

**WATSON COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON**

**MASTER OF EDUCATION: EDUCATIONAL STUDIES SPECIALIZATION  
ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE (ESL) FOCUS AREA**

The Master of Education, Educational Studies Specialization/Teaching English as a Second Language, is designed as a 33-hour intensive program for students who already hold a bachelor's degree and teacher certification. Successful completion of the program will prepare candidates to take the Praxis II in English as a Second Language and/or expand their current knowledge of the field at the graduate level. The target audiences are certified teachers who wish to add a graduate level ESL certification to their current licensure area and current ESL teachers who wish to improve their knowledge of and expertise in the field of ESL.

**Specialization Objectives**

Upon completion of the graduate MEd in Educational Studies/English as a Second Language (ESL) focus area, the student should be able to:

1. Demonstrate a depth and breadth of general knowledge in the field of ESL.
2. Demonstrate well-articulated knowledge of K-12 communities and issues affecting the English language learner population.
3. Demonstrate effective communication skills that can be utilized when interacting with colleagues, administrators, and families.
4. Design, implement, and assess effective instruction.
5. Establish a classroom environment sensitive to the cultural and linguistic needs of all students.
6. Demonstrate effective knowledge of state and federal policies and regulations with regard to the ESL population.
7. Use technology to enhance the academic achievement of English language learners.
8. Demonstrate effective leadership within the school environment.

**Admission Requirements**

- Bachelor's degree completed before graduate study begins
- Official copies of transcripts of college work (graduate and undergraduate). An undergraduate grade average of "B" (GPA = 3.0) or better is recommended.
- Official scores on Miller Analogies Test or Graduate Record Exam.
- Three recommendations by individuals in relevant professional fields.
- A letter of interest describing commitment to the teaching profession, prior experiences working with English language learners, prior experiences in schools, and philosophy of teaching and learning.

**Exit Requirements**

- Candidates completing the program will be required to complete the following.
  - An Action Research Project.
  - A Teaching Portfolio (as part of EDN 517)

### **M.Ed. Specialty Studies/ESL Program of Study**

#### Professional Core (9 credit hours)

- EDL 523: Research in Education **OR** other research option as approved by the program coordinator
- EDL 530: K-12 Curriculum (3)
- EDN 500: Human Development and Learning

#### Focus Core (24 credit hours)

##### *ESL Core (18 credit hours)*

- EDN 511: Introduction to ESL
- EDN 516: Second Language Acquisition Research & Theory
- EDN 517: Methods for Second Language Learners
- EDN 518: English as a Second Language Assessment
- EDN 537: Linguistics for Teachers
- EDN 519: Pedagogical Grammar for Teachers

##### *Electives (6 hours)*

- Two electives (as approved by the Program Coordinator)

\*\*Students who complete EDL 567, EDL 578, and EDL 574 (in addition to M.Ed. will be eligible to take the Praxis II to be certified as a Curriculum Specialist