



Carleton
University

School of Linguistics
and Language Studies

LING & ALDS

Undergraduate Information Packet

Maintained by the SLALS undergraduate advisor

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1. Choosing the program that's right for you

The School of Linguistics and Language Studies (SLaLS) offers undergraduate degrees in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies (ALDS), and in Linguistics (LING), as well as a combined degree in Linguistics and Discourse Studies.

In **ALDS**, you can complete either a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours Bachelor of Arts degree, or a 3-year (15.0 credit) Bachelor of Arts degree.

- ⇒ Courses in **Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies** focus on language use in society, including analysis of written text, corpus linguistics, language policy and planning, and second language learning and teaching.

In **LING**, both Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees are available. Within the Bachelor of Arts degree program, you can complete either a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours B.A. degree, or a 3-year (15.0 credit) B.A. degree. Within the Bachelor Science degree program, you can complete a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours B.Sc. degree. The Honours degrees give you the option of completing a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD).

- ⇒ Courses in **Linguistics** focus on how sounds, words, sentence structure, and meaning are represented in the human mind, and on the range of linguistic variation seen across languages of the world.
- ⇒ Courses in the **Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences** (PCD) concentration focus on experimental and clinical areas of linguistics, including first language acquisition, speech-language differences and disabilities, and language and the brain.
- ⇒ Courses specific to the various **LING Bachelor of Science** degrees focus on developing a background in natural, clinical, experimental, and computer sciences, as well as increased competence in math. As a general rule, the B.Sc. is more specialized, has higher admission requirements, and may appeal to different career paths after graduation.
- ⇒ There is more room for electives in the **LING Bachelor of Arts** programs than in the B.Sc. programs. This can be helpful if you want to add a minor or pursue other interests.

SLaLS also offers a certificate that can be completed concurrently with an Honours degree – the **Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language** (CTESL) For details, see:

<https://carleton.ca/slals/tesl/ctesl/>

Regardless of what program you choose, you can always take courses in all of these areas – in fact, you will likely need to do so in order to fulfill your program requirements. Several courses are cross-listed between LING and ALDS, so you are able to take them for major credit in either area.

Here are some more things to consider as you choose a program:

- ⇒ While certain courses are required in all programs, the requirements in upper years are different. Many of the topics covered in the upper-year courses are “previewed” in the first-year courses, so you can use these courses to help you decide which program would best suit your interests.
- ⇒ Look through the course descriptions in the [Undergraduate Calendar](#). It is important to be aware of prerequisites so that you can plan your course sequence in a way that allows you

to complete the courses that you need / want. Consult the [Scheduling Habits](#) section of this information packet for help constructing a long-term plan.

- ⇒ If your career goals include graduate school, such as a Masters in Speech Language Pathology, it is strongly recommended that you take note of the prerequisites for the schools you'd like to apply to. Many schools have specific course requirements outside of linguistics, some of which have prerequisites, and so you should do your course planning with grad school expectations in mind. Note that graduate schools typically require an Honours degree (20.0 credits) for admission.
- ⇒ If you want to “test out” various options, you can run a “What-If audit” to see how adding a minor or changing some other aspect of your program would affect your requirements: <https://carleton.ca/academicadvising/your-academic-audit/what-if-audit/>
- ⇒ Don't hesitate to ask upper-year students for their input! You can also consult the undergraduate advisor and other faculty members.

2. ALDS degree requirements

Important: The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2025-2026 academic calendar. Your specific requirements may be slightly different if you joined the program in an earlier academic year. Consult your [audit](#) to ensure that you are taking the correct courses, and contact the undergraduate advisor if you have questions.

Calendar program description:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/undergradprograms/appliedlinguisticsanddiscoursestudies>

Calendar course descriptions:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/courses/ALDS/>

2.1 B.A. major in ALDS (15.0 credits)

The B.A. with a major in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies requires completion of the courses listed below. Remember that at Carleton most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements

- 1.0 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001
- 1.5 credits in ALDS 2201, 2202, 2203
- 0.5 credit from {ALDS 2604, 2704, 2705, LING 2007}
- 1.5 credits in ALDS at the 3000 level [excluding ALDS 3900 and ALDS 3901]
- 1.5 additional credits in ALDS at any level
- 9.0 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

2.2 Honours B.A. in ALDS (20.0 credits)

The Honours B.A. degree in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies requires completion of the courses listed below. Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

The Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (CTESL) can be completed concurrently with the Honours B.A. degree. Courses taken for this certificate count toward either the ALDS major requirements or the electives, depending upon what other courses you have taken.

Requirements

- 1.0 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001
- 1.5 credits in ALDS 2201, 2202, 2203
- 0.5 credit from {ALDS 2604, 2704, 2705, LING 2007}
- 1.5 credits in ALDS at the 3000 level [excluding ALDS 3900 and ALDS 3901]
- 2.0 credits in ALDS at the 4000 level
- 2.5 additional credits in ALDS at any level
- 11.0 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

2.3 Minor in ALDS (4.0 credits)

Students majoring in a different program can complete a minor in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies. The minor requires completion of the courses listed below. Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements

- 1.0 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001
- 1.0 credit in ALDS 2201, 2202
- 1.0 credit in ALDS at the 2000 level or higher
- 1.0 credit in ALDS at the 3000 level or higher

3. LING degree requirements

Important: The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2025-2026 academic calendar. Your specific requirements may be different if you joined the program in an earlier academic year. Consult your [audit](#) to ensure that you are taking the correct courses, and contact the undergraduate advisor if you have questions.

B.A. calendar program description:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/undergradprograms/linguistics-ba/>

B.Sc. calendar program description:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/undergradprograms/linguistics-bsc/>

Calendar course descriptions:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/courses/LING/>

3.1 B.A. major in LING (15.0 credits)

The B.A. with a major in Linguistics requires completion of the courses listed below. Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements

- 1.5 credits in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.5 credits from {LING 3004, 3005, 3007, 3505}
- 2.5 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 8.5 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

3.2 Honours B.A. in LING (20.0 credits)

The Honours B.A. degree in Linguistics includes the option to structure your course work by selecting a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences. You can also complete the Honours B.A. without a concentration, which allows somewhat more freedom in terms of course selection.

The Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (CTESL) can be completed concurrently with the Honours B.A. degree. Some courses taken for this certificate count toward the LING major requirements; remaining courses count toward the electives.

Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements for the Honours B.A. in LING without a concentration

- 1.5 credits in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.5 credits from {LING 3004, 3005, 3007, 3505}
- 2.0 credit in LING at the 4000 level
- 3.5 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 10.5 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

Requirements for the Honours B.A. in LING with a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences

- 1.5 credits in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.0 credit in LING 3004, 3007
- 2.0 credits in LING 2604, 3601, 3603, 3604
- 1.0 credit from {LING 4601, 4603, 4605, 4606}
- 1.0 additional credit in LING at the 4000 level
- 2.0 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 10.5 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

Note: Effective 2024-2025, the concentration in Linguistic Theory can no longer be added as part of the B.A. program. Students who are interested in these topics should complete the B.A. Honours without a concentration and choose courses to reflect their interests. If you joined the Linguistic Theory concentration in an earlier academic year and have questions about your course sequence, please contact the LING Undergraduate advisor.

3.3 Honours B.Sc. in LING (20.0 credits)

The Honours B.Sc. degree in Linguistics includes the option to structure your course work by selecting a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences. You can also complete the Honours B.Sc. without a concentration, which allows somewhat more freedom in terms of course selection.

The Honours B.Sc. degree in Linguistics requires you to select a stream in Psychology, Neuroscience or Computer Science.

Important: All Honours B.Sc. in LING students must complete either the “Requirements for Honours B.Sc. in LING without a concentration” or the “Requirements for Honours B.Sc. in LING with a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences” listed below **and** the appropriate set of additional requirements based on their stream (found on the next page). In each case there is a total of 20.0 credits.

Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements for Honours B.Sc. in LING without a concentration

- 1.5 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.5 credits from {LING 3004, 3005, 3007, 3505}
- 2.0 credit in LING at the 4000 level
- 3.0 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 1.0 credit in MATH 1007, MATH 1107
- 4.0 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)

Requirements for Honours B.Sc. in LING with a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication differences

- 1.5 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.0 credit in LING 3004, 3007
- 2.0 credits in LING 2604, 3601, 3603, 3604
- 1.0 credit from {LING 4601, 4603, 4605, 4606}
- 1.0 additional credit in LING at the 4000 level
- 1.5 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 1.0 credit in MATH 1007, MATH 1107
- 4.0 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)

(additional requirements for streams on the next page)

Additional requirements for B.Sc. students in the Psychology stream

- 2.0 credits in PSYC 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {PSYC 2307, 2700, 3307, 3506, 3702}
- 1.5 credits in BIOL 1103, 1104, 3306
- 1.0 credit in CHEM 1001, 1002

Additional requirements for B.Sc. students in the Neuroscience stream

- 2.0 credits in NEUR 1202, 1203, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {NEUR 2201, 2202, 3206, 3207, 3303}
- 1.5 credits in BIOL 1103, 1104, 3306
- 1.0 credit in CHEM 1001, 1002

Additional requirements for B.Sc. students in the Computer Science stream

- 1.5 credits in COMP 1005, 1006, 1805
- 1.5 credits in COMP 2401, 2402, 2404
- 1.0 credit from {COMP 2406, 2804, 3000, 3002, 3004, 3005, 3007, 3008}
- 2.0 credits to satisfy the B.Sc. [experimental science requirement](#)

Note: Effective 2025-2026, the concentration in Linguistic Theory can no longer be added as part of the B.Sc. program. Students who are interested in these topics should complete the B.Sc. Honours without a concentration and choose courses to reflect their interests. If you joined the Linguistic Theory concentration in an earlier academic year and have questions about your course sequence, please contact the LING Undergraduate advisor.

3.4 Minor in LING (4.0 credits)

Students majoring in a different program can complete a minor in Linguistics. The minor requires completion of the courses listed below. Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements

- 1.0 credit in ALDS 1001, LING 1001
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.0 credit in LING 3004, 3007
- 1.0 additional credit in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]

4. Combined Honours B.A. requirements

Combined Honours degrees allow you to complete advanced course work in two disciplines. The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2025-2026 academic calendar. Your specific requirements may be slightly different if you joined the program in an earlier academic year. Consult your [audit](#) to ensure that you are taking the correct courses, and contact the undergraduate advisor if you have questions.

4.1 Linguistics and Discourse Studies Combined Honours B.A. (20.0 credits)

The Linguistics and Discourse Studies major includes courses from both ALDS and LING. It can only be completed as an Honours B.A. degree. There are no concentrations in this program.

Remember that at Carleton, most semester-long courses count for 0.5 credit, so “1.0 credit” usually means “two courses”.

Requirements

- 1.5 credits in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.0 credit in LING 2005, 2007
- 1.5 credits from {LING 3004, 3005, 3007, 3505}
- 1.0 credit in LING at the 4000 level
- 1.5 additional credit in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 1.0 credit in ALDS 2201, 2202
- 1.0 credit in ALDS at the 3000 or 4000 level
- 1.0 additional credit in ALDS at the 4000 level
- 2.5 additional credits in ALDS at any level
- 8.0 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)
- Satisfaction of the [B.A. breadth requirement](#)

4.2 Other Combined Honours B.A. degrees (20.0 credits)

It is possible to complete an Honours B.A. degree that combines either LING or ALDS and some other discipline. For example, you might complete a B.A. with Combined Honours in LING and English, or a B.A. with Combined Honours in ALDS and Psychology.

For requirements, consult the undergraduate calendar “B.A. Combined Honours” entries for the two disciplines you wish to combine.

Calendar program description for ALDS:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/undergradprograms/appliedlinguisticsanddiscoursestudies>

Calendar program descriptions for LING:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/undergradprograms/linguistics-ba/>

5. Suggested paths

There are many different paths that you can take toward graduation. No two students' audits are exactly alike. To help you plan ahead, here are some suggestions for each degree. **Take these as examples rather than recommendations.** They illustrate various strategies. For instance, one strategy might be to focus on electives in the first year or two, and do more courses in the major later. The opposite strategy might be to front-load major courses, and leave electives for later. Most students pursue a strategy halfway between the two, which generally allows for the greatest flexibility.

The tables below assume you take a full load in fall and winter – i.e., 5 courses worth 0.5 credit each.

Again, these are **examples**; they are **not guarantees** about what courses will be available each semester. Another tool to help you plan is in the [following section](#), where we give you an idea of how courses are scheduled from year to year.

5.1 B.A. Honours in ALDS

Front-load electives

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	elective	elective	elective	elective	LING 1001	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	2201	2203	elective	elective	elective	2202	2XXX ¹	elective	elective	elective
3	2XXX	3XXX	XXXX	elective	elective	3XXX	3XXX	XXXX	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective

Front-load ALDS

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	LING 1001	elective	elective	elective	2XXX	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	2201	2203	XXXX	elective	elective	2202	XXXX	3XXX	elective	elective
3	3XXX	3XXX	XXXX	elective	elective	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	elective	elective	elective	4XXX	4XXX	elective	elective	elective

Switch into ALDS at the end of your first year and do it in three years

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	1001	LING 1001	elective	elective	elective	2202	2XXX	XXXX	elective	elective
3	2201	2203	3XXX	3XXX	elective	3XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective

¹ **Codes like 2XXX** indicate a 2000-level course in the major discipline (ALDS). **Codes like XXXX** indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (ALDS).

5.2 B.A. Honours in LING without a concentration

Front-load electives

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	2005	XXXX ²	elective	elective	elective	2007	XXXX	elective	elective	elective
3	3004	3007	XXXX	elective	elective	3005	XXXX	elective	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective

Front-load LING

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	2005	2007	elective	elective
2	3004	3007	XXXX	elective	elective	3005	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective
3	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective
4	4XXX	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective

Switch into LING at the end of your first year and do it in three years

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	2005	2007	elective	elective
3	3004	3007	XXXX	elective	elective	3005	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective

² **Codes like 4XXX** indicate a 4000-level course in the major discipline (LING). **Codes like XXXX** indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (LING).

5.3 B.A. Honours in LING with a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences

Front-load electives

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	2005	XXXX ³	elective	elective	elective	2007	2604	elective	elective	elective
3	3603	3604	3004	elective	elective	3601	46XX	elective	elective	elective
4	3007	46XX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

Front-load LING

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	2005	2007	elective	elective
2	3004	3007	3603	elective	elective	2604	3601	XXXX	elective	elective
3	3604	46XX	XXXX	elective	elective	46XX	XXXX	elective	elective	elective
4	4XXX	XXXX	elective	elective	elective	4XXX	elective	elective	elective	elective

Switch into LING at the end of your first year and do it in three years

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	2005	2007	elective	elective
3	3004	3007	3603	XXXX	elective	2604	3601	46XX	elective	elective
4	3604	46XX	4XXX	XXXX	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

³ **Codes like 4XXX** indicate a 4000-level course in the major discipline (LING). **Codes like 46XX** indicate courses from the set {LING 4601, 4603, 4605, 4606} required for the PCD concentration. **Codes like XXXX** indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (LING).

5.4 B.Sc. Honours in LING

No concentration with Psychology or Neuroscience stream

STREAM = required PSYC or NEUR courses, depending on stream

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	BIOL 1103	CHEM 1001	STREAM	1002	BIOL 1104	CHEM 1002	STREAM	elective
2	2005	2007	STREAM	MATH 1007	elective	3005	XXXX ⁴	STREAM	MATH 1107	elective
3	3004	3007	STREAM	BIOL 3306	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective
4	4XXX	XXXX	STREAM	elective	elective	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	STREAM	elective

Concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences with Psychology or Neuroscience stream

STREAM = required PSYC or NEUR courses, depending on stream

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	BIOL 1103	CHEM 1001	STREAM	1002	BIOL 1104	CHEM 1002	STREAM	elective
2	2005	2007	STREAM	MATH 1007	elective	2604	3601	STREAM	MATH 1107	elective
3	3007	3603	3604	BIOL 3306	elective	46XX	XXXX	STREAM	STREAM	elective
4	3004	46XX	4XXX	STREAM	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

No concentration with Computer Science stream

COMP = required COMP courses for the stream

SCI = [Experimental Science courses required for the B.Sc.](#) Consult the undergraduate calendar for eligible courses.

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	COMP 1005	MATH 1007	SCI	1002	COMP 1006	COMP 1805	MATH 1107	SCI
2	2005	2007	COMP 2401	SCI	elective	3005	XXXX	COMP 2402	COMP 2404	elective
3	3004	3007	XXXX	SCI	elective	4XXX	XXXX	COMP	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	COMP	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

⁴ **Codes like 4XXX** indicate a 4000-level course in the major discipline (LING). **Codes like 46XX** indicate courses from the set {LING 4601, 4603, 4605, 4606} required for the PCD concentration. **Codes like XXXX** indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (LING).

Concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences with Computer Science stream

COMP = required COMP courses for the stream

SCI = [Experimental Science courses required for the B.Sc.](#) Consult the undergraduate calendar for eligible courses.

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	COMP 1005	MATH 1007	SCI	1002	COMP 1006	COMP 1805	MATH 1107	SCI
2	2005	2007	COMP 2401	SCI	elective	2604	3601	COMP 2402	COMP 2404	elective
3	3007	3603	3604	SCI	elective	46XX ⁵	XXXX	COMP	elective	elective
4	3004	46XX	XXXX	COMP	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

5.5 B.A. Combined Honours in Linguistics and Discourse Studies

Front-load electives

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	LING 1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	LING 1002	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	LING 2005	ALDS 2201	elective	elective	elective	LING 2007	ALDS 2202	elective	elective	elective
3	LING 3004	LING 3007	ALDS 3XXX	ALDS XXXX	elective	LING 3005	LING XXXX	ALDS 3XXX	ALDS XXXX	elective
4	LING 4XXX	LING XXXX	ALDS 4XXX	ALDS XXXX	ALDS XXXX	LING 4XXX	LING XXXX	ALDS 4XXX	ALDS XXXX	elective

Front-load LING and ALDS courses

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	LING 1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	LING 1002	LING 2005	ALDS 2202	elective	elective
2	LING 2007	LING 3004	ALDS 2201	ALDS XXXX	ALDS XXXX	LING 3005	LING XXXX	ALDS XXXX	elective	elective
3	LING 3007	LING XXXX	ALDS 3XXX	ALDS 3XXX	elective	LING 4XXX	LING XXXX	ALDS 4XXX	ALDS XXXX	elective
4	LING 4XXX	ALDS 4XXX	elective	elective	elective	ALDS XXXX	elective	elective	elective	elective

⁵ **Codes like 3XXX** indicate a 3000-level course in the major discipline (ALDS or LING). **Codes like 46XX** indicate courses from the set {LING 4601, 4603, 4605, 4606} required for the Linguistics PCD concentration. **Codes like XXXX** indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (ALDS or LING).

6. Scheduling habits

The courses offered in LING and ALDS vary from year to year. **Not every course is available every semester or every year**, and so it is important to think ahead when deciding what courses to take.

Generally, LING and ALDS courses are not offered during the spring or summer semester.

The information presented here represents our best intentions regarding the scheduling of courses. While we try to follow the scheme laid out below, in any given year things may not work out perfectly due to instructor availability or other factors. Generally, we prioritize teaching required courses on a regular basis, but even taking that into account, it is a good idea not to postpone required coursework on the assumption that the schedule will always follow our best expectations.

In the table below, F = Fall and W = Winter. If there is no indication of term, a course can appear in either semester

6.1 LING

CODE	NAME	FREQUENCY	TERM
1001	Introduction to Linguistics I	annual	FW
1002	Introduction to Linguistics II	annual	W
1100	Mysteries of Language (note: can only be taken as an elective)	annual	W
2005	Linguistic Analysis	annual	FW
2007	Phonetics	annual	FW
2105	History of English (taught by ENGL)	occasional	
2504	Language and Communication (taught by PHIL)	occasional	
2604	Communication Differences and Disabilities I	annual	W
3004	Syntax I	annual	F
3005	Morphology I	annual	W
3007	Phonology I	annual	F
3009	Special Topics (topic varies from year to year)	occasional	
3504	Pragmatics (taught by PHIL)	occasional	
3505	Semantics	occasional	
3601	Language Processing and the Brain	annual	
3603	Child Language	annual	
3604	Communication Differences and Disabilities II	annual	F
3701	Corpus Linguistics (taught by ALDS)	occasional	
3702	Sociolinguistics (taught by ALDS)	most years	
3801	Structure of a Specific Language	occasional	
3810	Historical Linguistics	occasional	

CODE	NAME	FREQUENCY	TERM
3811	Language Typology and Universals	occasional	
4004	Syntax II	annual	W
4005	Morphology II	occasional	F
4007	Phonology II	annual	W
4009	Special Topics (topic varies from year to year)	occasional	
4105	Old English (taught by ENGL)	most years	
4412	Diversité du français (taught by FREN)	alternate years	
4413	Diachronie du français (taught by FREN)	alternate years	
4414	Analyse du français (taught by FREN)	alternate years	
4415	Variation du français (taught by FREN)	alternate years	
4505	Formal Semantics	occasional	
4510	Lexical Semantics	occasional	
4601	Cognitive Neuroscience of Language	most years	
4603	First Language Acquisition	most years	
4604	Practicum in SLP (by application)	annual	
4605	Psycholinguistics Research Methods	alternate years	
4606	Statistics for Language Research	most years	
4801	Linguistic Field Methods	occasional	
4802	Historical Linguistics: English	occasional	

6.2 ALDS

ALDS scheduling is a bit less predictable, but the ALDS program is much more flexible than LING. Generally, you should expect:

- ALDS 1001 is taught each Fall and Winter semester
- 2201, 2202, 2203 are taught every year – typically 2201 and 2203 in the Fall, and 2202 in the Winter
- CTESL-required courses are taught every year: 4206, 4305, 4306, 4602, 4801
- There are sufficient other courses to fulfill requirements.

6.3 Unavailable courses

Generally, if a specific course that is required by your audit is not offered in a given year, you should plan to take that course in the subsequent year instead.

If you are entering your **final year** of study, and a specific course that is required by your audit is not available, you should contact the undergraduate advisor for options in the summer before registering. Note that options may be limited, especially if difficulty in meeting requirements is due to poor planning on the student's part.

7. Electives

Electives are courses that are not specifically required for your degree. In general, electives can be any course in any department that you have the necessary prerequisites for. Note that some departments limit who can enroll in their courses; make sure to read the requirements carefully before attempting to register.

Electives can be taken purely for interest, or they can be taken in order to satisfy non-LING/ALDS requirements of your degree. Specifically:

- Language courses taken to fulfill the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#) count as electives.
- Courses taken to fulfill the [B.A. breadth requirement](#) or the [B.Sc. experimental science](#) requirement count as electives.
- Courses taken to fulfill the requirements of a minor count as electives (unless those courses are also required for your LING / ALDS major).

Extra LING or ALDS courses, beyond those required for the major, can also count as electives.

8. SLaLS language proficiency requirement

All students completing a B.A. or B.Sc. degree in ALDS or LING must satisfy the SLaLS language proficiency requirement. There are two ways of doing this.

The first and most common way of satisfying the requirement is by taking 1.0 credit of a language other than English at Carleton. The full 1.0 credit must be in the **same** language. For example, you might take ASLA 1010 (0.5 cr) in the Fall semester and then ASLA 1020 (0.5 cr) in the Winter semester. Or, you might take a 1.0 cr French course like FREN 1001 that spans the two semesters. Or, you might take an intensive course like JAPA 1110, where you do 1.0 cr in a single semester. These credits count toward your [electives](#) as well as the language proficiency requirement.

Carleton offers courses in American Sign Language (ASLA), Arabic (ARAB), Mandarin Chinese (CHIN), French (FREN), German (GERM), Greek (GREK), Italian (ITAL), Japanese (JAPA), Korean (KORE), Latin (LATN), Portuguese (PORT), Russian (RUSS) and Spanish (SPAN).

Note that courses in French Interdisciplinary Studies (FINS) **do not** count for the SLaLS language proficiency requirement, because testing is typically in English.

The second way of satisfying the SLaLS language proficiency requirement is by presenting a diploma or language test results demonstrating that you have the required degree of proficiency in a language other than English. If you would like to discuss this option, you should contact the undergraduate advisor for LING and ALDS.

9. B.A. breadth requirement

All students completing a B.A. degree at Carleton must satisfy the B.A. breadth requirement by completing 1.0 credit in **three** of the following four areas:

- Culture and Communication
- Humanities
- Science, Engineering and Design
- Social Sciences

ALDS and LING courses count toward the Humanities area, and language courses count toward the Culture and Communication area. So, for the majority of LING and ALDS students, this leaves one more breadth area to fulfill – either Science, Engineering and Design, or Social Sciences. Courses in these areas will count toward your [electives](#).

Eligible course codes for each breadth area can be found here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsandrequirementsforthebatchelorofartsdegree/>

10. B.Sc. experimental science requirement

All students completing a B.Sc. degree at Carleton must complete the B.Sc. experimental science requirement by completing 2.0 credits from the list of courses found here:

<https://calendar.carleton.ca/undergrad/regulations/academicregulationsandrequirementsforthebatchelorofsciencedegree/>

The Linguistics Honours B.Sc. degrees with the **Psychology** and **Neuroscience** streams build in this requirement by including the courses BIOL 1103, BIOL 1104, CHEM 1001 and CHEM 1002.

The Linguistics Honours B.Sc. degrees with the **Computer Science** stream do not build in this requirement. Students in this stream must choose courses from the list linked above in order to ensure that they satisfy the requirement. There are 2.0 credits allotted in this stream to accommodate these courses.

11. Independent studies

In addition to scheduled classes, students may get credit for more individualized projects. Independent studies are available to LING and ALDS students with at least third-year standing. They may be worth 0.5 or 1.0 credits. The course codes are as follows (both LING and ALDS are available):

- 0.5 credit: 3901, 4901
- 1.0 credit: 3900, 4900

Note that 1.0 credit independent studies are approved relatively rarely. A project that is of sufficient scope to be worth 1.0 credit is often better undertaken as an [Honours thesis](#).

What is an independent study?

An independent study is a course where you are the only student. Rather than having scheduled lectures and assignments, you typically complete a project of some sort under the supervision of a faculty member. Exactly what the project is and how it is assessed is negotiated between you and the supervising faculty member. You are expected to be **much more independent and self-directed** than in a typical course.

How to arrange an independent study

If you are interested in pursuing an independent study, you should first think in some detail about what kind of project you would like to do / what you would like to study. Then, you should prepare a short proposal (roughly one page) and approach a faculty member who does research related to that area. Normally this would be a faculty member who taught you in a related course. For example, if you wanted to do a project about sociolinguistics, you could ask the professor who taught your sociolinguistics course. The professor must be a regular faculty member in SLaLS (Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor) – not a contract instructor.

The topic must be something that is not covered in any of the courses we regularly offer, but it can be a more advanced / specific project in an area where you have already taken the "top-level" course. For example, if you already took Phonology II, and you wanted to do something about a specific phonology topic, that would be fine. We do not find supervisors for students; you must reach out to a professor yourself.

Note that faculty members are **not required** to supervise independent studies, and they consider requests on a case-by-case basis, so the more prepared you are when you approach them, the more likely they are to agree to your request. You should reach out to potential supervisors well before you need to register for classes.

How to register

Once you have found a supervisor, you should fill out the course approval form (available on the [SLaLS website](#)), and have it signed by your supervisor and the undergraduate advisor. During registration, file an override request for the relevant course, and once the forms have been processed, the Undergraduate Administrator will let you into the course.

12. Honours theses and projects

Honours theses and projects give students a pathway to do more advanced work. They are especially suited to students who have an interest in research and/or are planning on going to grad school in the future. Honours theses / projects are **completely optional** in LING and ALDS.

There are three options; they are all worth 1.0 credit, and they all have CGPA requirements. You must have fourth-year standing to complete a thesis / project. Normally they are completed over the course of two successive semesters – Fall + Winter.

- LING 4905: Honours Project in Experimental Linguistics [CGPA 9.0 required]
- LING 4910: Honours Thesis in Linguistics [CGPA 10.0 required]
- ALDS 4908: Honours Project in ALDS [CGPA 9.0 required]

In LING, the most common option is the Honours Thesis (LING 4910). An Honours thesis generally involves some form of data gathering (an experiment, structured observations, corpus data analysis, grammar study, etc.), as well as literature review and analysis. The final product is typically a written document of 30-40 pages.

In ALDS, students can complete an Honours Project (ALDS 4908). This can include a variety of activities, but it most commonly involves research (a thesis). Students work out a plan and the expectations individually with their supervisor.

For more information, consult the [LING Honours thesis guidelines](#) or the [ALDS Honours project guidelines](#).

Note that if you are interested in completing a smaller project, you might want to consider an [Independent study](#) instead.

Identifying a topic and supervisor

The first step in completing an Honours thesis is to identify a topic and supervisor. Ideally, this should be done sometime **between March and May of your third year** (i.e., a few months before the start of your thesis year).

You should begin by thinking about topics that are of interest to you, and considering whether there is a project that you began working on during a course that you would like to develop further, etc. You will be working on your thesis for a full year, so it is important that the topic be something that will hold your interest. The more specific you can be, the easier it will be for you to move forward with your project. Note that it is normal for topics to evolve during the thesis process; the initial goal is simply to identify a topic that will serve as a starting point for developing your thesis.

Once you have identified a potential topic, make a meeting with a potential faculty supervisor and ask them if they would be willing to advise your thesis. Normally you should ask a faculty member who has research interests related to your desired topic. It is recommended that you provide them with a one-page summary of your potential topic in advance, but this should not dissuade you from meeting with someone to talk about preliminary ideas.

Normally faculty members who are not on leave say “yes” to requests to supervise Honours theses / projects, as long as they know something about the topic you would like to study, and they do not already have too many other thesis students. It is also helpful if they have previous positive impressions of you from their courses – e.g., you showed good work ethic and did well in courses they taught. Try to be as professional as possible in your interactions.

Thesis supervisors should be regular faculty members in SLALS – i.e., Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor (not contract instructors). We do not find supervisors for students; you must reach out to a professor yourself. That said, if you need help identifying who might be appropriate to approach, you should feel free to contact the undergraduate advisor.

How to register

Once you have found a supervisor, you should fill out the course approval form (available on the [SLALS website](#)), and have it signed by your supervisor and the undergraduate advisor. During registration, file an override request for the relevant course, and once the forms have been processed, the Undergraduate Administrator will let you into the course.

Next steps

Your supervisor will work with you to develop your thesis idea in more depth and to set a timeline for completion of its various components. Normally students meet with their thesis / project supervisor a few times before the Fall semester begins to plan for the project and complete some preliminary work (e.g., reading or ethics training).

There are no regular class meetings for LING 4910, LING 4905 or ALDS 4908. Instead, during the Fall and Winter semesters, students typically meet with their supervisor on a regular basis (roughly once every week or two).

Toward the end of the Fall semester, all thesis students present their work-to-date at the Fall Honours thesis workshop. Then, toward the end of the Winter semester, all thesis students present their final results at the Winter Honours thesis conference. Both of these presentations allow students to get feedback from other students and faculty members, and serve as a way of making connections between people in the program.

The final thesis document is due on the last day of the April exam period.

For more details about the timeline, see the [LING Honours thesis guidelines](#) or the [ALDS Honours project guidelines](#). You can also contact the undergraduate advisor with any questions.

13. Practicum in Speech Language Pathology (LING 4604)

LING 4604 is a field placement course (0.5 credit) that allows students to pursue learning objectives related to the clinical application of research in psycholinguistics, communication differences and disabilities, and language development. Placements are typically at a Speech-Language Pathology clinic, in an educational setting (school or other educational program), or with another organization that provides services to people with communication differences or disabilities. Placements are roughly 7 hours per week for one semester.

Eligibility

To be eligible to take LING 4604, students must satisfy the following requirements:

- Fourth-year standing
- Enrollment in the Honours B.A. or B.Sc. in Linguistics with a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences
- Completion of LING 2604 and 3604 (Communication Differences and Disabilities I & II)
- Linguistics major CGPA of at least 10.0

Students enrolled in the Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD) concentration are given priority, assuming that they satisfy the other eligibility criteria. If additional spots are available, consideration will be given first to other LING majors, then to ALDS majors. Students with majors outside of SLaLS are generally not eligible. If you are unsure about your eligibility, you should consult the practicum coordinator or the undergraduate advisor.

How to apply

To apply for the practicum, you must submit:

- the application form, including a one-page statement describing your interest in the program – available at: <https://carleton.ca/slals/forms-resources/>
- an up-to-date CV
- your unofficial transcript / audit

All of these materials should be compiled into a **single pdf document** and e-mailed to the practicum coordinator.

Deadline

For your application to be considered, it must be submitted no later than **MAY 24** of the year before you plan to complete the practicum. For example, if you wanted to complete the practicum in Fall 2025 or Winter 2026, you would submit your application by May 24, 2025. The deadline is the same for the Fall and Winter semesters, although the practicum may not be available every term.

You should wait until you have received all (or almost all) of your final grades for the Winter semester before submitting your application.

More information and answers to FAQ can be found on the information sheet available here: <https://carleton.ca/slals/wp-content/uploads/sites/58/LING4604-information.pdf>

14. Graduate programs in SLALS

The School of Linguistics and Language Studies offers M.A. programs in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies and in Linguistics. If you are interested in pursuing one of these options, you should make sure to discuss your plans with faculty members in your area of interest. For more information see:

- ALDS: <https://carleton.ca/slals/applied-linguistics-discourse-studies/ma-program/>
- LING: <https://carleton.ca/slals/linguistics/ma/>

Information sessions for interested students are typically held in the Fall semester each year.

15. Contact information

Undergraduate Advisor until June 30, 2025:

Karen Jesney (karen.jesney@carleton.ca)

Undergraduate Advisor starting July 1, 2025:

Kumiko Murasugi (kumiko.murasugi@carleton.ca)

Undergraduate Administrator:

Kimberley Seguin (SLALSUndergraduate@cunet.carleton.ca)
(613) 520-2802

SLP Practicum (LING 4604) Coordinator until June 30, 2025:

Tamara Sorenson Duncan (tamara.sorensonduncan@carleton.ca)

SLP Practicum (LING 4604) Coordinator starting July 1, 2025:

Kumiko Murasugi (kumiko.murasugi@carleton.ca)

TESL Programs Coordinator:

Brian Strong (brian.strong@carleton.ca)