Graduate School Workshop

Pre-Application Questions and Decisions

- Why do you want to go? (You love linguistics. You like linguistics and want a better change of getting a linguistics-related job. You don’t know what else to do. ...)

- Have you explored financial options and trade-offs? (Many competitive graduate programs, especially PhD programs, will fund your graduate school by waiting tuition and paying you a stipend to be a TA or RA. If that’s not the case, does taking out a loan make financial sense? Working part-time? ...)

- Is location important? (Are you willing to move anywhere? Are you willing to live in that place for 2-7 years? If you’re planning an academic job, are you willing to live anywhere that you get a job?)

- Attend some conferences or the LSA Summer Institute. (Some funding available for undergrads)

- Conduct some linguistics research and get teaching/tutoring experience, if possible.


Picking the Right Program for You

- Do your research - See the Linguistic Society of America’s list of programs http://www.linguisticsociety.org/programs
  - time to degree, post-degree placement
  - faculty expertise and availability
  - % of students funded
- Talk to faculty
- Talk to current students at those schools
- Talk to alumni of the schools
- Visit if you can
- Gretchen McCulloch’s advice on this part: http://allthingslinguistic.com/post/36024148821/so-you-wanna-go-to-linguistics-grad-school-part

The Application Process

- The Letter of Intent/Personal Statement
- Writing sample
- Letters of recommendation

Consider taking time off

MA vs PhD, MA then PhD