



ED.M. IN LANGUAGE EDUCATION WITH ADVANCED CERTIFICATION: ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL)

Revised April 2025

I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The Ed.M. in Language Education with Advanced Certification: English as a Second Language (ESL) offered at the GSE provides advanced preparation for certified teachers who wish to extend and diversify their professional preparation and seek to enhance their instructional skills and knowledge in English as a second language education.

The Ed.M. with Advanced Certification: ESL is intended for educators who already hold a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate or a Certificate of Eligibility with Advanced Standing (CEAS) and wish to become certified in English as a Second Language (ESL). Students must demonstrate their proficiency in English to qualify for the New Jersey ESL certification. The program prepares students with a thorough understanding of the nature of language, the process of second language acquisition, the relationship between language and culture, and successful models of language and content instructional strategies. Students develop advanced knowledge in linguistics, language pedagogy, and the cultural context of language education.

This program does not lead to initial teacher certification. It is intended as an advanced degree and advanced certificate program. Applicants interested in obtaining their initial teaching certification should contact the Office of Student and Academic Services at academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu.

II. APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Fall admission – May 1 deadline
Spring admission – December 1 deadline
Summer admission – May 1 deadline

III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS: To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide the following before the deadline:

1. Personal statement that briefly describes an experience with English language learners and bilingual students and explains why the applicant wishes to enroll in our ESL program.
2. One letter of recommendation.
3. Passing scores on the Oral Proficiency Interview and a Written Proficiency Test in English administered by ACTFL.
(Any test scores submitted must be less than 5 years old as of the application deadline. Scores must be official, not self-reported.)
4. Official undergraduate transcripts. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university. Applicants are not usually admitted with a GPA of less than 3.00 in their most recent degree.
5. An electronic copy of a New Jersey Standard Instructional Certificate or CEAS.

IV. HOW TO APPLY: Applications are submitted online at the Graduate Admissions website:

<https://newbrunswickgrad.rutgers.edu/>

1. Click on "Create Account or Login" and follow the instructions given.
2. Under "Start an application today!", click **Apply Now**
3. For "Level of Application", select **Graduate**
4. For "Applicant Type", select **Degree**
5. Continue filling out the application, following the on-screen instructions.

Program of Study

6. Under "Program Information", make sure **Degree** is selected for "Applicant Type"
7. For "Degree Type", select **Master's (e.g. MA, MS, EdM, MFA)**
8. For "Area of Study", select **Education**
9. For "Location/Instructional Method", select **New Brunswick**
10. For "Program Selection", select **Education - Language (EDM) New Brunswick**

Program Details

11. For "First Preference Concentration", select **English as a Second Language**. (2nd and 3rd preferences can be left blank.)
12. Complete the rest of the application by providing the requested information.
13. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
14. Submit your application.

V. PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

	Course Number	Course Name	Credits	
			Grad	Total
Theoretical Foundations of Language Development	15:253:520	Principles of Language Learning: Second and World Language Acquisition	3	3
Language and Linguistics	15:253:530	Foundations of Language ¹	3	6
	15:253:537	Language in Society	3	
Culturally Sustaining Language Pedagogy and Practice	15:253:510	Language Learning in Content Areas ²	3	6
	15:253:539	Methods for Teaching and Assessing English Language Learners ³	3	
Historical and Cultural Backgrounds of Emerging Bilinguals	15:253:523	Language and Culture	3	3
Electives	Grad Level	Course selection with advisor approval ⁴	12	12
Total Credits			30	30

¹Students who have successfully taken 15:299:535 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may use that course as a substitute for 15:253:530.

²Students who have successfully taken both 15:253:512 and 15:253:513 as part of a 5-year or post-baccalaureate initial certification program at the GSE may use those courses as a substitute for 15:253:510.

NOTE: If a student uses a course or courses from their undergraduate career, 5-year, or post-baccalaureate initial certification program to substitute for required courses, then the student will need to take courses in its place to complete this degree program with 30 earned credits.

³This course may have a clinical assignment requiring participation in a school setting. Clinical placements will be determined in conjunction with your instructor.

⁴Candidates can elect to add an additional Advanced License or GSE Certificate for:

- [Adult and Continuing Education](#)
- [Community College Leadership](#)
- [Educational Technology](#)
- [Gifted Education](#)
- [Supervisor](#)
- or begin coursework towards any [other certification area](#)

VI. PORTFOLIO: Students will archive artifacts from various GSE courses via an online instructional and evaluation system as directed by faculty.

VII. HIB TRAINING: All candidates for certification must complete pre-service training in the prevention of harassment, intimidation, and bullying (HIB).