



**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 degrees in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies (BA ALDS), in Linguistics (BA or BSc LING), in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (BSc PCD), as well as a combined Honours BA degree in Linguistics and Discourse Studies.

In **Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies (ALDS)**, you can complete either a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours BA, or a 3-year (15.0 credit) BA degree.

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

In the **Linguistics (LING) BA** degree program, you can complete either a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours BA degree, or a 3-year (15.0 credit) BA degree. The Honours BA degree gives you the option of completing a concentration in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD).

Within the **BSc** degree program, only a 4-year (20.0 credit) Honours BSc degree is available. You can choose to major in either LING or 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 **Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences** 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 **BSc** 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 BSc is more specialized, has higher admission requirements, and may appeal to different career paths after graduation.
- ⇒ There is more room for electives in the BA programs than in the BSc 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 will differ. 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 or 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 and PCD, some of which have prerequisites, 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 2026-2027 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 BA major in ALDS (15.0 credits)

The BA 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 [BA breadth requirement](#)

## 2.2 Honours BA in ALDS (20.0 credits)

The Honours BA 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 BA 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 [BA 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 2026-2027 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.

BA calendar program description:

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

BSc calendar program description:

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

Calendar course descriptions:

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

#### 3.1 BA major in LING (15.0 credits)

The BA 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 [BA breadth requirement](#)

## 3.2 Honours BA in LING (20.0 credits)

The Honours BA 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 BA 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 BA 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 BA 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 [BA breadth requirement](#)

### Requirements for the Honours BA 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 [BA breadth requirement](#)

**Note:** Effective 2024-2025, the concentration in Linguistic Theory can no longer be added as part of the BA program. Students who are interested in linguistic theory should complete the BA 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 BSc in LING (20.0 credits)

**Important: The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2026-2027 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.

The **most important change** in the 2026-2027 calendar is that, rather than declaring a *concentration* in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD), BSc students can now declare PCD as their *major*. This replaces the previous PCD concentration option for the BSc in Linguistics. The requirements of the PCD major are outlined in [section 3.4](#).

Another change is that we now have an Honours BSc in Linguistics that does not require a concentration. There is still the option to add Honours BSc in Linguistics with a **concentration** (previously, a “stream”) in Psychology, Neuroscience or Computer Science.

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

#### Requirements for all Honours BSc in LING students

- 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
- 3.0 additional credits in LING at any level [excluding LING 1100]
- 1.0 credit in MATH 1007, MATH 1107
- 1.5 credits in BIOL 1103, 1104, 3306
- 1.0 credit in CHEM 1001, 1002
- 3.5 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)

#### Additional requirements for LING BSc students with no concentration

- 1.5 credits in [Science Continuation](#) (not LING)
- 2.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

#### Additional requirements for LING BSc students in the Computer Science concentration

- 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}

#### Additional requirements for LING BSc students in the Neuroscience concentration

- 2.0 credits in NEUR 1202, 1203, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {NEUR 2201, 2202, 3206, 3207, 3303}
- 0.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

#### Additional requirements for LING BSc students in the Psychology concentration

- 2.0 credits in PSYC 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {PSYC 2307, 2700, 3307, 3506, 3702}
- 0.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

### 3.4 Honours BSc in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (20.0 credits)

**Important: The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2026-2027 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.

The **most important change** in the 2026-2027 calendar is that, rather than declaring a *concentration* in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD), BSc students can now declare PCD as their *major*. This replaces the previous PCD concentration option for the BSc in Linguistics.

You can either complete an Honours BSc in PCD with no concentration, or you can select a concentration (previously, a “stream”) in Psychology, Neuroscience or Computer Science.

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

#### Requirements for all Honours BSc in PCD students

- 1.5 credits in ALDS 1001, LING 1001, LING 1002
- 1.5 credits in LING 2005, 2007, 2604
- 2.5 credits in LING 3004, 3007, 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
- 1.5 credits in BIOL 1103, 1104, 3306
- 1.0 credit in CHEM 1001, 1002
- 3.5 credits of [electives](#)
- Satisfaction of the [SLaLS language proficiency requirement](#)

#### Additional requirements for PCD BSc students with no concentration

- 1.5 credits in [Science Continuation](#) (not LING)
- 2.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

#### Additional requirements for PCD BSc students in the Computer Science concentration

- 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}

#### Additional requirements for PCD BSc students in the Neuroscience concentration

- 2.0 credits in NEUR 1202, 1203, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {NEUR 2201, 2202, 3206, 3207, 3303}
- 0.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

continued →

### **Additional requirements for PCD BSc students in the Psychology concentration**

- 2.0 credits in PSYC 1001, 1002, 2001, 2002
- 1.5 credits from {PSYC 2307, 2700, 3307, 3506, 3702}
- 0.5 additional credits of [electives](#)

### **3.5 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 BA requirements

Combined Honours degrees allow you to complete advanced course work in two disciplines. The requirements described in the sections below reflect the 2026-2027 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 BA (20.0 credits)

The Linguistics and Discourse Studies major includes courses from both ALDS and LING. It can only be completed as an Honours BA 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 credits 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 [BA breadth requirement](#)

### 4.2 Other Combined Honours BA degrees (20.0 credits)

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

For requirements, consult the undergraduate calendar “BA 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 BA 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 <sup>1</sup>	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

<sup>1</sup> **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 BA 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 <sup>2</sup>	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

<sup>2</sup> **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 BA Honours in LING with a concentration in PCD

#### Front-load electives

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	elective	elective	elective	1002	elective	elective	elective	elective
2	2005	XXXX <sup>3</sup>	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

<sup>3</sup> **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 BSc Honours in LING

### Concentration in Psychology or Neuroscience

CONC = required PSYC or NEUR courses, depending on concentration

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

### Concentration in Computer Science

COMP = required COMP courses for the concentration

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	COMP 1005	MATH 1007	BIOL 1103	1002	COMP 1006	COMP 1805	MATH 1107	BIOL 1104
2	2005	2007	COMP 2401	CHEM 1001	elective	3005	XXXX	COMP 2402	COMP 2404	CHEM 1002
3	3004	3007	XXXX	BIOL 3306	elective	4XXX	XXXX	COMP	elective	elective
4	4XXX	4XXX	XXXX	COMP	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

## 5.5 BSc Honours in PCD

### Concentration in Psychology or Neuroscience

CONC = required PSYC or NEUR courses, depending on concentration

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

<sup>4</sup> 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 major. Codes like XXXX indicate a course at any level in the relevant discipline (LING).

### Concentration in Computer Science

COMP = required COMP courses for the concentration

year	FALL					WINTER				
1	1001	ALDS 1001	COMP 1005	MATH 1007	BIOL 1103	1002	COMP 1006	COMP 1805	MATH 1107	BIOL 1104
2	2005	2007	COMP 2401	CHEM 1001	elective	2604	3601	COMP 2402	COMP 2404	CHEM 1002
3	3007	3603	3604	BIOL 3306	elective	46XX <sup>5</sup>	XXXX	COMP	elective	elective
4	3004	46XX	XXXX	COMP	elective	4XXX	XXXX	XXXX	elective	elective

## 5.6 BA 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

<sup>5</sup> **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 BSc PCD major. **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 semesters.**

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.

### 6.1 LING

CODE	NAME	FREQUENCY
1001	Introduction to Linguistics I	annual (Fall + Winter)
1002	Introduction to Linguistics II	annual (typically Winter)
1100	Mysteries of Language (note: can only be taken as an elective)	annual
2005	Linguistic Analysis	annual (Fall + Winter)
2007	Phonetics	annual (Fall + Winter)
2105	History of English (taught by ENGL)	occasional
2504	Language and Communication (taught by PHIL)	most years
2604	Communication Differences and Disabilities I	annual
3004	Syntax I	annual (typically Fall)
3005	Morphology I	annual (typically Winter)
3007	Phonology I	annual (typically Fall)
3009	Special Topics (topic varies from year to year)	most years
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
3701	Corpus Linguistics (taught by ALDS)	most years
3702	Sociolinguistics (taught by ALDS)	most years
3801	Structure of a Specific Language	occasional
3810	Historical Linguistics	occasional
3811	Language Typology and Universals	occasional
4004	Syntax II	most years
4005	Morphology II	occasional

CODE	NAME	FREQUENCY
4007	Phonology II	most years
4009	Special Topics (topic varies from year to year)	most years
4105	Old English (taught by ENGL)	most years
4412	Diversité du français (taught by FREN)	occasional
4413	Diachronie du français (taught by FREN)	occasional
4414	Analyse du français (taught by FREN)	occasional
4415	Variation du français (taught by FREN)	occasional
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	most 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 code 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.

## 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 [BA breadth requirement](#) count as electives (unless those courses are also required for your LING / ALDS major).
- 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 BA or BSc 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. BA breadth requirement

All students completing a BA degree at Carleton must satisfy the BA 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/academicregulationsandrequirementsforthebachelorofartsdegree/>

## 10. BSc experimental science and science continuation requirements

All students completing a BSc degree at Carleton must complete the BSc experimental science requirement by completing 2.0 credits from the list of courses found here (see “Experimental Science Requirement”):

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

The Linguistics and PCD Honours BSc degrees with the **Psychology** and **Neuroscience** concentrations build in this requirement by including the courses BIOL 1103, BIOL 1104, CHEM 1001 and CHEM 1002. This is also true, as of 2026-2027, for the **Computer Science** concentration.

Older versions of the Linguistics Honours BSc 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.

Additionally, students completing a BSc in Linguistics or PCD **without** a concentration must complete 1.5 credits in **Science Continuation courses**, selected from the list of courses found at the link above (see “Science Continuation Courses”).

If you are unsure about the requirements of your specific degree, you should consult your audit and reach out to the undergraduate advisor if you have questions.

## 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, arrange 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 BA or BSc with a concentration or major in Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences
- Completion of LING 2604 and 3604 (Communication Differences and Disabilities I & II)
- Major CGPA of at least 10.0

Students enrolled in the Psycholinguistics and Communication Differences (PCD) concentration or major 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 whether you qualify, 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 2026 or Winter 2027, you would submit your application by May 24, 2026. 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.

Students in the fourth year of a BA or BSc Honours degree may be eligible to participate in the **Accelerated Pathway**. This program allows students with demonstrated academic excellence and aptitude for research to take up to 1.0 credit at the 5000-level while completing their Honours degree. Upon admission to the M.A. in Linguistics or the M.A. in Applied Linguistics and Discourse Studies, students in the accelerated pathway receive advanced standing for coursework completed at the 5000-level.

Interested students should consult with both the Undergraduate Advisor and the Graduate Supervisor to determine if the accelerated pathway is appropriate for them and to discuss their selection of courses for their final year of undergraduate studies.

- More information about the Accelerated Pathway: <https://carleton.ca/slals/accelerated-pathway/>

## 15. Contact information

Undergraduate Advisor until June 30, 2026:  
Kumiko Murasugi ([kumiko.murasugi@carleton.ca](mailto:kumiko.murasugi@carleton.ca))

Undergraduate Advisor starting July 1, 2026:  
Karen Jesney ([karen.jesney@carleton.ca](mailto:karen.jesney@carleton.ca))

Undergraduate Administrator:  
Kimberley Seguin ([SLALSUndergraduate@cunet.carleton.ca](mailto:SLALSUndergraduate@cunet.carleton.ca))  
(613) 520-2802

SLP Practicum (LING 4604) Coordinator:  
Tamara Sorenson Duncan ([tamara.sorensonduncan@carleton.ca](mailto:tamara.sorensonduncan@carleton.ca))

CTESL Program Coordinator:  
Brian Strong ([brian.strong@carleton.ca](mailto:brian.strong@carleton.ca))