Maryland is a World-Leader in Language Science

Human children have an unparalleled capacity for language learning. Their immature brains leave adults in the dust when it comes to language mastery. And even Google’s computers cannot match the language abilities of a typical first grader. Millions of children are crippled educationally, socially, and vocationally by language learning impairments. Adults the world over struggle to acquire the language skills needed for success in the global marketplace. Adult language learning is essential for success in the global marketplace. Language expertise and advanced natural language technology are crucial for national security.

At the University of Maryland the largest and most interdisciplinary team of language scientists in North America is dedicated to the study of human language, from basic science to applications for clinical, educational, and engineering problems.

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DEPARTMENTS

Computer Science, cs.umd.edu
Electrical & Computer Engineering
ece.umd.edu

Hearing & Speech Sciences
www.bsos.umd.edu/hesp

Human Development
education.umd.edu/EDHD/

College of Information Studies
ischool.umd.edu

Linguistics, ling.umd.edu

Philosophy, philosophy.umd.edu

Psychology, psychology.umd.edu

Second Language Acquisition
languages.umd.edu/SLAA

Second Language Education & Culture
education.umd.edu/EDCI/SLEC

www.languagescience.umd.edu
Students pursue careers in science, education, technology, healthcare, and national security. Maryland graduates in language science are in high demand, due to their broad skills and their track record of innovation. Recent Maryland graduates are now on the faculties of leading universities in the US and around the world.

Maryland’s language research links basic science to applications for learning, technology, and clinical challenges. What gives human brains their unique capacity for language? How can we create better language education programs, computer tools, and therapies? How can insights from individual languages be applied in a global context? Solutions to these problems require expertise that spans the entire university: language diversity, neural plasticity, advanced computation, research with impaired and gifted populations.

The university has unparalleled facilities for language science, and a host of training programs that equip students to be future leaders in science, technology, healthcare, or education areas related to language. Students develop innovative solutions to language problems by combining expertise from multiple fields, and by drawing on cutting-edge technology, such as the suite of brain scanning technologies at the new Maryland Neuroimaging Center.