



Department of Theatre

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Associate Professor Maria Miriti  
Chair, Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee

Re: Approval of Proposal for a certificate in Computational Analysis of Language

February 11, 2021

Dear Maria:

At its meeting on Wednesday, January 20, 2021, the ASCC Arts & Humanities Panel 1 unanimously approved a proposal from the Department of Linguistics to create an undergraduate certificate program entitled **Computational Analysis of Language**.

This program provides students with curricular support for the growing field of Computational Linguistics which calls on the disciplines of data analysis, computer science and language. It aims to prepare students for the creation of language technologies, a now ubiquitous aspect of most technology companies from security and intelligence to education and social media.

This undergraduate program, which would be the first of its kind in Ohio and one of very few in the country, offers two tracks to better serve students with distinct career pathways. Track A, which focuses on conceptual aspects and less on technology, aims to prepare students for entry level positions in the field. Track B, which includes computer programming, aims to prepare students for graduate study in Computational Linguistics or Natural Language Processing. In either case, the Panel sees this program as a complement to a wide variety of disciplines at Ohio State, both within our college and beyond and considers it uniquely able to enhance opportunities for cross-disciplinary undergraduate work.

With the recent approval of a course on the Ethics of Language Technology, all the courses included in this 12 credit hour certificate program are already offered and the program could begin immediately serving an estimated fifteen students per year. The interdisciplinary nature of this program creates natural overlaps in some programs including the Artificial Intelligence specialization in the College of Engineering and the Computational Analytics specialization in Data Analytics. However, the Panel believes this certificate remains substantially distinct and would establish a clear new pathway into a unique field. The Panel now advances the proposal to the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee with a motion to approve. Thank you and please let me know if you have any additional questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brad Steinmetz', written over a horizontal line.

Brad Steinmetz  
Associate Professor | Director of Undergraduate Studies  
Department of Theatre, Film, and Media Arts | The Ohio State University