

# HOW TO APPLY FOR THE GRADUATE ACADEMIC CERTIFICATE:

Use this checklist to guide you through the Graduate Academic Certificate (GACT) in linguistics application process. Currently, we offer GACT in two areas: TESOL and Computational Linguistics. **Please note: applicants who are not currently enrolled in UNT Linguistics graduate program must also submit supplemental documents directly to the Department of Linguistics.**

## SUBMIT AN APPLICATION WITH THE TOULOUSE GRADUATE SCHOOL

- If you are not a current UNT graduate student, [submit an application](#) with the Toulouse Graduate School.
- Choose your GACT concentration: TESOL or Computational Linguistics under 'major/area of study'.
- Under 'Initial Degree You Wish to Seek', choose 'Certification'\*\*.
- Current UNT graduate students must submit the [Application for Concurrent Graduate Academic Certificate](#).
- Required Supplemental Documents are:
  - A 300-500 word statement of purpose for pursuing the certificate
  - A current resume/CV
  - Two letters of recommendation (Academic is preferred. A relevant professional letter can be an option)

↖ These can be submitted directly to [ling-admissions@unt.edu](mailto:ling-admissions@unt.edu) or [HERE](#).

## GACT IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES- PROGRAM LENGTH: 4 COURSES

Education, foreign language, anthropology, and speech and hearing majors find the certificate particularly helpful as it equips them with a skill set that expands their educational and employment options and further distinguishes them from the competition. Professional and technical communication majors should also consider earning a TESOL certificate (the coursework counts toward the degree's required cognate) as it deepens their understanding of writing and editing and enhances their ability to work with global audiences.

## GACT IN COMPUTATIONAL LINGUISTICS- PROGRAM LENGTH: FOUR COURSES

This certificate is specifically intended to address a growing need for language processing skills, particularly those associated with the rapid growth of artificial intelligence and machine learning technologies. Systems like Siri or Alexa are built on a pipeline of language processing technologies, ranging from voice and speech recognition to language understanding and automatic question answering. Developing such technologies is a complex process that requires knowledge from both Linguistics and Computer Science. Students who complete the certificate will develop proficiency in core methods and toolkits for the automated analysis of language.

## GACT REQUIREMENTS

Applicants who do not have a background in linguistics will be required to take LING 5040 as a prerequisite. Admission to a Graduate Academic Certificate does not imply admission to a degree program. A *maximum of 12 semester hours* earned prior to admission to a degree program may be counted toward degree requirements and may vary by program. Successful completion of graduate courses by non-degree or certification-only students does not obligate the university to grant admission to a degree program at a later date. Please note: as a non-degree seeking student, you may not be eligible for financial aid.

\*\*GAC applicants are still required to list previous universities attended

\*\*\*International and Domestic applicants use the same form. If you have additional questions, please feel free to contact an advisor at [ci-advising@unt.edu](mailto:ci-advising@unt.edu).