Linguistics Program Faculty

Siri Tuttle, Assistant Professor of Linguistics (Linguistics Program Coordinator)

Anna Berge, Associate Professor of Linguistics

Burns Cooper, Professor of English
Ph.D. University of Texas 1989. Linguistics, poetry, poetics, forensic linguistics. Gruening 858, ffgbc@uaf.edu, 474-5303.

Gary Holton, Associate Professor of Linguistics

Lawrence Kaplan, Professor of Linguistics

Patrick Marlow, Associate Professor of Linguistics
Ph.D. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign 1997. Historical linguistics, language policy and planning, community language revitalization. Brooks 306F, ffpem@uaf.edu, 474-7446.

Sabine Siekmann, Assistant Professor of Linguistics & Foreign Languages
Ph.D. University of South Florida 2004. Second language acquisition, computer assisted language learning. Brooks 306D, ffs5@uaf.edu, 474-6580.

Retired Faculty and Faculty Emeriti

Charlotte Basham, Associate Professor of Linguistics and Anthropology (retired 2005)
Ph.D. University of Michigan 1986. Second language acquisition, second language teaching. ffcsb@uaf.edu

Patricia Kwachka, Professor of Linguistics and Anthropology (retired 2006)

Want to know more?
Contact us…

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www.uaf.edu/linguist/
The Study of Linguistics
Linguists study different aspects of human language, including the unconscious knowledge we have about language, how language is acquired and how it is structured, how languages differ and how they are similar, and the use of language by social groups. The study of linguistics offers an understanding of cross-cultural communication strategies and a window into one of the most fundamental human characteristics: language. We offer a minor and B.A. in Linguistics, and an M.A. in Applied Linguistics, as well as the opportunity to pursue an interdisciplinary Ph.D. with a focus on Linguistics.

General Interest Area
Our Undergraduate Program offers a general introduction to linguistic study, including a course in the traditional basic fields of linguistic study, phonology, morphology, and syntax. In addition, students have the option to become acquainted with some important specialized fields, including historical linguistics, semantics, sociolinguistics, and language acquisition.

Our Graduate Program is geared especially to people wishing to study applied linguistics. Our program offers three areas of emphasis:

- Second language acquisition, including both English as a second language and the acquisition of a foreign or Native Alaskan language,
- Language Documentation and Description, with a focus on the Native Languages of Alaska, and
- Teacher training in second language acquisition.

Faculty in the UAF Linguistics Program are able to offer advanced students the possibility of a Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Studies with a concentration in Linguistics. Students work closely with their advisors and committee members to design a Ph.D. study program tailored to their interests with the expertise of the faculty at UAF.

Special Relationships with Other Departments
The Linguistics Program includes faculty from several departments, including Foreign Languages, English, the Alaska Native Language Center, and the School of Education. We work closely with these departments and schools, as well as with Anthropology, and our students often take complementary courses in these fields. Part of the mission of UAF is to increase awareness, understanding, documentation, and teaching of Alaska’s Native languages. By working closely with the Alaska Native Language Center, the Linguistics Program provides opportunities for students interested in Native languages.

Plan of Study
For a B.A. degree in Linguistics, students begin with an introductory course to gain familiarity with the discipline and an understanding of the linguist’s approach to language study. In the foundation courses, students are introduced to the major characteristics of each of the fields of linguistic study and practice problem-solving techniques. The program allows students the flexibility to take a number of elective courses with relevance to Linguistics from among several programs and departments. The program ends with a capstone class in which the students explore current issues in linguistics. Majors are expected to study two non-English languages.

For an M.A. degree in Applied Linguistics, all students are required to take an introductory course in Linguistics and a research methodology course. Further coursework is determined by the student’s choice of concentration and in consultation with their committee. For more information, please contact our faculty or review our Program Policies and Procedures Manual (www.uaf.edu/linguist/manual.html).