

Linguistics

Master of Arts

The one-year master's programme in Linguistics at Leiden University is concerned with the knowledge, structure and use of language, studied from a wide range of perspectives. It trains you to systematically identify, describe and analyse language phenomena and to apply this knowledge to your specific area of interest.

Why study Linguistics at Leiden University?

- Study linguistics from the perspective of your main inspiration: a specific language, analytical curiosity, theoretical interest or translating ambitions.
- Follow one of our highlighted thematic or disciplinary routes, with the possibility of creating one according to your individual interests.
- Develop your skills in experimental research by training in the Experimental Linguistics Labs, whose facilities include EEG and eye-tracking equipment, as well as a lab to study infants' language acquisition.
- Gain professional experience by doing fieldwork, an internship, or an individual research project.
- Become part of the linguistics community at Leiden University by joining the MA Linguistics colloquium, Linguistic Movie Nights, or by joining the T.W.I.S.T. study association for linguistics students in Leiden.



**Universiteit
Leiden**
The Netherlands

Linguistics study programme

Semester 1	Semester 2
Linguistics courses (20 EC in total) Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Syntax › Cognitive Neuroscience of Language › Describing Languages of Africa, America and Asia › Indo-European Linguistics › Sociolinguistics 	Linguistics courses Options Include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Phonology › Forensic Speech Science › Issues in Language endangerment › Oral Traditions › Language Culture & Cognition
Methods courses (5 EC), choose one from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Qualitative methods in linguistics › Methods in Experimental Linguistics › Field methods › Methods of comparative linguistics › Methods in speech processing 	Electives (20 EC) Options include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Internship › Fieldwork research (depending on linguistic theme) › Elective courses
MA thesis (20 EC)	

Tailor your programme to your interest

In the Linguistics specialisation of the MA Linguistics you can explore the full breadth and depth of linguistics and language use. Courses can be combined along thematic lines. Example themes are language description and documentation, theoretical linguistics, language and communication, comparative Indo-European linguistics, language acquisition, and applied linguistics. Linguistic knowledge can be supplied with research skills in statistics, experimental methods, and speech analysis.

Internship or fieldwork

The MA Linguistics offers students the possibility to exchange one elective for an internship at an organization in the field of language and linguistics, work in an experimental lab, or conduct fieldwork.

Career prospects

A Linguistics master's degree from Leiden University is an excellent preparation for a wide variety of jobs. Our students graduate with valuable practical and theoretical skills, including strong skills in the interpretation of texts and the analysis and solution of conceptual problems, and the ability to independently conduct high-quality scientific research.

Our alumni can be found working in a range of professions, including:

- Editor at a publishing company
- Author of educational materials
- Project manager at a translation agency
- Teacher
- Consular officer at a ministry of foreign affairs
- PhD candidate
- Content manager/editor
- Advisor at an institute focusing on linguistic research and language teaching

Facts and figures

Degree

Linguistics (MA)

Duration

1 year

Start

September, February

Language

English

Application deadlines

For September entry:

- › 1 April (students from non-EU countries)
- › 15 June (students from EU countries)

For February entry:

- › 15 October (students from non-EU countries)
- › 1 December (students from EU countries)

Tuition fee

€2,060 EU / €16,800 non-EU per year

Entry requirements

Information about the entry requirements and admission is available on the [website](#).

More information

For more information about the programme, please visit our [website](#), or get in touch with the Coordinator of Studies:

Ms. Else van Dijk
 stucolinguistics@hum.leidenuniv.nl
 +31 (0)71 527 7322

A word from our programme director

“Studying linguistics always involves critical assessment: do the data confirm my hypothesis, what kind of data are necessary to distinguish between competing theories, what is the best way to set up an experiment that will provide informative data? How solid are the arguments presented in the existing literature? It really sharpens the mind!”



Claartje Levelt, Professor in first language acquisition

Alumni testimonial

“I was always interested in investigating languages. I was looking for a master’s that not only provided theoretical knowledge, but also practical knowledge. This master’s programme offers a wide range of courses. Not only courses that focus on the descriptive side of linguistics, but also courses where you are forced to think beyond what you are used to. It makes you think about your own worldview and how language influences it.”



Margaret den Besten, graduated in Linguistics