

# LINGUISTICS

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## **AREA: Teaching**

- Teaching; Research; Applied Linguistics; Teacher training; Curriculum Development; Test Assessment development; Foreign Language instruction; English as a second Language (ESL); English to Speakers of Other Language (TESOL); Literacy

## **PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT:**

- Universities/colleges; K-12 School Systems; Language institutes; Community Education Programs; Testing Companies (ETS)

## **STRATEGIES:**

- To teach in higher education, earn a doctoral degree in linguistics or related subject such as English, philosophy, speech pathology, or foreign language. As an undergraduate, maintain a high GPA and secure strong recommendations from faculty. Serve as a tutor, peer mentor, or other student leader. Look for opportunities to assist faculty with research. Study language, both Indo-European and non-Indo European. Earn a relevant graduate degree to prepare for other fields such as information science, ESL/TESOL, or language education. To prepare for work with non-native English speakers, get involved with the campus or local international community. Study abroad and attend multi-cultural events on campus. Research the many programs available for reaching English abroad.
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## **AREA: Computational Linguistics**

- Speech synthesis; speech recognition; natural language processing; text-content analysis; machine translation; artificial intelligence; database or lexicon development; information extraction; text mining; research

## **PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT:**

- E-Business (ex: Amazon); Software developers; Computer companies (IBM, Microsoft); Natural-language processor firms; Search engines (Google); Database developers; Other business firms

## **STRATEGIES:**

- Earn a master's or doctoral degree in linguistics, computer science or computational linguistics. Supplement undergraduate curriculum with courses in computer science. Develop skills in computer programming, computer scripting, natural language processing techniques and other relevant technologies. Gain experience by completing an internship in the computer industry. Read use/net or netnews groups and professional journals to understand current trends in the field. Be prepared to continuously learn new computer languages and technologies to stay abreast of changes.

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## **AREA: Government**

- Translation; Interpretation; Localization; Forensic Linguistics; Interpretation; Cryptology; Intelligence; Analysis; Writing

## **PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT:**

- Federal Government: National Security Agency, Central Intelligence Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Foreign Service, Armed Forces; State and Local Government

## **STRATEGIES:**

- Seek leadership roles in relevant campus groups such as model UN, student government, and cross cultural organizations. Develop skills in computers, statistics, and data analysis. Acquire foreign language competency and travel experience for international positions. Consider studying critical needs languages. Complete an internship with federal government. Armed forces also sponsor the Defense Language Institute Foreign Language Center for military personnel. There are a large number of specialized agencies within the federal government. Do extensive research in order to find the area that best fits your interests and to learn about candidate requirements. Become familiar with the government application process.
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## **AREA: Communication Disorders**

- Speech Pathology; Language Disorders; Audiology; Aural Rehabilitation; Neurocommunicative Science; Cognitive Sciences; Teaching; Research

## **PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT:**

- Schools, K-12, Universities and Colleges; Hospitals; Physicians' offices; Speech, language and hearing centers; Developmental learning centers; Home healthcare offices; Nursing homes; Residential facilities; Health maintenance organizations; Private individual or group practice; Public health departments; Rehabilitation centers; Federal Agencies

## **STRATEGIES:**

- The study of communication disorders is interdisciplinary and draws upon linguistics, speech pathology, audiology, and psychology. Research prerequisite courses for graduate school admission and take the appropriate undergraduate classes. A master's degree from an accredited speech language pathology program is required to enter that field. A doctoral degree is commonly required for audiology. Most states require certification of speech pathologists and all states for audiologists. Obtain the Certificate of Clinical Competence in Speech Language Pathology or Audiology offered by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. Take courses in American Sign Language and maintain a high GPA/seek related experiences to be competitive for graduate school.
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## **AREA: Additional Areas**

- Translation; Interpretation; Language Documentation; Fieldwork; Lexicography; Technical Writing; Editing; Journalism; Medical Linguistics; Forensic Linguistics; Product Naming; Consultation

## **PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT:**

- Government agencies; Foreign governments; International businesses; Hospitals/Courts; Publishers;; Magazine, book, textbook, dictionary; Internet sites; Law and Consulting Firms
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## **STRATEGIES:**

- There are many employment settings in which students can utilize a degree in linguistics. Research areas of interest and seek the appropriate education, skills, and experiences to qualify for that field. Some of these areas will require graduate degrees in linguistics or educational background in other disciplines.
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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

- Linguistics is an interdisciplinary field and therefore good preparation for a wide variety of graduate programs including: linguistics, speech pathology, audiology, cognitive science, English, law, journalism, foreign languages etc.
  - Students who major in linguistics develop strong analytical and communication skills and the ability to debate. They are commonly required to gain proficiency in a second language.
  - Students should consider a secondary area of study such as, foreign language, computer science, psychology or other area of interest to increase opportunities for employment or graduate school.
  - Some linguists find jobs outside of academia as a computational linguists for dot-com companies. They build databases and lexicons and develop language-processing systems for Web sites to make it easier for people to navigate and get more precise answers to request for information.
  - Consider study abroad and getting involved with the international community on campus.
  - Research career paths of interest, and seek to gain the skills, experiences, and degrees necessary to work in that field.
    - Conduct informational interviews with or shadow professionals to learn about various work environments.
  - Join related professional associations as a student member.
  - Because many career paths require graduate education, learn about the graduate school admissions process and build a strong candidacy.
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## **RELATED RESOURCES**

The Linguist List Jobs: <https://linguistlist.org/jobs/>

US Dept, of State: <https://careers.state.gov/>

FBI Jobs: <https://www.fbijobs.gov/>

CIA Jobs: <https://www.cia.gov/careers/opportunities>

Public Service Careers: <http://publicservicecareers.org/>

American Association for Applied Linguistics: <http://www.aal.org/>

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