The interdisciplinary MA program of the Department of Comparative Language Science at UZH aims to understand language as a central faculty of humans, especially in comparison to other species.

We offer a broad range of courses, tightly linked to current research conducted by the various groups of the department. Core topics are:

- The investigation of global distributions of linguistic phenomena.
- Finding explanations for the distribution of linguistic phenomena taking into account historical, biological, psychological, and geographical aspects.
- Language acquisition and language processing in various cultural contexts.
- The investigation of language origins through comparisons with non-human animal cognition and communication systems.
- Quantitative analyses and modeling of language change, development and processing.