LEARNING GOALS

GOALS FOR STUDENT LEARNING IN THE LINGUISTICS MAJOR

- Develop appreciation of general properties of language, including
  - systematicity of language
  - how language can spread geographically; how languages change over time
  - common cross-linguistic patterns; language universals
  - scientific importance of all languages/dialects
  - properties of signed as well as spoken languages
  - understanding the potential effects of social factors
  - value of describing language as a formal system
- Learn ways to study language in a scientific way
  - gathering data and making observations
  - hypothesis formation and testing
  - making predictions about possible vs. impossible patterns
  - empirical advantages of working with large amounts of data
- Develop competence in linguistic analysis, including
  - analysis of sound, word, and sentence structures of individual languages
  - modelling language as a formal system
- Improve general academic skills
  - writing skills
  - reasoning skills
  - ability to focus on/pinpoint a problem

ASSESSMENT
WAYS IN WHICH UNDERGRADUATE LEARNING IS REGULARLY ASSESSED

- Course-specific assessment
  - Oral and/or written work by students
  - Student self-evaluations of learning
  - Peer evaluations of student work
- Periodic surveys of majors
- Honors theses (Ling majors), senior project (Roling majors)