

Master of Arts in Second Language Acquisition, Policy, and Culture (MASPC)
30 credit hours; Contact person: [Dr. Jessica Garcés Jensen](#)
Delivery: Online asynchronous and synchronous
[Website](#)

The Master of Arts online degree in Second Language Acquisition, Policy, and Culture offers methodological knowledge and skills to teach foreign languages to English speakers and non-English speakers.

It provides professional knowledge that helps to shape public policy on multilingualism and multiculturalism.

Required Courses (6-9 Hours)

WLC 611 Second Language Acquisition

Credits: 3

A study of theories, fundamentals, and practices of second language acquisition, with a special emphasis on child language acquisition, bilingualism, ACTFL standards, and theoretical approaches to language learning from behaviorism to emergentism. This course is a requirement for the MASPC.

WLC 698 - Comprehensive Oral and Written Exams

Credits: 3

Students will take comprehensive written and oral exams. The written exam will consist of three questions covering the three focus areas (second language acquisition, culture, and policy). In addition, students will be required to prepare a 30-minute oral PowerPoint presentation on a research topic. The students will field questions by the committee and the public.

WLC 699 - Comprehensive Oral Exam and Thesis

Credits: 3 (may be taken twice)

All students will take a comprehensive oral exam in addition to researching and writing a thesis. The oral exam will consist of questions in the area of second language acquisition, policy and culture. For the thesis, students will conduct academic research in one of the areas of language acquisition, policy and/or culture. The thesis will demonstrate understanding important theoretical, methodological, and historical concepts, and writing academic manuscripts and/or journal publications. WLC 699 may be taken twice. If completing 6 hours in WLC 699, only 21 hours of electives are required.

Elective Courses (21-24 Hours)

WLC 522 Cultural Awareness Training

Credits: 3

A practical study of citizenship and professionalism in multicultural and multilingual environments. The course focuses on managing the challenges that cultural and linguistic diversity present to both organizations and individuals.

The course is required for the completion of the Cultural Awareness Training Certificate.

WLC 523 - Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages

Credits: 6

An intensive certificate program that prepares students and professionals to teach English to Speakers of Other Languages.

WLC 613 Language Assessment

Credits: 3

Examines theory, research, and practice of various forms of assessment in the L2 classroom.

WLC 612 Language Teaching Technology

Credits: 3

A study of technology in various language learning environments, beginning with general perspectives on second language acquisition, an historical overview of technology and language acquisition, and the integration of technology in second language settings.

WLC 690 Special Topics

Credits: 3

A course that deals with special topics in the field of second language acquisition, policy and/or culture.

COMM 615 - Communication and Popular Culture

Credits: 3

This course explores the intersection between rhetoric and public culture. Traditionally, rhetoric scholarship has focused on the conception, composition, presentation, and reception of messages that tend to be persuasive in nature. Scholarship in cultural studies, on the other hand, has tended to analyze the production of meanings and how they relate to social practices. Drawing from the two fields, we will explore how different cultural texts and their meanings are produced, interpreted, and circulate. Specifically, we will investigate such issues as: ideology, hegemony, polysemy, discourse, text/context, rhetor/audience, publics, place/space, collective memory, narrative, and power. In addition, we will learn about the different research practices of rhetorical criticism and cultural ideas.

COMM 616 - Seminar in Personal and Cultural Identity

Credits: 3

This course examines the intersections between community and performance. After examining scholarly perspectives of performance and of community, we will explore the ways performance appears in our daily lives and in our community. When possible we will go into our community to observe and participate in these performances. By understanding the social and cultural contexts of performances, we become more attuned to our daily experiences and to the world that provides the social and cultural context for those experiences.

COMM 620 - Special Topics in Organizational Communication

Credits: 3

This seminar centers on practical concepts related to communication in organizations. Course topics may include training and development, assimilation, innovation, identity and stigma in organizations, work life-family balance, power in organizational setting or other topics in organizational communication.

ENG 672 - World Literature

Credits: 3

This course will contribute to the breadth and depth of student understanding in World literature in a variety of historical contexts. It will achieve these goals by considering important topics and/or major authors. Topics may vary.

EDUC 604- Equity Education

Credits: 3

The purpose of this course is to examine interactions between social groups, including norms and values, and disparate educational goals. Students are introduced to theories relevant to equity in schooling and American society. Students will explore critical frameworks that focus on issues of race and ethnicity, language, gender, transnationalism, immigration, and cultural diversity in modern schools.

PA 644 - Policies and Processes in the Public Sector

Credits: 3

An overview of policies and processes in the public sector, with an emphasis on the analytical and policy process fields of policy analysis, including an overview of decision making strategies, policy creation and program evaluation.

WLC 660- Practicum, Internship, Instructional Support in Second Language Acquisition, Policy, and Culture

Credits: 1-6

An opportunity for job-related experiences in the area of second language acquisition, policy, and culture.