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August 11, 2020

Intelligence & Security  
Duolingo  
5900 Penn Ave,  
Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Dear Hiring Team at Duolingo,

I am applying for the Software Engineer Intern position at Duolingo.

Having grown up near the border between the United States and Mexico and frequently commuting between the two countries to visit relatives, I had the privilege of being exposed to two different languages and in my youth would spend a great deal of time making note the similarities and differences between the two; and later, after discovering the wonderful resource that is Wikipedia, between Indo-European languages at large. This interest really took off in university where I took an intensive course in Russian. The course emphasized correct pronunciation to the point that they devoted office hours and entire exam sections to it. And I loved it! The grammar, the history, the phonology, the poetry, all of it. Especially the phonology. From the emphatic consonants of Arabic to the prosody induced by the vowel harmony in Turkish, I love the diversity of sounds in foreign languages; it is quite literally music to my ears.

Language has always been at the root of what interests me. I find that even my choice of major in university, Mathematics, was influenced by the language of the mathematician; a precise, unambiguous, symbolic language capable of expressing ideas which in natural language can quickly become tedious.

As for what I bring to the table, dear Duolingo staff, I am enthusiastic about language learning, yes, but I also have excellent knowledge of numerical analysis, numerical PDEs, and probability as well as adequate knowledge of machine learning, neural networks, image processing, and more recent experience in data science/data wrangling statistical modeling I believe my qualifications are sufficient for interning at your company.

Hope to hear from you soon,

Carlos Salinas

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