

CAREERS FOR

Linguistics

MAJORS

Linguistics is the scientific study of human languages. Linguistics majors complete rigorous coursework in language structure, acquisition, processing, and change. Graduates gain skills in research methods and data analysis that are applicable in a broad range of fields. Graduates also gain an in-depth understanding of the relationships between language, culture, and human perspectives. Linguistics students at UNM have the opportunity to study the science of language in a state with exceptional cultural and linguistic diversity. [The Department of Linguistics](#) offers a Bachelor of Arts in Linguistics and a minor in Navajo (Diné) Language.

Graduates often pursue careers in language education, translation, and specialized linguistics professions such as computational linguistics and lexicography. Some graduates pursue further education in Linguistics and related disciplines, while others choose to study and work in other areas, such as speech pathology and business.

Industries & Occupations

Education, Research, & Healthcare*

- Foreign language teacher, English as a Second Language teacher, university faculty, computational linguist, forensic linguist, research librarian, data scientist, speech language pathologist

Languages & Publishing

- Translator, interpreter, lexicographer, technical writer, editor

Government & Policy

- Federal, state, and local agencies in intelligence, national security, law enforcement, foreign affairs, education, and cultural preservation

International Business

- Consulting and translation services

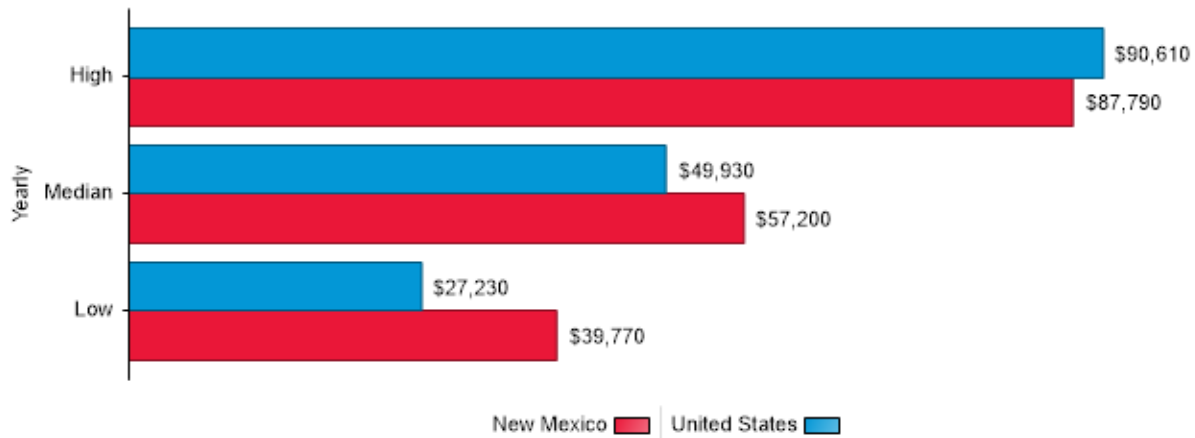
**Occupations require graduate education (Master's or PhD) and/or professional certification or licensure.*

Selected Employment & Internship Opportunities

Indigenous Language Institute, National Hispanic Cultural Center, Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, Linguistic Society of America Fellowship Program, U.S. Department of State, USAID, Central Intelligence Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, N.M. Department of Cultural Affairs, Los Alamos National Labs, Albuquerque Public Schools

Salary Information

Yearly Wages for [Interpreters and Translators](#) in New Mexico



Tips

- There is a lot of variety in the career paths of Linguistics majors! The Linguistic Society of America provides an excellent [career guide for professional linguists](#).
- [Check out this interview series](#) highlighting the careers of over 40 Linguistics graduates in dozens of different professions, including roles in education, healthcare, technology, broadcasting, business, and more.
- The [High Desert Linguistics Society](#) hosts a [biennial conference at UNM](#). This is a great opportunity to learn about cutting-edge research and meet fellow Linguistics students and professionals.
- The Department of Linguistics runs a [state-of-the-art research lab](#). Contact the lab manager to ask about ways for undergraduates to get involved!
- If you are interested in translation and interpretation, consider becoming a [Certified Translator](#) to demonstrate your skills.
- Considering teaching at the K-12 level? You may wish to pursue an [alternative teacher licensure program](#).
- Some Linguistics graduates work for federal government agencies. Programs for [students and recent grads](#) are a great way to get started with federal service.
- Interested in international affairs? UNM offers relevant certificate programs to augment your studies. Students interested in international aid and diplomacy would benefit from UNM's [Peace Corps Prep Program](#). Students interested in national security would benefit from UNM's [National Security and Strategic Analysis Program](#).
- Did you know that UNM Career Services hosts a [Diplomat in Residence](#)? A Foreign Service Officer is available right here on campus to discuss careers, internships and other opportunities with the US Department of State. Call or visit Career Services for more information!
- Did you know that by serving in any [AmeriCorps program](#), you can earn an [education award](#) to help pay for graduate school?

Learn More

Professional Associations

[Linguistic Society of America](#)

[American Association for Applied Linguistics](#)

[Association for Computational Linguistics](#)

[International Association for Forensic and Legal Linguists](#)

[The Association for Linguistic Evidence](#)

[American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages](#)

[Diné Language Teachers Association](#)

[Teaching English as a Foreign Language](#)

[Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages International](#)

[American Translators Association](#)

[International Medical Interpreters Association](#)

[National Association for Interpretation](#)

[National Association of Judiciary Interpreters and Translators](#)

[National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters](#)

[National Council on Interpreting in Health Care](#)

[New Mexico Translators and Interpreters Association](#)

Other Resources

[New Mexico Center for Language Access](#)

[TEFL/TESOL Certification](#)

[ATA Translator Certification](#)

[Handshake](#)

[O*NET](#)

[Occupational Outlook Handbook](#)

- [Education, Training, and Library Occupations](#)
- [Life, Physical, and Social Science Occupations](#)
- [Management Occupations](#)
- [Media and Communication Occupations](#)

[Student Activities Center: High Desert Linguistics Society](#)

[Buzzfile Employers by Major](#)