How to start thinking about Grad School
Before you apply—questions to ask

• Why do you want to go?
• Is location important to you?
• What are the financial options?
• Read around the internet about the selection process: https://allthingslinguistic.com/post/36024148821/so-you-wanna-go-to-linguistics-grad-school-part
Before you apply—helpful exercises

• Attend conferences
• Get teaching/tutoring experience
• Talk to faculty at Western about interest areas
Deciding where to apply

• Look at program reputation
• Find faculty who are currently doing work that is interesting to you
• Reach out!—email professors at schools who are doing cool things and see if you can contact current students
• Look at program requirements for first-year coursework and prepare early to get ahead
Application components

• Personal Statement

“The grad school “personal” statement is actually a research statement. The admissions committee wants to know that you have some idea what research involves and what kind of research you are interested in doing.”

—Gretchen McCulloch, All Things Linguistic
Application components

- Letters of Recommendation
- Build relationships with professors who know what you’re interested in and can provide guidance as well as a strong letter
- Give professors plenty of time in advance, and write a thank you note after
More tips

• Look at attending institutes (CoLang, LSA Summer Institute), working on research teams or completing internships to explore what linguistic research is like

• Have backup plans

• How to email a professor, according to WikiHow: https://www.wikihow.com/Email-a-Professor

• Spreadsheets can be useful to compare pros/cons of different options