The pencil has a sharp point.

It is not polite to point at people.

Do you get the point?

Master's in Linguistics

General Linguistics

uva.nl/ma-general-linguistics
To what extent do the systems of languages vary and to what extent is this variation constrained? In this programme, with its typological focus, you will compare as many language systems as possible, including spoken languages from all continents, sign language, child language and language as used by people with a developmental or acquired disorder. You will draw on evidence from language observation, behavioural and neuroimaging experiments, but also explicit modelling, and learn how languages are structured, as well as how they are produced, comprehended and acquired. The programme will therefore prepare you for a wide range of professions.
Career prospects

Depending on the area of specialisation, the degree provides a solid foundation for a career in fields including: clinical linguistics, curriculum development, language engineering, speech technology, language planning and artificial intelligence. By following this programme, you can obtain the qualification 'Clinical Linguist'. For this you need to master the Dutch language, follow the courses Language Assessment and Language Acquisition & Disorders II, and do an internship in the second semester.

Spotlight on a course

Phonetics and Phonology 1
This core course introduces you to experimental studies on speech perception, comprehension and production. You will do hands-on assignments in Praat (a software developed at our department and used by scientists worldwide), and learn how to model speech processes in neural networks. The latter will give you a better understanding of how our brain works and how this can be incorporated in a formal linguistic model.

Phonetics and Phonology 2 is a specialisation course that builds on and prepares for your Master's thesis.
Entry requirements

The Master’s in General Linguistics is open to all students with a university Bachelor’s diploma in:
• Linguistics
• Sign Linguistics
• Students must have studied a specific language and have a strong background in linguistics, as indicated by an equivalent of 30 ECTS of linguistics courses and a Master's thesis on the linguistics of the language.
All applicants must be able to demonstrate academic knowledge in the field of linguistics and good research skills at Bachelor’s level. You are able to conduct research independently and have a strong interest in the typology of languages and one of our specialisations: phonetics and phonology, syntax and semantics, sign linguistics or language acquisition and disorders.
For more information, please check: uva.nl/ma-general-linguistics
> Application and admission