This major enables students to combine the study of human language from a diversity of perspectives with the study of one or more African languages in cultural and historical context. In their linguistics courses, students explore the formal structures of language (sound system, internal structure of words, syntactic organization, and representations of meaning) as well as language universals, variability across languages, social dimensions of language use, and historical language change. At the same time, in African studies courses they will gain a foundational understanding of the diversity of ethnicities, African languages, cultures, and societies, including the advent of Islam, Christianity, and colonization and their enduring consequences. Courses that focus on the linguistics of African languages bring together the major’s two primary areas of study. Study abroad is strongly encouraged through the linkages of the African Studies Center.

Undergraduate Fellowships

http://www.bu.edu/africa/forstudents/financial-aid/

The African Studies Center offers financial aid in the form of the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship for undergraduates at the intermediate level of African language and area studies. The competitive awards consist of a scholarship and stipend.

Requirements

1. 7 required courses
   - CAS LX 250 Introduction to Linguistics
   - CAS LX 301 Phonetics
   - CAS LX 321 Syntax
   - CAS LX 331 Semantics
   - CAS LX 391 Field Methods
   - CAS AN 521/CAS LX 341 Sociolinguistics
   - CAS AN 524 Language and Culture Contacts

2. 2 electives in African languages
   at or above the 5th semester level, chosen from offerings in Akan (Twi), Amharic, Igbo, Kiswahili, Mandinka, Wolof, isiXhosa, and isiZulu.

3. 4 additional electives
   from among offerings in Linguistics (at or above the 300-level) and African Studies, with at least one in each of those areas.

For the list of electives, please see:
   http://ling.bu.edu/degrees/ling-and-african-lgs

Honors in the Major

Students with a sufficient GPA overall (at least 3.65) and in the major (at least 3.7) and who have already completed at least 4 of the 7 required courses (CAS LX 250, 301, 321, 331, 391; CAS AN 521, 524) can apply to participate in the Honors program, which involves one additional advanced course in Linguistics (at or above the 400-level) and one additional advanced courses in African Studies, both chosen in consultation with the student’s advisor. See the Linguistics Program website for details. Applications will be accepted no sooner than the end of sophomore year and no later than the beginning of the second semester of the junior year. To graduate with honors in the major, the student will need a GPA of at least 3.7 in the 15 major courses.

For information about how this major first in with the BU Hub, see

For further information, see
   http://ling.bu.edu/degrees/ling-and-african-lgs

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Joint Major
in
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African Languages

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see also: https://www.facebook.com/BULinguistics

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