

Linguistics Demoz Prize Winner 2022

Caroline Berg-Love:

- **How did you first become interested in linguistics?**

I've always loved languages, even though I didn't have much exposure to linguistics prior to college. When I first started at Northwestern, I planned to be a math major, but ended up taking a linguistics class my first quarter and quickly realized that linguistics was so much more interesting to me. I signed up for more linguistics classes during my first year, which I also greatly enjoyed, and declared a linguistics major shortly thereafter!

- **How have you been involved in the Linguistics Department outside of your coursework?**

I've been a part of Professor Yoshida's Syntax, Semantics, and Sentence Processing Lab (SSS Lab) and Syntax Club for the past couple years. This year, I've also gotten to serve as a co-President of NULSA (the Northwestern University Linguistics Student Association) and have had the opportunity to get to know other linguistics students outside of classes.

- **Can you briefly describe any research projects in linguistics that you've been involved with?**

Since becoming involved with the SSS Lab as a sophomore, I have worked with Professor Yoshida on research investigating syntactic prediction and have worked with participants in the lab. I have also been doing my own research on processing of ambiguous sentence constructions and how a sentence processing mechanism in humans deals with ambiguity.

- **How do you see your linguistics major fitting into your career plans after graduation?**

My plans for the future aren't fully concrete yet, but I plan to spend a year or two working before continuing my studies. I'd love to work in a research environment and to use my knowledge of linguistics in that way. Regardless of what I end up doing, I'm sure I will use the skills I've developed through studying linguistics and plan to continue paying attention to new developments in my areas of interest.

- **What advice would you have for students considering a linguistics major?**

Linguistics is a fascinating field and there's something in there for everyone, and it also ties in with a number of other fields (such as the two fields I'm minoring in, Data Science and English Literature) so you can really explore what interests you. I've really enjoyed my time here studying linguistics and would highly recommend the major - or even any linguistics classes that seem interesting on their own!



Thank you for your continuing support to the Linguistics Department!

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