

LINGUISTICS

Department Website (<http://www.cas.sc.edu/ling/>)

Linguistics is the scientific study of language. Linguists investigate how speech sounds are organized, how words are arranged into phrases and sentences, and how meaning is structured and interpreted. Linguistics also includes the study of how language is learned and represented in the mind as well as how it changes over time and how it relates to society and culture.

The knowledge gained through studying linguistics complements a wide variety of primary disciplines, including anthropology, computer science, English, philosophy, psychology, and the study of languages and cultures. Courses available include language in society, historical linguistics, philosophy of language, acquisition of language by children and courses devoted to the description of a particular language: English, French, German, or Spanish.

At the undergraduate level, our program offers an undergraduate minor and cognate in linguistics, which prepare students for future graduate work and careers valuing skills such as critical thinking, attention to detail, creative problem-solving and communication. The linguistics minor is also good preparation for graduate study in speech pathology.