

# LINGUISTICS

This major emphasizes the study of language both as an abstract system and in its psychological and social contexts. It focuses on how the human mind structures, processes, and acquires language as well as how similar communication goals are met by diverse means in the languages of the world.

## BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) GENERAL OVERVIEW

Required lower-division course:

- Introduction to Linguistics

Three of the following four courses:

- Introduction to Phonology and Morphology
- Introduction to Syntax
- Introduction to Semantics and Pragmatics
- Phonetics

Three upper-division courses, one of which must be at the 400-level. Examples include:

- Advanced Semantics
- Child Language Acquisition
- Psycholinguistics
- Atypical Language
- Language and Law

One additional upper-division course in linguistics or a related field, to be chosen in consultation with the department advisor

Capstone experience, which can be fulfilled in one of the following ways:

- A research paper completed as an honors thesis, or as directed research
- A poster presented at the USC undergraduate symposium or at a conference
- A summer internship related to the degree

## ACADEMIC OPPORTUNITIES

**Undergraduate Students in Linguistics:** USiL is an undergraduate student organization dedicated to the enrichment of Linguistics students' academic experience.

**Language Development Lab:** Students have the opportunity to work with a faculty member conducting research on the ways in which children learn to speak.

**Combination Majors:** Students can choose to focus solely on Linguistics for their major, or they can combine Linguistics with East Asian Languages & Cultures, Philosophy, or Cognitive Science, as well as double majors with Computer Science or a language department in order to tailor their studies to their specific professional goals.