LINGUISTICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

As a linguistics student in the Faculty of Arts, you will learn about the analysis of speech sounds, the structure of words and sentences, the meanings they transmit, and differences and similarities between spoken and signed languages. The Department of Linguistics has many opportunities for you to explore, three of which are these areas of study:

1. **General (3-year) or Advanced Major (4-year):** for students wanting to complete a Linguistics degree for reasons other than noted below.
2. **Clinical and Developmental Linguistics:** for students planning to do a master’s degree in Speech-Language Pathology or Audiology.
3. **ASL/English Interpretation (AEIP):** this joint program with Red River College leads to a diploma in American Sign Language - English Interpretation and a Bachelor of Arts degree. See Red River College for more details.

**SKILLS YOU WILL GAIN BY STUDYING LINGUISTICS**

- A knowledge of sound, the structure of words and sentences and their meanings
- The ability to discern how sounds change, words come and go and meanings shift
- The ability to think and read critically and assess evidence to understand and develop innovative solutions to complex problems
- The ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing

**WHAT DO EMPLOYERS WANT?**

Industries such as business, education, health and government would value a linguistics degree in combination with the employability skills that are highly sought after by employers. These include:

- Oral and written communication
- Critical thinking
- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Cultural competency
- Numeracy and data use
- Digital technology
- Continuous learning

Aim at skills through your classroom education by taking advantage of experiential education opportunities.

Information has been taken directly from Employability Skills 2000 and Workplace Education Manitoba – Essential Skills.

**WHAT IS EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION?**

Experiential education will enhance your classroom education by giving you hands-on experience that will resonate with employers. The University of Manitoba offers a wide variety of programs designed to facilitate your personal growth, connect you with others and ignite your active engagement in the local and global community.

**EXPERIENTIAL EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES:**

- Work experience opportunities
- International student exchanges, international internships and travel study
- Local and international service-learning opportunities
- Undergraduate research and entrepreneurship
- Leadership and volunteer opportunities

The Linguistics Compass provides you with suggestions of how and when to use opportunities to make the most of your university experience. You may follow these guidelines or map out your own route.
**YEAR 1 30 CREDITS**

**Course requirements:**
- LING 1200: 3 credit hours from LING 2200, 2420, 2440, 2460 and 2640
- General: At least 9 credit hours from core courses numbered at the 2000 level

**To do this year:**
1. Should you follow a 3- or 4-year plan? Meet with an academic advisor to map out your options.
2. When choosing a minor, take courses (such as computer science) that will open opportunities.

**Start planning your career:**
1. Meet with a career consultant to generate career ideas based on your interests, values, personality and skills.
2. Research occupations that match your skills and interests.
3. Set up a careerCONNECT account to view job postings and register for workshops and events.
4. Register for the Co-Curricular Record (CCR), an official record of university-approved activities.
5. Join the Linguistics at the University of Manitoba Facebook group.

**Make professional connections:**
1. Join the Career Mentor Program to learn from professionals.
2. Attend career fairs to connect with employers.
3. Become a student affiliate with Canadian Linguistic Association or Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics.
4. Develop professional connections with professors by applying for a research assistant position.

**Market your skills:**
- Develop your resume and cover letter and refine your interview skills.

**YEAR 2 60 CREDITS**

**Course requirements:**
- Advanced: 12 credit hours from LING 2200, 2420, 2440, 2460 and 2640
- General: At least 9 credit hours from core courses numbered at the 2000 level

**To do this year:**
1. Participate in the Winnipeg Public Library and take courses to learn a new language, and culture through the Volunteer Language Centre and consider taking a Travel Study course this summer.
2. Participate in the multicultural opportunities at the University of Manitoba or write an article about your experience.
3. Consider learning about the qualifications upon graduation.
4. Continue or start research:
   - Participate in the Undergraduate Research Poster Competition.
   - Check out student job opportunities with: Winnipeg Public Library, social service agencies or become a Writing Tutor with the Academic Learning Centre.
   - Assess your resume: Identify any gaps in experience and fill them through volunteering, work placements or internships such as the International Youth Internship Program.
   - Continue or start research: Participate in the Undergraduate Research Poster Competition.
   - Check out student job opportunities with: Winnipeg Public Library, social service agencies or become a Writing Tutor with the Academic Learning Centre.

**Investigate your career options:**
- Look at sample job postings to ensure you have the qualifications upon graduation.
- Develop employability and essential skills sought by employers.
- Consider continuing your studies: Check out the Faculty of Graduate Studies, Extended Education or professional programs at the U of M.

**YEAR 3 90 CREDITS**

**Course requirements:**
- Refer to the Academic Calendar for a complete list of program requirements

**To do this year:**
1. Confirm eligibility to graduate with an academic advisor and declare intent to graduate in Aurora.
2. APD students confirm graduation with both Red River College and the University of Manitoba.

**Start job search 9 months in advance:**
- Contact Career Services to refine your job search and self-marketing strategies. You can visit the office up to 6 months after graduation.
- If you are continuing on to graduate school:
   - Finalize your application materials and take required tests.
   - Use the awards database to search for funding and awards. Contact your department to find out how their awards deadline are advertised.

**Ensure you have references in place:**
- Update your references to include three (3) work references who will be expecting to be called. Ask your professor for a reference or a letter of recommendation if you are applying for graduate school.

**Search for job opportunities online:**
- Check out Job Bank, Find My Job, Indeed and other search engines.
- Use your networks and connections: Inquire about unadvertised job openings (the “hidden job market”).

**YEAR 4 120 CREDITS**

**Link experiences to your career interests. Options include:**
1. Student groups including Arts Student Body Council, UMSU or a language club.
2. Volunteer with Peers: Students Helping Students or the University of Manitoba Volunteer Program.
3. Student work opportunities including Work-Study, STEP Services or Federal Student Work Experience Program.
4. Experiential education opportunities such as Alternative Reading Week Winnipeg and the Student Leadership Development Program.

**Explore student research opportunities:**
- Apply for an Undergraduate Research Award.
- Gain practical experience by volunteering: Check out Deaf Centre Manitoba, Language Partners Program, Reading Buddies or Toastmasters.
- Find opportunities to market yourself: Become a Faculty of Arts Student Ambassador.

**Develop global career skills and expand intercultural learning:**
- Consider an international student exchange, travel study program or an international service-learning program. My World Abroad or SWAP for a “working holiday”.
- Stay local? Check out the World W.I.S.E. Ambassador Program, Alternative Reading Week Winnipeg, or one of the local service-learning programs. Consider learning about a new language, and culture through the Volunteer Language Exchange Program or learn American Sign Language (ASL).

**Explore opportunities in your field:**
- Did you travel abroad?
  - Become an exchange mentor for the International Student Mentorship Program, join the exchange student community at the University of Manitoba or write an article about your exchange experience.
  - Participate in the multicultural opportunities on campus: Participate in the Intercultural Development and Leadership Program, volunteer for the International Student Mentorship Program, Children Rising Mentorship Program or take part in the Graduation Pow Wow.

**Consider international opportunities:**
- Attend International Week in February for information about opportunities around the world. Visit the Language Centre and consider taking a Travel Study course this summer.
- Explore communities and cultures you want to work with: Visit Mizipgi Agamik and the International Centre or learn about local agencies via 211 Manitoba.
- Explore the Indigenous Languages of Manitoba's Library to learn more about indigenous languages.