This minor emphasizes two important facets of human language—the mathematical and social aspects of language. To understand the formal mathematical nature of human language, courses are offered in the areas of phonology, morphology, and syntax. The issues of language as social phenomena are dealt with in diverse, socio-cultural linguistics courses.

**Why UMD**

After minoring in linguistics, students will achieve a high level of analytical ability, which is necessary not only in linguistics, but also in many other related fields, including computer science, mathematics, philosophy, and psychology.

**Acquired Skills**

Linguistics majors develop:

- strong analytical skills
- experience working with languages and diverse cultures
- the ability to form research questions, gather data, and make arguments based on their observations