~~LING519 - Cognitive Linguistics (3)~~
 - ~~LING525 - Semantic Analysis (3)~~
 - ~~LING562 - Childhood Bilingualism (3)~~
 - ~~LING568 - Seminar in Psycholinguistics (3)~~
 - **Typology/Field Linguistics**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - LING513 - Linguistic Field Methods (3)
 - LING517 - Typology and Universals (3)
 - ~~LING548 - Grammaticization (3)~~
 - **Sociolinguistics**
 - Complete at least 1 of the following:
 - LING533 - Sociolinguistic Variation (3)
 - LING534 - Language and Gender (3)
 - **LING 590 Sociophonetics can also be used to fulfill the Sociolinguistics requirement. LING 531 Language in Society cannot be used to fulfill this requirement, but it can be taken for elective credit**
 - **Language contact & change**
 - **Complete at least 1 of the following:**
 - **LING546 - Introduction to Language Change (3)**
 - **LING535 - Language Contact (3)**
 - **LING548 - Grammaticization (3)**
 - **Psycholinguistics**
 - **Complete at least 1 of the following:**
 - **LING562 - Childhood Bilingualism (3)**
 - **LING568 - Seminar in Psycholinguistics (3)**

- LING560 - Child Language (3)
- LING569L - Experimental Psycholinguistics (3)
- LING 567 Psychology of Language cannot be used to fulfill the psycholinguistics requirement, but it can be taken for elective credit.
- ~~a~~**Methodology** seminar on a relevant topic may be substituted for courses above with department approval.~~course~~
- ~~Earn at least 3 credits from the following types of courses:~~
~~at least one methods course.~~
- **Complete at least 1 of the following:**
 - LING513 - Linguistic Field Methods (3)
 - LING569L - Experimental Psycholinguistics (3)
 - LING510 - Statistical Methods in Linguistics (3)
- ~~Earn at least 9 credits from the following types of courses:~~
~~three advanced seminars in the areas of preparation for the comprehensive examination.~~
- **The methodology requirement can be fulfilled by a course taken to fulfill one of the core requirements listed above, but it cannot count twice for credit. Alternate courses can fulfill this requirement with department approval.**
- Earn at least 21 credits from the following types of courses:
Additional coursework to meet the minimum of 48 credit hours of graduate coursework. ~~This may include up to 30 credit hours of appropriate courses from the M.A. but at least 18 credit hours must be work beyond the M.A. At least 24 credit hours must be completed at UNM and at least 18 credit hours must be at the 500 or 600 level.~~
- Earn at least 18 credits from the following:
 - LING699 - Dissertation (3 - 12)

Grand Total Credits: 66

Concentrations

Program Concentrations

Code

Title

Concentration Required

No

Emphases

Emphasis required

Emphasis Hours

No

Emphasis Rules

No Rules

Program Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

- A.1. Student can defend an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research using discourse appropriate to a conference setting.
- A.2. Student can defend an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research using appropriate textual, visual, graphic, or other supplementary materials.
- A.3. Student can field questions appropriately for a conference style presentation in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research.
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- B.1. Student can identify an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research.
- B.2. Student can present relevant data for an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research.
- B.3. Student can present a methodology for completing an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics chosen for doctoral research.
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- C.1. Student can write a paper for an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics demonstrating appropriate style and prose conventions for journal articles.
- C.2. Student can critically compare and evaluate relevant theories for an original research problem in a subarea of linguistics.
- C.3. Student can interpret the results of an original study in a manner that brings new insights to a subarea of linguistics.

Registrar Office Only

CM Program Code PhD Ling	BANP	Banner Program Code PHD-LING	Major Code LING
Online Program Code	Online Major Code	Pre-major Program Code	Pre-major Major Code
CIP Code 160102	Concentration Inheritance No		
Catalog Main Campus	Proposed Catalog Activation Date Existing Catalog Activation Date 08/01/24		

Registrar Notes Only