

## Computational Linguistics, Summer 2016

### What is Computational Linguistics?

*Computational linguistics* is the scientific study of language from a computational perspective. Computational linguists are interested in providing computational models of various kinds of linguistic phenomena. These models may be "knowledge-based" ("hand-crafted") or "data-driven" ("statistical" or "empirical").  
(Association for Computational Linguists)

**Gain some hands-on experience!**

**See a project through from start to finish!**

**Collaborate with others!**

**Improve your fluency with computational tools and/or programming!**

**Get paid while achieving these goals!**

### Faculty mentors:

Florence Feiereisen  
(German, Linguistics)  
[ffeierei@middlebury.edu](mailto:ffeierei@middlebury.edu)

Frank Swenton  
(Mathematics)  
[fswenton@middlebury.edu](mailto:fswenton@middlebury.edu)

We offer an opportunity for 4–6 students to develop and pursue a **collaborative research project in the field of Computational Linguistics**. During the project, students will both deepen their existing background in linguistics and see how to extend it into the information age, with faculty mentors to help bridge the gap from ideas and theoretical knowledge to computation and even software development.

### Details:

- Student-driven, collaborative research project that has to do with natural language (in its oral or written form) and technology
- Designed for Middlebury students with experience or interest in Linguistics or related fields of study; experience with computer science and/or statistics is preferred. (Please note that we might ask students to sign up for a course in Computer Science and/or Statistics in the spring.)
- Selection of project and preliminary research: 6 group meetings during the spring semester (will be organized after students have finalized their schedules)
- Design and implementation: **8 weeks of work on campus** during Summer 2016
- All students will be paid 30 hours/week for 8 weeks and will be housed on campus
- Program is open to students graduating in 2017 or later

### Interested in applying?

Come and find out more!

### Informational Meeting

Wednesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-7:00 PM, FIC CK 2

### Materials to submit:

- Academic transcripts
- Short statement (max. 1 page) indicating experience in Linguistics and programming and/or Computer Science and/or Statistics
- Project proposal. Smaller projects in the areas of text analysis, speech synthesis, or instructional technology could be realistic projects for this summer program. Proposed projects must be clearly laid out and feasible, offering potential to broaden the students' academic experience.

**Deadline:** November 25<sup>th</sup>. Please submit materials per email to both faculty mentors. Accepted students will be notified by the end of the semester.

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