



ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE

PROGRAM SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION

Educators holding Pennsylvania Instructional I or II certification may add the ESL Program Specialist certificate by completing only five prescribed graduate education courses designed expressly for teachers of English language learners.

The mission of the English as a Second Language (ESL) certificate program at Moravian College is teacher preparation for the effective instruction of linguistically and culturally diverse students. Educators seeking to add a Pre-K to 12 ESL endorsement to their existing teaching certifications will augment their skills in language acquisition and development, ESL curriculum and targeted language instruction, as well as progress monitoring using formative and summative assessment measures. Candidates will also develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of diverse cultures, linguistic differences and complexities within families in the community. The utilization of research-based practices, numerous resources, including technology, and the required completion of 100 field hours with English Learners (EL) will allow candidates to design and develop instructional plans commensurate to the ELs' linguistic proficiency levels. Upon completion of the five three credit courses, the registrant will utilize attributes of the language acquisition stages, to identify and assume the role of an EL teacher or advocate. They will successfully demonstrate the ability to produce engaging communicative activities, infuse educational technology, implement standards-based instructional lessons, and utilize research-based, best practices for culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogies.

Application Process

Apply to the ESL program by completing an application online at moravian.edu/graduate. An official copy of undergraduate and graduate transcripts must be on file before your application will be reviewed. Candidates interested in earning a graduate degree must possess a valid teaching certificate. Advance standing may be awarded for appropriate coursework completed in an accredited graduate education program as long as those courses have been completed within seven years and are consistent with the objectives of Moravian College's Master of Education program.

Course Requirements

Candidates for the certificate must complete the following course sequence (15 credits) with a cumulative Quality Point Average of at least 3.00 with no more than three letter grades less than B–.

EDUC 670 - Language Acquisition and Development

Participants will examine the structure of the English language, including its lexical, morphological, syntactic, and phonological components. The process of first and second language acquisition will be studied in support of the literacy development of native English speakers and of English Language Learners (ELLs) at [Course Requirements](#)

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EDUC 671 - ESL Curriculum and Instruction

Learn how to meet the educational needs of your English Language Learner (ELL). This course examines various ESL methods and teaching strategies to facilitate language acquisition. Participants will develop standards-based ESL lessons and instructional materials and explore strategies for adapting classroom activities according to the proficiency level of the language learner. An emphasis will be placed on current research and resources available to maximize the process of acquiring English and developing language skills. Additional topics will include the role of classroom management, multicultural materials, and the ELL acculturation process in planning and instruction. (Three credits; Spring)

EDUC 672 - ESL Learner, Family, and Community

This course will examine behaviors, belief systems, and attitudes of multicultural and multilingual learners, their families, and school personnel in promoting a culturally sensitive learning environment and community. Research-based best practices will be explored, and emphasis will be placed on classroom/

school implementation of strategies and techniques through action research methods. Comparison of other cultures and how they relate to the American culture in the areas of education, language, support systems, and the community will also be explored. (Three credits; Summer)

EDUC 673 - ESL Assessment and Support

Participants will learn to use effective assessment tools/practices to identify levels of proficiency in oral language, reading, and writing. Participants will also monitor student progress in the content areas and examine school support services to assist ELLs in language acquisition and content learning. This course will combine lecture, small group discussions, small group cooperative activities, and hands-on activities with English Language Learners. (Three credits; Fall)

EDUC 674 - The ESL Specialist

This capstone course in the ESL program specialist certification sequence explores the professional role of the second language teacher and includes a 60-hour practicum under the mentorship of a certified ESL classroom teacher and a college supervisor. Registrants will articulate a personal philosophy of second language teaching and learning, conduct action research in the ESL classroom, create a professional development plan and collaborate with general and special school staff as they design and implement instruction commensurate to the ELLs' proficiency levels. Taking on the role of the ESL program specialist, registrants will also demonstrate their ability to advocate for English language learners, their families, and communities; develop classroom activities that involve families; and model the use of culturally and linguistically responsive pedagogies. (Three credits; Summer)

