



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY
College of Education™



M.ED. IN BILINGUAL EDUCATION AND ESL

Department of Curriculum & Instruction

PROGRAM HANDBOOK 2024-2025

Program Coordinator

Dr. Comfort Pratt
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Texas Tech University
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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language (ESL) master's program is dedicated to preparing students to be educational leaders and advocates who, through rigorous academic and research-based programs of instruction, offer emergent bilinguals access to an excellent education. Our program recognizes, values, and integrates multilingual and multicultural pedagogies for diverse students. Furthermore, it emphasizes that effective research-based instruction results in positive learning outcomes and dispositions, ensuring that our graduates become vital advocates for all members of a global society.

Degrees Offered

Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language (ESL)

Mode of Delivery

Online. We do not offer on-campus classes currently for this program.

Program Video:

[Virtual Open House: Bilingual Education/ESL-focused M.Ed. \(youtube.com\)](#)

Program Website:

<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/education/graduate/curriculum-and-instruction/bilingual.php>

APPLICATION, ADMISSION, AND ADVISING PROCEDURES

APPLICATION

Click on this link to view the program poster: [M.Ed in Bilingual Education & ESL Program Poster](#)

Read the poster and click on the application link on the poster to apply for the program. You may also use this link to apply: <https://ttugradschool.my.site.com/admissions/ApplicationLogin>

The application requirements are listed in the application. They are as follows:

1. Bachelor's degree in any field
2. Completed application form
3. \$75 application fee (The program waives this requirement.)
4. Unofficial transcripts (official transcripts will be requested after admission). Translations must be provided for transcripts that are in languages other than English.
5. Résumé (curriculum vitae)
6. Applicant statement (The applicant's reasons for pursuing a master's degree in Bilingual Education and ESL.)
7. Proof of English proficiency for international students (see the instructions in the application form)
8. Two recommenders who will complete the online recommendations. Follow the instructions in the application form.

The program does not require GRE.

International students must see this web page for information about proof of English proficiency:
<https://www.depts.ttu.edu/gradschool/admissions/internationalprospectivestudents.php>

DUOLINGO scores are accepted.

Although applications are reviewed throughout the year, applicants must submit them at least three months prior to their intended start date, so that they can complete all the requirements, make financial arrangements, apply for scholarships, complete their registration, purchase their textbooks, and attend the New Student Orientation before the semester begins.

Course registration begins in November for spring and summer courses and in April for fall courses. It is important that students are ready for registration by that time in order to ensure that they can get into the courses. The courses are capped, and the enrollment cannot be increased.

Application questions should be directed to Dr. Comfort Pratt at c.pratt@ttu.edu.

ADMISSION

Application reviews are done throughout the year as soon as the applications are submitted, and the Graduate School is notified when an applicant is admitted. The Graduate School then sends a notification of admission to the applicant with information about how to get set up in the Texas Tech system. After getting set up in the system, the new student sends an email to Dr. Comfort Pratt, Program Coordinator, and Dr. Pratt sends the student an email with instructions for getting registered for upcoming courses and the New Student Orientation meeting.

Admission is not based on GPA. The decision is made based on all the documents submitted by the applicant.

CREDIT TRANSFER

Students who wish to transfer credits from master's programs in other institutions to this program must send a request to the Program Coordinator during their first semester in this program. A maximum of 6 credits may be approved.

ADVISING

After students are admitted, they are invited to a New Student Orientation Meeting where the Program Coordinator, who is the program advisor, provides them with all the information they need to be able to understand the program and start their classes.

All program advising is done by the Program Coordinator.

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

The curriculum consists of 10 courses. The courses are offered in a fixed cycle towards graduation. The full-time load is 2 courses per semester, but students may choose to take only one course per semester. Students are not permitted to take more than two courses per semester. This is due to the heavy content and the fact that all the students are also full-time teachers and cannot handle the content in more than two courses. The curriculum is divided into three blocks as follows:

1. Foundations Block: This block includes courses that enable students to gain foundational knowledge and skills.
2. Pedagogy Block: This block includes courses that provide students with instructional knowledge and skills.
3. Electives Block: This block includes courses that allow students to take one non-essential program course or a course from another program.

The Program Coordinator announces via email the courses that students will take in upcoming semesters.

When the Spanish courses are taught, students who are not fluent in Spanish take the alternatives indicated below. The decision regarding which of the alternatives the students take is made during a meeting with the Program Coordinator.

The decision regarding which electives students take is also made during a meeting with the Program Coordinator.

Foundations Block

- EDBL 5332 – Foundations of Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language
- EDBL 5333 – Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students
- EDBL 5334 – First and Second Language Acquisition

Pedagogy Block

- EDBL 5306 – Seminar in Current Issues in Bilingual Education and ESL in PreK-12 Contexts
- EDBL 5310 – Advanced Spanish for Bilingual Teachers
- EDBL 5320 – Advanced Content-Area Instruction in Spanish for Dual Language Classrooms
- EDBL 5336 – Instructional and Management Issues in Bilingual Education and ESL
- EDBL 5337 – Teaching Strategies for ESL and Content-Area Teachers of Emergent Bilinguals
- EDBL 5338 – Methods for Teaching English as a Second Language to PreK-12 Students

Electives Block

- EDBL 5340 – Academic Writing Development for PreK-12 Bilingual and ESL Contexts
- EDBL 5393 – Internship in Bilingual Education and English as a Second Language
- EDBL 7000 – Research

Other Electives

- EDIT 5342 – Online Teaching and Learning Technologies
- EDIT 5390 – Online Course Development

Seminars

The courses include monthly seminars in the spring and the fall and weekly seminars in the summer.

Study Abroad

There is an optional summer study abroad course in Salamanca, Spain that is taught as EDBL 7000.260: Research: Study Abroad.

Modality and Duration

The program is 100% online, but it is not an online degree. It is a regular degree with three modalities – face-to-face, hybrid, and online. Presently, it only uses the online modality, which is very convenient for students. The courses are taught online, but they are not correspondence courses, so they are very similar to face-to-face courses with the convenience of the online modality.

Students graduate in one and a half years, that is, five semesters. The full load is two courses per semester, that is, six credit hours. Students have the option of taking one course per semester, but they cannot take more than two courses.

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS & THESIS

Students are required to take comprehensive exams in their final semester in order to qualify for graduation. The Program Coordinator organizes an exam for all the students graduating in the semester. The Bilingual Education and ESL Comprehensive Exams Committee reviews the exams. Details of the exams are provided when the Program Coordinator meets with the graduating students during the graduation meeting in the penultimate semester.

There is a thesis option in lieu of the elective and the comprehensive exams with the approval of the Program Coordinator. Students must demonstrate high writing skills in order to be approved for this option. The approval must be obtained in the third semester.

PROGRAM POLICIES

The program policies are the same in all the courses. Therefore, once you take the first course and get acquainted with the policies, you do not need to learn about any new policies. Each course syllabus includes the same program policies, and students are expected to follow them. All sections of a course have the same syllabus.

PROBATION, SUSPENSION, & DISMISSAL

Students are required to maintain a high level of performance and comply fully with the policies of the university. Students must maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 during the program. If a student's GPA falls below 3.0, the student is placed on academic probation. If the GPA falls below 3.0 for two consecutive semesters, the student is placed on suspension. A student who is placed on academic suspension must stay out of the Graduate School and reapply for admission and appeal for reinstatement if they want to return. If a student is suspended twice, she/he will not be allowed to return.

Students may also be suspended for cheating or plagiarism. A student who continues to make unsatisfactory progress will be dismissed by the Graduate School.

COST OF PROGRAM

The total cost per semester is currently approximately \$2,687 for all students, in-state and out-of-state. All of it can be covered with financial aid, scholarships, and low-interest loans, so students do not need to have this amount of money before they can get into the program. The university also offers installment plans for students.

Financial Aid

Financial aid is available. Students need to contact the Financial Aid Office at:

Phone Number: (806) 742-3681

Fax Number: 806-742-0880

E-Mail: finaid.advisor@ttu.edu

Contact: Ms. Sarah Owens sarah.owens@ttu.edu

Payment Plan

After admission, students are eligible for a payment plan. That means they can make arrangements with Student Business Services at (806) 742-3272 to make payments by installments. Students must be proactive about requesting and utilizing the available resources.

Loans

There are various low-interest loans available to students. Students must ask for information about them. Students typically use the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board loans at <http://www.hhloans.com/>. Others use loans through the US Department of Education. There are other loans as well. Students must discuss all the available loans with the staff at the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships.

Scholarships

Students will be eligible for College of Education scholarships when they are available. Once they are admitted and they complete their set-up in the Texas Tech system, they must use only their Texas Tech email address for everything related to Texas Tech. They must pay attention to their email for announcements on scholarships. Some of them are on first-come, first-served basis, such as recruitment scholarships which are offered to applicants on admission in some semesters.

Enrolled students are also eligible for College of Education scholarships, which are announced before the beginning of every semester, but they must be registered first. These scholarships are also announced via email.

Financial hardship scholarships are also available for registered students who need assistance due to unforeseen circumstances. Students who need to apply for this scholarship must inform Dr. Pratt about it.

The Graduate School offers other scholarships which are announced via email or on the Graduate School website. Students must check the Graduate School website in addition to their email.

Students must request information about all scholarships available for graduate students both at Texas Tech and other places at the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships. Students must also check the websites of the Hispanic Association of Women (HAW) at <https://www.lubbockhaw.net/>, the Educational Testing Service (ETS) at <https://www.ets.org/pdfs/caap/lowery-scholarship.pdf>, and the Helen DeVitt Jones Fellowships at <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/education/scholarships/helendevittjonesgrad/index.php> for scholarship opportunities.

Students must make financial plans ahead of time in order not to encounter financial difficulties which may interrupt their program.

RESOURCES

Library Services

There is no help you may need that Texas Tech cannot provide for you. The Texas Tech University Library provides all the services needed by students. For questions related to the library, contact the College of Education library liaison.

Graduate Writing Center

The Graduate School offers help in the form of a Graduate Writing Center, where students can go and get help for their writing needs. Contact them at <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/provost/uwc/graduate/>

IT Help Central

The university offers help with technology issues at IT Help Central. Contact them at <https://www.depts.ttu.edu/ithelpcentral/or> (806)-742-4357.

University-Wide Information

For information on any part of the university, go to www.ttu.edu, click on Menu, select Sites A-Z at the bottom left, click on the letter that begins what you are looking for, and select what you need from the list.

Contact

For information and advising, contact:

Dr. Comfort Pratt at c.pratt@ttu.edu or (806) 834-5710

Office Hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30 – 8:00 pm Spring & Fall
 Tuesdays & Thursdays 2:00 – 4:30 pm Summer
 Call or send an email.
 For Zoom meetings, request an appointment.

WELCOME!

¡BIENVENIDOS!