

L I N -

University of Zadar  
Linguistics Department

G U I S -

T I C S

**MA PROGRAM  
IN LINGUISTICS**  
Single Major and  
Double Major

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L I N G V I S T I K A  
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LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT  
UNIVERSITY OF ZADAR



## CONTACT

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# LINGUISTICS

## MA PROGRAM IN LINGUISTICS

### Single Major and Double Major

#### WHAT IS LINGUISTICS?

The Linguistics Department studies language as the core of being human. Although forms of communication are certainly present in the animal kingdom, human language possesses a number of properties that distinguish it as unique amongst all known communication systems. Linguistics analyses both individual languages and the properties of language as an ability characteristic only of humans. By identifying commonalities amongst different languages, but also by gaining insight into the diversity exhibited by the languages of the world, linguistics contributes to our understanding of how the mind works and of the driving forces behind cultural and wider social processes. Since language production, comprehension, and acquisition are shaped by many factors, linguistics relies on insights provided by other fields (sociology, psychology, anthropology, philosophy, biology and

neuroscience, computer science etc.) and contributes to their development.

#### WHY STUDY LINGUISTICS IN ZADAR?

The Linguistics Department at the University of Zadar was founded in 2008 and is one of two linguistics departments in Croatia. It is a small and lively department, actively engaged in research, the organization of international conferences, student meetings and workshops, cooperation with departments and institutions at home and abroad, and it regularly hosts guest talks by Croatian and international scholars in the frame of the 'Linguistic Wednesday / Center' lecture series.

#### TOPICS OF STUDY IN LINGUISTICS

The MA Program conducted at our Department offers prospective students an opportunity to study in depth the structure of different languages as well as the role of

language in society. The students learn about the specific properties of language at all levels of linguistic structure, such as:

- the sounds of language (phonetics and phonology),
- morphemes and words (morphology),
- phrases and sentences (syntax),
- meaning (semantics).

In addition, numerous elective courses allow the students to gain insight into:

- the relation between language and mind (cognitive linguistics),
- language acquisition, multilingualism (psycholinguistics),
- language variability and change in a societal and geographic context (sociolinguistics, linguistic geography),
- the relation between language, identity, and culture (linguistic anthropology),

- the role of language in processes of learning and teaching (educational linguistics),
- language in use, or how meaning is shaped by context (pragmatics).

#### METHODS OF STUDY

We offer prospective students:

- innovative ways of learning (an individualized approach and emphasis on doing research),
- a motivating environment where students are monitored, guided, and encouraged to develop their own scholarly interests,
- an opportunity to participate in research projects, experiments, conferences, workshops, and field work,
- an opportunity to further develop their competences abroad as well as to participate in mobility programs.

#### OPTIONS OF STUDYING

##### LINGUISTICS IN ZADAR

The Department offers:

- a Single Major program (duration 4 semesters, 120 ECTS credits),
- a Double Major program (duration 4 semesters, 60 ECTS credits).

Students are given the opportunity to spend the third or fourth semester at a university abroad by participating in a mobility program (Erasmus+, CEEPUS, etc.).

#### AFTER GRADUATION

Since linguistics is an interdisciplinary field and since the program conducted at our Department places emphasis on developing critical thinking and analytical skills, the employment options are many and depend on interests and specialization of an individual student. Some of these options are:

- language documentation, description, and preservation,
- conducting research (in institutes and in the form of field work),
- language teaching and professional approaches to language learning,
- translation,
- publishing, press, PR,
- compiling dictionaries and linguistic corpora,
- computer industry,
- marketing counselling,
- cultural and linguistic mediation.

#### ENROLLMENT

The requirements for admission are:

- a BA degree,
- familiarity with basic linguistic terminology and a keenness to study linguistic structure and/or the role of language in society,
- proficiency in English (B2 level).

The entrance exam consists of a cover letter which should address the prospective student's motivation for applying for the MA Linguistics Program and indicate a preferred area of specialization. In addition, prospective students participate in an interview with members of the faculty. By the end of the first semester students are required to pass a written exam which verifies their understanding of basic linguistic terminology.

Applications for the entrance exam are received at the beginning of October each year. Further information can be found at: [www.unizd.hr](http://www.unizd.hr). There is an annual total admission of 15 students for each program (Single Major and Double Major), all fully funded by the Croatian Ministry of Science, Education and Sports.

We cordially invite you to contact us with further questions and comments at:

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**Are you interested in one of the most intriguing aspects of human knowledge and behavior? Would you like to enroll in a program that allows you to gain insight into both the biological and the social aspects of human linguistic competence? Have you ever wondered how and to what extent even the geographically most distant languages are alike, how language is acquired, how it changes, or which factors influence the role of a language in a community?**