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Overview

The field of Linguistics can be summarized as the scientific study of language, though this does not fully capture the full range of its study. Linguistics covers many areas of language, including sounds, words, and sentence structure. Certain areas of linguistics also focus on the physiological components of human communication itself. Regardless of what aspects appeal to you, a background in linguistics can aid you in a variety of career paths. Your meta-knowledge of human language could help you in careers like editing and screenwriting. Paired with multilingualism, you could excel as a translator or interpreter. If you're more interested in the physiological components of linguistics, a career in speech language pathology or audiology could be a good fit.

As you read through this document, you'll find a solid overview of some of the more common careers in linguistics, as well as specific and general information needed to pursue those careers. The latter half of the document focuses on more general information about careers in linguistics, such as program related skills, and job market research. This is a large source of information, so it's recommended that readers make use of the table of contents on the previous page.

It's worth keeping in mind that as a linguistics major, you are not bound to the jobs listed here. It's very common for students of any discipline to excel in careers unrelated to their topics of studies. For further guidance on anything career related, For further guidance on anything career related, visit us at the [Career Centre Website](#) or call us at 905.828.5451.

Speech-Language Pathologist

Job Description

Speech is a very integral part of most people's lives but there are so many human conditions that can hinder a person's language and speaking abilities. As a Speech-Language Pathologist (SLP), you will be able to treat these communication problems whether they come from a stutter, a mental health condition, or even a disease like multiple sclerosis.

As the causes of impaired speech and language vary greatly, so do the practices of SLP's. In working with patients, they may practice coaching on their speech production, they may use books, pictures, and toys to communicate, they may even work utilize and teach sign language for some patients. SLP's work in many settings, including hospitals, health clinics, and even schools depending on the types of patients they specialize in. SLP's also work with other professionals such as councilors and dentists to help them better understand their patients and diagnose certain disorders.

Core Tasks and Abilities

Diagnose conditions and formulate treatment plans

Teach people how to make sounds and improve their speaking and language abilities

Work with various resources such as sound analyzers and software

Utilize and teach non vocal communication techniques

Earnings and Education

The pay range of a full-time speech-language pathologist can typically range between \$45,000 to \$100,000 a year. Starting salaries typically stay between \$45,000 to \$70,000 but can

go up to around \$100,000 with a few years of experience. Senior workers and those with their own private practice can achieve a salary exceeding \$100,000 a year.

To practice this career, you need a master's degree in speech-language pathology. These programs take about 2-3 years to complete and include classroom and practical training in subjects such as anatomy, acoustics, counselling, and linguistics. Some provinces also require speech-language pathologists be certified. Certification can be provided by [Speech-Language & Audiology Canada](#).

Prior to enrolling in a master's program, you will need to complete a bachelor's degree. While any bachelor's degree is applicable, programs like psychology, physiology, and linguistics can prepare students with much more relevant knowledge and skills for this field than most other degrees. Additionally, entry to many master's programs will require that you complete certain courses from these disciplines in your undergraduate studies.

SLP's can also achieve a PhD in speech-language pathology from select universities. This usually takes 4-5 years after a master's degree and typically leads to a higher salary and is required if you want to teach in a university.

Information Interview

The following dialogue comes from Bonnie, a Speech-Language Pathologist, and is retrieved from Career Cruising through [CLNx](#)

Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I work in private practice as a speech-language pathologist. My client base includes both people with serious medical conditions and people with non-medical problems, such as those with heavy foreign accents.

I am also involved in the creation and distribution of books and audio recordings that allow people to help themselves overcome various communication disorders.

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I come from a family of doctors and I have always been interested in health-related professions. I chose speech pathology in university because I knew it would allow me to take full responsibility for the diagnosis and treatment of my patients.

Since graduating, I have worked in a variety of settings: as a consultant and researcher for a community clinic, as the head of a speech-language pathology department at a large hospital, and as the supervisor of a university voice clinic. I have also written, produced, and hosted several radio and television shows on topics related to speech pathology and ethnicity.

What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

In order to diagnose patients' problems, you must have strong analytical skills. But you also need to be creative. Every patient's needs are slightly different, and speech pathologists have to be flexible and innovative in order to tailor treatment programs to meet those special needs.

You spend the vast majority of your time working closely with your patients, so you also have to relate to people well. You have to be compassionate and patient

How much job security is there for people in your field?

In the past, speech-language pathologists who worked in public institutions like hospitals could count on lifetime job security. Unfortunately, things are much less stable today. It is difficult to predict what will happen in the future.

Speech-language pathologists in private practice are self-employed, so they don't have to worry about being laid off. However, they do have to work hard to attract a lot of clients, if they want to make a decent living.

What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

An experienced speech-language pathologist could specialize in non-medical problems. For example, you could help actors develop better speaking voices, or coach businesspeople in effective public speaking.

How do you think your job will change in the future?

I think a higher proportion of speech-language pathologists will work in private practice. They'll also make more use of sophisticated tools like computerized sound recorders.

Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

The job market is very competitive in large urban centres. New graduates may have to practice in smaller centres, where the demand for our services is greater.

Translator

Job Description

Updated: 2021

One of the most direct applications of multilingualism is to translate communication from one language to another. As a translator, you're tasked to convert texts in this way. This is distinct from the role of interpreters, who translate oral communication, often in real time. The role of translating texts is more complicated as it seems given that most languages can hardly ever communicate the same thing when translated word for word. To translate accurately, you need a deep understanding of both languages and how their sentences are structured. Beyond that, you must also develop a good comprehension of the corresponding cultures of the languages you're working with, including mannerisms, colloquialisms, and slang.

Translators work on all kinds of texts, from posters, articles, and newspapers, all the way to legal documents and academic papers. You will likely also pick subject of text to specialize in, such as health care, architecture, and government publications. Translating large documents can leave a lot of room for error, so many translators tend to work together and proofread each other's work.

Core Tasks and Abilities

Translate texts from one language to another

Consistent research of relevant materials

Proficiency in proofreading

Communication with clients and supervisors

Specialization of a specific subject

Earnings and Education

Whether translating freelance or under an employer, translators typically earn between \$30,000 and \$90,000 a year. Salary is typically dependent on experience, education, skill level, and certification. Under freelance practice, the earnings tend to vary much more when compared to those translating under an employer. Employers may also offer benefits and dental coverage in

The most crucial requirement to becoming a translator is to be fluent in two or more languages, with one being a national language of your home country. While translating doesn't call for any degree, having bachelor's degree in any field can be good for marketing yourself. Studying linguistics for your degree can help your understanding of languages and their relationships. Taking language courses could help you with developing fluency in another language. If you are looking translate in more professional areas like medicine or law, your education should instead be focused on those specific areas, with training in translation coming afterwards. For those looking to specialize more heavily, there are some university programs at all levels for translating. See [education](#).

Regardless of education level, professional translators can also benefit career-wise by getting certified. This can be achieved by passing an exam set by the [Canadian Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters Council](#) (CTTIC).

Information Interview

The following dialogue comes Jaqueline, a translator, and is retrieved from Career Cruising through [CLNx](#)

Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I am responsible for running the French-English section of a governmental translation service. We translate government publications, internal documents, legal decisions, and correspondence with citizens. I deal with our own in-house translators and with freelance translators we bring in to perform specific tasks.

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I had an international upbringing, having grown up in Ottawa, Paris, and Toronto. In both high school and university, I focused my studies on modern languages and literature. As part of my bachelor's degree in these subjects, I had the opportunity to spend a year in Grenoble, France. This immersion experience, along with the time I spent as a child in Paris, proved to be invaluable in my subsequent career as a French-English translator.

After graduating, I got a job in Japan. When I returned to Canada, one of my former co-workers told me about an opening for a translator in a government department. He persuaded me to give it a try. Now, 24 years later, I'm glad that I took him up on it.

What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

It is important to have an interest in (or a love for) languages. At the same time, you have to be organized and have a sense of detail; the little things can be very important. Finally, you must have the ability to work quickly and accurately under the pressure of deadlines.

How much job security is there for people in your field?

Job security for translators who work for the government depends on whether or not governments are making cutbacks. When downsizing occurs, governments turn to outside,

private sector translation services instead of employing in-house translators. Presumably, there is more job security in the private sector during these times.

What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Translation is a pretty specialized skill, so it may be difficult for translators to move straight into other high-level jobs. Still, the writing and editing skills that translators have would be of value even in jobs where only one language is used.

There are also many jobs in government or the private sector where fluency in two or more languages would be an advantage. The federal government, for instance, prefers to hire people who speak both French and English. Multinational corporations might also value such language skills.

How do you think your job will change in the future?

We are using more computerized translation dictionaries and thesauri and other helpful tools. Perhaps, in the future, voice recognition systems will eliminate the need for typing.

Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

Canada is a bilingual country. Therefore, there will always be a need for some translators, but it is difficult to say how many.

Audiologist

Job Description

Updated: 2021

Hearing loss is an issue that can come in all forms. Anyone young or old can experience all kinds of hearing loss, from minor cases to absolute deafness. As an audiologist, you are specialized to work with these affected individuals, diagnosing conditions, providing treatment like hearing aids, and counselling people on how to utilize treatment and prevent further hearing loss. Audiologists can also treat some balance issues if the problem stems from dysfunction in the ear.

Audiologists use multiple steps in the process of diagnosis. They typically start with basic tests and interviews to determine the presenting problem, and then utilize medical equipment to identify the roots of the problem. Diagnosis is more than determining the presence of hearing loss. Audiologists must also use their tools to measure the severity and form of hearing loss that has occurred.

Treatment for hearing loss typically revolves around technological aid like visual alarms, phone adapters, and hearing aids. These aids tend to be quite advanced and audiologists must be competent with coaching patients on how to use them. Additionally, audiologists should be skilled in counselling, as hearing loss can be a stressful situation for patients to deal with.

As an audiologist you can work in a variety of locations, from hospitals, to schools, to rehab centers, and even government agencies. Like many careers, there is also the option to create your own private practice.

Core Tasks and Abilities

Diagnose hearing problems using interviews and digital tools

Prescribe hearing aids, visual alarms, and other assistive devices

Train patients to use assistive devices

Updated: 2021

Provide counselling to patients

Help patients prevent and minimize hearing loss

Earnings and Education

The earnings for an audiologist typically range from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year with a median of \$78,000. Those working full time under an employer can receive benefits like dental coverage and paid vacation. The earnings of those working under private practice can vary more than those under employers and has potential to both exceed a \$100,000 a year and fall below \$50,000.

To become an audiologist, you must complete a 2-3-year master's degree in audiology that includes classes and a clinical internship. Entry into these programs require that you complete a 4-year bachelor's degree before applying. Different audiology programs require different programs for undergrad so it's important to research your master's program in advance.

Most Canadian provinces require that you register with their regulatory body before practicing audiology. Certification with [Speech-Language & Audiology Canada](#) is preferred by employers but not mandatory. American Sign Language is also a valuable asset in audiology. While audiologists can pursue a PhD, this level of education is only required for people who want to perform research or teach in a university.

Information Interview

The following dialogue comes Lori, an audiologist, and is retrieved from Career Cruising through [CLNx](#)

Updated: 2021

Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

My work is similar to that of an optometrist, except that I assess how well a person can hear rather than check vision. I run my own clinic, and I test people of all ages. Sometimes I counsel them about how to maintain and preserve their ability to hear.

I also prescribe and fit hearing aids and other assistive devices.

Most audiology procedures are standardized. Some practices may vary depending on the audiologist

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I completed a bachelor's degree in fine arts, and worked for 6 years as a professional stage manager for different theatre companies. I was looking for a career change, and spent time with an audiologist. I liked the rapport with the patients.

I applied for a bursary from the government to help pay my expenses, and got a master's degree in audiology. I worked in a private clinic, then in manufacturing. Finally, I decided to open my own clinic.

What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

It's important to have a good rapport with your patients. I find that having patience helps, especially when dealing with the elderly.

I also think you need compassion for your patients. Dealing with hearing loss can be lonely, frustrating, and scary for people.

Updated: 2021

How much job security is there for people in your field?

Many audiologists change jobs but stay in the profession their entire working life. Most audiologists whom I know personally have been doing it for more than 10 years, but may have changed locations.

What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

Audiologists work in a variety of settings, including private practice, hospitals, schools, research institutions, and manufacturing.

What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

The demand for audiologists will increase as the baby boomers age. Another factor is that our environment is becoming noisier, and noise damages hearing.

Advances in new technology will continue to change our industry, so having computer skills is an asset.

What are the biggest challenges in your job?

In this job, it's easy to get into a daily grind of seeing patient after patient and caring for their needs. This makes burnout a possibility and a risk in this occupation.

You may be working long hours, so it's important to force yourself to take time out when you need it.

Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

There is no way to absolutely secure an entry-level position. Some provincial governments offer academic grants to study audiology, which may have conditions on them, like working in a specific geographic location. If you are willing to move away from the major centres, your opportunities will increase.

Sign Language Interpreter

Job Description

Many deaf people in North America rely on sign languages, most commonly American Sign Language (ASL), to communicate with others. Unfortunately, proficiency in ASL not common enough to avoid significant communication barriers in the North American population. As a sign language interpreter, it is your job to mediate communication by converting forms of spoken language into sign language and vice versa.

Sign language interpreters can find work anywhere in which a deaf person may need to understand a speaker. These include any forms of open public speaking, specific classrooms and workplaces, and even musical concerts in some cases. Sign language interpreters can also work in more tense situations, such as political debates and courtroom proceedings.

It is the duty of sign language interpreters to act as unbiased agents while on the job. They are meant to give information as accurately as possible, even using facial expressions to

match the participants' tone. This professionalism also extends after completing jobs, as sign language interpreters follow a strict code of confidentiality.

Core Tasks and Abilities

Translate spoken language into sign language and vice versa

communicate tone and mood through facial expression

Follow code of ethics for confidentiality

Earnings and Education

Sign language interpreters can typically earn between \$25,000 to \$60,000 a year depending on supply and demand. They can work full time under an employer but more often they tend to work freelance and charge by the hour. This comes with all the extra stress and demands of running a business, but experienced and certified interpreters can typically charge between \$30 to \$55 dollars an hour under private practice.

Sign language interpreters in North America must be fluent in ASL as well as the relevant language they aim to interpret professionally. There are many online and in person methods to learn ASL, including digital lessons and community center classes. After achieving fluency in ASL, it helps to apply to an interpreter training program offered by colleges and universities. It is also highly recommended that sign language interpreters get national certification from [The Association of Visual Language Interpreters of Canada](#) (AVLIC) as it allows a higher income and is required from many employers.

Information Interview

The following dialogue comes from Emory, a Sign Language Interpreter, and is retrieved from Career Cruising through [CLNx](#)

Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I am the director of a non-profit organization, which provides communication services to the Deaf. I am also a sign language interpreter. We allow Deaf people to become more empowered and successful in their personal and professional goals by giving them a means to communicate. Because I am the non-profit's director, I am also heavily involved in the contracting and business side of the interpreting industry.

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I am currently studying for my Master of Arts degree. I have previously worked as the director of a casino, gaming, and marketing agency. Prior to my current role, I worked as a freelance interpreter.

My parents were both deaf and so I volunteered as an interpreter while growing up. I was attracted to the field because I could use my interpersonal skills and I also love the linguistic and cognitive challenges of the field. I have been a sign language interpreter for 5 years.

What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

Having a strong sense of ethics is important. As a sign language interpreter, you must maintain good boundaries and confidentiality with those you interpret for.

Punctuality is key. You shouldn't ever show up late and have people waiting for you.

Updated: 2021

Cultural sensitivity is important because you will be dealing with a wide range of different people from different walks of life.

How much job security is there for people in your field?

The interpreting field is booming. There is a lot of job security. Because of the physical aspects of the job, it's recommended you only work 30 billable hours a week in order to increase career longevity.

Most sign language interpreters don't have regular employers, but freelance. This gives them the ability to move and live anywhere. The job is very transferrable. For those that do work with an employer, the tendency is for people to stay long-term.

What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

For those comfortable with the language side of the job, working as a linguist is a possibility.

Sign language interpreters aren't just interested in translating the exact language, but are focused on translating the meaning. Our role includes a great deal of linguistic terminology and training.

Other options include working as a teacher for those studying sign language interpretation or in the public relations and communications industry.

What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

Technology does have an impact on our field in that interpreting over video chats is becoming more common. This particular situation can be challenging because you are interpreting over a two-dimensional screen in a language meant to be seen in three dimensions.

The economy doesn't affect Fortune 500 companies, which have a need for sign language

interpreters for employees, trade shows, community events, and such. Because it's cheaper for them to hire an interpreter rather than face a lawsuit, they don't tend to cut back in this area.

Smaller companies that are not as concerned about lawsuits may scale back on hiring interpreters.

What are the biggest challenges in your job?

Interpreting can be mentally challenging. Also, because you are dealing with different subject matter throughout the day, you'll need to be able to keep up with and be knowledgeable about different topics.

Physically, your wrists, arms, and shoulders can become very sore. Carpal tunnel syndrome and repetitive strain injury are common injuries that sign language interpreters face.

Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

There are more opportunities in major metropolitan areas, where Deaf people tend to live. Even for an entry-level position, one is expected to be certified.

Another option is to work at a sign language interpreting agency to develop your understanding of the field and then become certified and do interpreting work.

ESL Teacher

Job Description

Every year, Canada accepts hundreds of thousands of immigrants, some of them already knowing different amounts of English, some only knowing other languages. As an ESL (English as second language) teacher, your role is to help people of all ages learn how to understand and

communicate in the English language. This covers all relevant aspects of language, such as grammar, reading, writing, and pronunciation.

As a teacher, this position will demand a variety of tasks, including public speaking, teaching at a macro and micro level, creating and grading evaluations, and tailoring your lessons to clients. Since ESL teachers work with immigrants, they must also display a consistent sensitivity to various cultural backgrounds. Early learners of any language can often display shyness and feelings of self-consciousness, and ESL teachers should be able to use empathy to deal with these issues in their students and clients.

Although ESL teacher is the common label for this position, it is quite misleading as many immigrants come to Canada already knowing 2 or more other languages. As such, this position can commonly be referred to as EFL (English as foreign language) teacher. To maintain consistency, the more common name, ESL teacher, will be used for the remainder of this document.

ESL teachers do not only work with Canadian immigrants. There's a market for English speakers all around the world, meaning that many ESL teachers can also find a job working abroad, either remotely or physically.

Core Tasks and Abilities

Teach people how to communicate in English

Educate students on relevant grammar, writing convention, and pronunciation

Create and grade evaluations of students

Teach people about Canadian Culture

In many cases, supervise field trips

Updated: 2021

Earnings and Education

ESL teachers work full time, often with overtime, within schools, colleges, universities, and community centers. Compensation typically varies on where the teacher works. Public school teachers are hired on a contract basis and typically paid salaries of \$35,000 to \$95,000 a year with some benefits, similar to other teachers. ESL teachers working in colleges, universities, private schools, and community centers typically work for an hourly wage that typically sits around \$15-\$20 an hour but could go up to \$50 for more experienced workers. These ESL teachers typically do not receive benefits.

To teach ESL in public schools, you must obtain your Bachelor of Education Degree (B.Ed.). This can be done out of high school in a 4-5-year program, or in a 1-2-year program that requires past completion of a 4-5-year bachelor's degree in any area.

To teach ESL in private schools, community centres, colleges, and universities, you need a bachelor's degree in any related subject. Depending on the employer, you may also need to complete a recognized Teaching English as a Second Language program (TESL, which is offered in many colleges, universities, and private schools. Very similar programs can be found under the names Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) and Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL).

Both private and public teaching of ESL can require a bachelor degree of some sort, but neither pathway specifies what subject the degree has to be in. Common choices include English to deepen the understanding one language, and Linguistics to broaden their knowledge on languages in general.

Information Interview

The following dialogue comes from Christine, an ESL Teacher, and is retrieved from Career Cruising through [CLNx](#)

Tell me about your job. Is what you do different in any way from what others in your occupation do?

I am an ESL teacher and an ESL junior summer program coordinator. My job is twofold. I coordinate a program for 10 to 18-year-olds, typically from abroad, who want to learn English. I also spend time as a classroom teacher. I work for a school that is dedicated to teaching English to adults from all around the world.

My job is different in that it's rare for anyone in the ESL field to hold a position that involves classroom teaching as well as an administrative role.

Can you tell me about your background and how you got into this field?

I studied psychology at university during my undergraduate years. Then I attended a graduate school of education and studied language and literacy.

I've always worked in the education field and have been a private tutor, an educational assistant at a public elementary school, and a school administrator.

I was attracted to this field because I love English and helping students learn. I got started after going to Korea for a year to teach. I've been an ESL teacher for about 10 years.

What personal characteristics are required for someone to be successful in your job?

Teachers must be thick-skinned. My students have such firm ideas about what they want and how they can learn English. They are not afraid to tell me if they perceive I am not being helpful to them. Students are generally not being malicious but are simply concerned about their education.

Creativity is important because students don't come looking for a traditional classroom experience. I have to make sure every moment is engaging, while at the same time targeting grammar, vocabulary, and study skills. Students want their classes to be full of games, exercises, activities, and projects that interest them.

How much job security is there for people in your field?

There is a lot of job security in this field because teachers are difficult to come by and the field grows every day. However, the typical person doesn't stay in the field for life. It's very much considered an in-between type of job.

Teaching in the ESL community rarely offers opportunities for promotions because the next step would be taking on an administrative role, which is a job change and the only way to get promoted.

Some people entering this field may move on after a year. There are a lot of short-term opportunities. If you plan on moving up, you should stay in a role for 2 to 3 years.

What other jobs could you do with the skills you have gained in this field?

I don't think that ESL teachers are necessarily particularly suited for other careers. But it is a job that requires someone to be continually changing, adapting, learning, and growing. We learn about different cultures and adapt our teaching styles accordingly.

With these kinds of skills, we could work in any field that requires an aptitude for working with many different types of people. ESL teachers are probably some of the best customer service representatives.

What do you think the future holds for people in your occupation?

This field is growing rapidly and different schools are competing to excel in the marketplace. Schools are incorporating technology and teaching styles that cannot be readily applied to public schools due to funding or budget issues. However, ESL learning will still continue to incorporate the essentials of having a classroom, ESL teachers, and students.

What are the biggest challenges in your job?

The most challenging aspect of my job is balancing all the different cultures, expectations, and educational needs of my students into one class. Cultures can clash, as well as educational needs and expectations. In those cases, it's a balancing act to make sure all the students' needs are met and that I maintain a good classroom dynamic.

Are there many opportunities in your field? What should people do to get started?

There are many opportunities all over the world for ESL teachers to teach. The demand to speak English increases every day, as does the demand for ESL teachers.

The best way to enter the field is to teach abroad, a relatively easy thing to do amongst Asian countries. After getting that job experience, getting a TEFL certificate cements the prerequisites for becoming an ESL teacher at many schools in North America.

For all job profiles, information was extracted from Career Cruising through the CLNx website.

Education

The following is a **limited** list of relevant **linguistics** programs in Ontario, as well as some other specialized. A comprehensive account of relevant programs in Canada can be found using the [search function](#) from universitystudy.ca

For more information on applying to different programs, visit our website's [Section on Further Education](#), You can also check out relevant [tip sheets](#) for further education.

Linguistics Programs

Bachelor's Programs

University of Toronto: [Mississauga](#), [St George](#), [Scarborough](#)

[McMaster University](#)

[York University](#)

[Queen's University](#) *Undergraduate program only

Master's Programs

University of Toronto: [St George](#),

[McMaster University](#)

[York University](#)

[Western University](#)

Doctorate (Ph.D.) Programs

Updated: 2021

University of Toronto: [St George.](#)

[McMaster University](#)

[York University](#)

[University of Ottawa](#)

Specialized Programs

Speech-Language Pathology

[University of Toronto](#)

[University of Ottawa](#)

[McMaster University](#)

Audiology

[University of Ottawa](#)

[Western University](#)

Translation*

[York University \(Bachelor's\)](#)

[University of Ottawa \(Master's\)](#)

[University of Ottawa \(Doctorate\)](#)

*Professional translating DOES NOT require specialized university programs

For more information on applying to different programs, visit our website's [Section on Further](#)

[Education](#), You can also check out relevant [tip sheets](#) for further education.

Updated: 2021

Who Employs Graduates in Linguistics

Translation firms	Cultural institutes
Government agencies	Language schools
Publishers	Acting schools, studios, and theatre organizations
Public and private schools	Media outlets
Universities and colleges	Computer training schools
Community centres	International organizations
Newspaper and magazine firms	Advertising agencies
Software companies	Financial institutions
Health and rehabilitation centres	Self-employed/freelance

Program Related Skills

Academic courses in this program provide opportunities to develop the following types of skills.

Make a career counselling or an employment strategy [appointment](#) to discuss how you can demonstrate these skills to employers.

Technical: knowledge of language use and language faculty; understanding of how humans process and produce language; and understanding of language variation and change.

Research: conduct hands-on study of linguistic data related to theoretical and experimental linguistics; apply methodologies from many disciplines; and attention to detail.

Analytical: analyze and interpret various kinds of quantitative and qualitative information as well as critical thinking.

Communication & interpersonal: proficiency in critical reading and writing and oral expression; knowledge of how language is used in social contexts; and knowledge of the structure of at least one other language besides English.

Possible Career Paths/Other Careers related to Linguistics

• Acting Instructor* (voice work)	Immigration Officer*
• Advertising Copywriter / Copywriter*	Interpreter*
• Airline Customer Service Agent*	Journalist*
• Audiologist*	Lexicographer
• Border Services Officer	Marketing Specialist*
• Communications Specialist*	Mediator*
• Computer Trainer*	News Editor
• Conference Interpreter	Professor*
• Consultant*	Proofreader*
• Communications Specialist*	Public Relations Specialist*
• Director of Programs Abroad	Special Education Teacher*
• Editor*	Speech-Language Pathologist*
• Employees Relations Advisor	Speech Researcher
• ESL Teacher*	Technical writer*
• Event Manager*	Terminologist
• Foreign Language Instructor*	Training Specialist
• Foreign Service Officer*	Translator*
• Foreign Student Advisor	Travel Agent*
• Hotel Manager*	Screenwriter

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human Resources Specialist* • Writer* 	Web Developer*
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* Indicates that the career can be researched on Career Cruising through the [CLNx](#) Resource

Section

Labour Market Information

The following links come from the [Government of Ontario](#). Other labour market profiles can be found searching [here](#)

[Audiologists and Speech-Language Pathologists](#)

[Translators, Terminologists, and Interpreters](#)

[Secondary School Teachers](#)

[Elementary/Kindergarten Teachers](#)

[Professor/Lecturer](#)

[Journalists](#)

[Advertising, Marketing, and Public Relations](#)

How to Get Experience and Build a Network

Informational Interviews

Informational interviews are a great way to connect with professionals in a career area of interest and gain valuable insights about a particular career, company, or industry that would otherwise be difficult to find in books or online. Check out our tip sheet to learn more.

Updated: 2021

Alumni Profiles

Check out our Alumni Profiles page with submissions from UTM grads to find out how their experiences have affected their career direction.

Events

Attending career panels, networking events, employer info sessions, and career fairs is a great way to meet professionals and learn more about careers, companies, and industries. Login to [CLNx](#) and click on Events & Workshops to see what's coming up.

The UTM International Education Centre also holds many events that can be valuable to anyone interested in learning about other languages and cultures, such as Language Conversation Circles and Let's Talk Sessions

Talk to Professors

Connecting with your professors can be a great way to explore the different paths a major can lead you to, as well as learn about possible opportunities for research, volunteering, or becoming a TA.

Students considering further education should take opportunities to connect with profs, as this may be necessary for obtaining and [Academic Reference](#). Drop by during their office hours or request an appointment by email.

Student Organizations

Join a student club or an academic society at UTM to meet like-minded people, explore your interests, and make valuable connections. Linguistics students can especially benefit from joining the [Language Studies Academic Society](#) (Facebook Link)

For a complete list of student organizations at UTM, search [here](#)

LinkedIn

Create a [LinkedIn](#) profile to connect with professionals in various fields, explore the career paths of UTM alumni, research employers, apply for specific positions, and more. Need help? Come to the Career Centre to book a LinkedIn profile critique.

Professional Associations

There are many benefits of becoming a member of association(s), such as developing a network of contacts, learning about industry trends, accessing industry-related job postings, and stating your affiliation on your resume. Some associations related to this major are:

[Canadian Linguistic Association \(CLA\)](#)

[Canadian Association of Applied Linguistics \(ACLA\)](#)

[Association of Translators and Interpreters of Ontario \(ATIO\)](#)

Additional Web Resources

[Prospects – Career Options in Linguistics](#)

[Linguistic Society of America – Why Major in Linguistics](#)

[Top Universities Course Guide – Linguistics Degree](#)

[Omniglot – Careers Using Languages](#)

[Canada’s Top 100 Employers for Young People](#)

Sample Job Postings

Below is a sample of delisted positions that have been posted on CLNx. To access current listings, login to [CLNx](#) and click on Jobs on the left taskbar.

Legislative Student Usher, Legislative Assembly of Ontario

Employee Relations Advisor, Ministry of Government and Consumer Services

Translator, Sleep Country Canada

Communications & Planning Assistant, Department of Language Studies, UTM

Community Outreach & Development Coordinator, Parkdale Community Information Centre

Travel Advisor/Team Administrator, Butterfield & Robinson

Human Resources Administrator, Global Payments Canada

International Marketer (Bilingual), Study English in Canada Inc.

Editorial Assistant, Department of Historical Studies, UTM

Freelance Linguistic Checker, Nomen International

Campus Representative, The Princeton Review

Transcriptionist, eDecree

Updated: 2021

English Conversation Facilitator, University Settlement

Copy Editor, The Medium, UTM

Youth Addictions Support Worker, Canadian Mental Health Association

Additional Sample Job Postings from careers.org

Speech-Language Pathologist, Closing the Gap Healthcare

Audiologist, Hearing Solutions

French Translator, CIBC

Online ESL English Language Teacher, Infinitum Education

Sign Language Interpreter, Soliant

How can the Career Centre Help?

There are many services and resources offered by the Career Centre that can help you to explore and plan your career direction. Check out the [Career Centre Website](#) for more information. You can also book an appointment with the following Career Educators:

Individual Appointments

Career Counsellors: If you are unsure about your career direction or want help with shaping your career direction, you may find it helpful to make an appointment with one of our career counsellors.

Employment Strategists: Determine a job search plan with a professional and receive ongoing coaching to keep you motivated and focused.

To book either of these appointments, drop by or call the Career Centre at 905-828-5451.

For a complete list of appointments offered by the Career Centre, click [here](#)