BU Linguistics Alumni: Graduate Education and Career Paths

What do our Linguistics majors and joint majors go on to do after they graduate?

Based on our alumni survey, here’s an overall picture of what our alumni are doing now (last updated July 2016):
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Universities where our alumni have gone to continue their study of Linguistics (including not only “Linguistics” but also Applied Linguistics, Clinical Linguistics, Communication & Conversation Analysis, European Linguistics, Forensic Linguistics, Speech and Language Processing, Second Language Acquisition, Cognitive Sciences):

- Boston University
- Brown University
- Columbia University
- CUNY Graduate Center
- Georgetown University
- Harvard University
- Hofstra University
- Lomonosov Moscow State University
- McGill University
- Northwestern University
- New York University
- Rutgers University
- University of British Columbia
- University of Buffalo
- University of California, Berkeley
- University of California, Santa Cruz
- University of Chicago
- University of Delaware
- University of Hawaii at Manoa
- University of Iowa
- University of Southern California
- University of Texas, Austin
- University of Toronto
- Birkbeck, University of London
- Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Sociales in Paris (France)
- Institute for Linguistics in Potsdam (Germany)
- Trinity College in Dublin (Ireland)
- University of Finland (in Helsinki)
- University of Freiburg (Germany)
- University of York (UK)

Other alumni have gone on to graduate study in the fields of:

- Foreign Languages/Literatures, Area Studies
- Speech-Language Pathology (including Bilingual Certification)
- Social Work
- Education (including TESOL, Education of the Deaf, Educational Leadership, International and Bilingual Education, Special Education)
- Media & Education, Digital Media Design, General Instructional Systems Design
- Computer Science, Information Science & Technology, Technology Management
- Library & Information Science
- Engineering
- Industrial Design
- Natural Sciences (including Astronomy & Astrophysics, Biostatistics, Organic Chemistry)
- Philosophy
- Religion
- Journalism, Communication & Media Studies
- Finance, Financial Economics/Administration, Accounting, Entrepreneurship & Innovation, International Trade & Finance
- Business Administration and Management, International Administration, International Management, Strategy & Business Analysis, Business Taxation, Arts Administration
- Global Marketing, Communication & Advertising
- Public Policy, Urban & Regional Policy
- Strategic Public Relations
- Law, including Business Law, Global Business Law, Criminal Justice & Criminology Studies
- Medicine, including Nursing, Public Health, Health Administration, Mental Health Counseling, Community Oriented Public Health Practice
- Creative Writing, Rhetoric and Writing
- Translation, Interpretation
- Fashion and Textile Studies
BU Linguistics Alumni:  Graduate Education and Career Paths

Our alumni hold faculty positions at the following universities:

- George Mason University, Assistant Professor of Linguistics
- Kennesaw State University, Professor of Spanish & Portuguese
- McGill University, Associate Professor of Psycholinguistics and Cognitive Neuroscience, School of Communication Sciences and Disorders
- Rowan University, Associate Professor of Spanish, and Chairperson of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures
- Savannah College of Art and Design, Professor of Interactive Design and Game Development
- Smith College, Lecturer in the English Department and Director of the Jacobson Center for Writing, Teaching and Learning
- University of California, Irvine, Assistant Professor of Linguistics
- University of Georgia, Associate Professor of Linguistics
- University of Jamestown, Assistant Professor of English
- University of Oregon, Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics

What other kinds of positions do our alumni hold currently?

Here is a small set of examples:

- Higher education: Faculty members (see above), and university-level administrators: e.g., director of admissions; director of finance and administration; director of university services; financial aid administrator; director of staff development; international advisor.
- Primary and secondary education: Teachers, consultants, and administrators at many levels in public and private school systems; teachers and leaders of instruction in other countries.
- Other positions related to education and training: planner for an educational travel company; training specialist for the government; work with educational testing services.
- Museums: Education specialist; art & architecture archivist.
- Research: Postdoctoral researcher; research associate; researcher; lab director.
- Publishing: Journal manager; content development lead and operations manager; senior academic designer; acquisitions editor.
- Writing, Translation & Interpretation: Translator, editor, translator-trainer; freelance writer and editor; translation & intercultural communications specialist; operations manager for a translation company; ASL/English interpreter; translation intern at the NY District Attorney’s Office; freelance translator; senior project manager (of translation projects).
- Medicine: Physician, physician assistant.
- Health Administration: Patient services administrator; case management supervisor; epidemiologist and information scientist; customer support director; public health analyst at the FDA; Web production assistant; senior application developer.
- Speech-language pathologist
- Computer companies: Intern; CEO; engineer; project consultant; lead researcher; data associate; data scientist; senior engineer; systems analyst; Web designer; technical writer; linguistic annotator; linguist/project consultant.
- Software development: Intern; product manager; mobile software developer; manager, academic content team.
- Other types of companies (including start-ups): CEO; chief operating officer and managing director; media director; senior tax analyst; management consultant; relationship manager; procurement coordinator; billing and account specialist; manager of retail operations; digital media and customer relations coordinator; customer service manager; executive vice president of technology and product Development; project manager for an advertising company
- Accounting: Tax associate.
- Journalism: Data analyst & reporter.
- Law: Attorney; paralegal; assistant public defender; branch chief, Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals at U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- Government: Member of the MA House of Representatives; government analyst; politician.
- Non-profits: Operations manager at a foundation; intern at a Human Rights center; book associate; supervisor, Justice Resource Institute; participants in AmeriCorps, Peace Corps; policy analyst working for solutions to social justice issues; recruitment director; editor and production manager; Web developer.
- Other: Graphic designer; ship builder; pilot; producer at a commercial music house.

Note to current students:  Many of our alumni have indicated a willingness to connect with current students interested in their career.  If you would like to be connected with one of our alumni, please consult with your advisor or with Carol Neidle.