Master of Education

Teaching English as a Second Language (Secondary Level • Puerto Rico)

• CIP code 131401 • 30 credits, 4 terms full-time
• Program approved by the Puerto Rico Board of Postsecondary Institutions and offered in compliance with the recertification regulations of the Puerto Rico Department of Education (DEPR);

Program Description — Puerto Rican and North American classrooms include students whose first language is not English. These English Learners (ELs) are faced with learning a new language and culture, while simultaneously receiving the same academic standards as their classmates whose first language is English. The Teaching English as a Second Language Program produces informed, compassionate, and committed educators who create learning environments that work for English Learners (ELs) and value their contributions. This program is for educators who want to get to know their students and who want to help them learn. The faculty members are professionals with extensive knowledge of language acquisition and the cultural factors that affect learning, and are experienced in using the best practices in the classroom. These teachers present relevant material and motivate their students to: value their prior knowledge as a basis for discussing new ideas; read and write critically; apply new skills; demonstrate and assess their own learning.

All English as a Second Language (ESL) program courses present nationally recognized research-based models that shape the curriculum and the development characteristics of students in grades Pre-K-6, 5-12, and adult levels. Participants explore the implications for teaching and learning at each level and apply the course concepts to the established goal. Graduates are career-ready, technologically savvy, and culturally competent to advance social justice causes.

Learning Outcomes — Students will: understand what it means to acquire a language; be aware of the cultural factors that affect their academic achievements; grasp the current theories, research, and best practices for literacy in English. They will use research-based methodology to help English Learners (ELs) to achieve mastery of the language and know how to use Sheltered English Instruction (SEI) strategies to understand the class content standards. Students will plan a curriculum, teach effectively, manage their classroom, promote equality, and fulfill their professional responsibilities. Learning is personalized through independent projects that help to prepare the educator for the profession.

Careers — Graduates may request recertification from the Department of Education of Puerto Rico if they already possess certifications in other areas, and are qualified to teach English as a Second Language (ESL) in public and private schools. They can provide ESL teaching support and tutoring in schools and in other settings including higher education intensive English as a Second Language.

Courses ......................... 30 credits
ESL600  Teaching Adolescent Literature to ESL Students
ESL610  Linguistics & Language Variations
ESL615  Methods & Materials for ESL for Secondary Students
ESL620  Teaching Reading & Writing to ESL Secondary Students
ESL625  Technology for Linguistically Diverse Classrooms
ESL630  Equitable Assessment of ESL Learners
ESL631  Second Language Acquisition & Culture
ESL635  Sheltered Instruction & Assessment
ESL640  Identification & Instruction of ESL Learners with Disabilities & Limited Formal Schooling
ESL650  Teaching Content to ESL Secondary Learners

Program for recertification by the Puerto Rico Department of Education. Prior valid Puerto Rico certification as teacher of English (elementary level) or another area required.

Program and courses subject to change.

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All courses 3 credits except as noted.