The aim of this course is to introduce students to the study of linguistics as a scientific discipline within the realm of cognitive science. We will discuss the key issues and questions that concern scholars in the field, focusing on topics such as language and thought and language acquisition. Student will gain understanding of the various subcomponents of language (syntax, semantics/pragmatics, phonology, and morphology) and acquire the basic tools necessary for the syntactic analysis of linguistic data. This course is not designed to provide definitive answers; its central aim is to intellectually stimulate the students and motivate them to further explore this incredible capacity which defines us as humans.

**Topics to be discussed:**

Animal “languages”
Language development
Phonetic & phonology
Morphology
Syntax
Semantics & pragmatics

**Linguistic knowledge**

**Linguistic creativity**

**Grammaticality judgments**

**Competence vs. performance**

**Descriptive vs. prescriptive grammar**

**Universal Grammar**

**Language and thought**

**Additional chapters from:**