

Applied Linguistics Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Kelsey and I am a staff member in The Graduate School at Grand Valley State University. Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Grand Valley's Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics program. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

Let's start by explaining to you what this program entails. The Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics will prepare students to become English language specialists. This includes careers in English as a Second Language or English as a Foreign Language teacher at home and abroad, English language program administrators, language assessment specialists, editors, or consultants in practical settings through lecture and practicum courses. This is a 36 credit hour program and can be completed in two years as a full-time student or 3-4 years as a part-time student.

The demand for high-quality English language specialists continues to grow at home and abroad. Domestically, in Michigan and elsewhere, English language learners constitute a sizable portion of our increasing culturally diverse student population in our school systems. Overseas, as the number of people who learn and use English as a second or foreign language has already exceeded that of native speakers, and English has become a de facto international lingua franca in trade, business, industries, education, international aviation, and tourism, more and more Americans with training in applied linguistics find teaching and corporate jobs overseas. This is an exciting field to be in if you love teaching English and working in English-related professions.

Standard GVSU admission requirements include completion of the online application as well as a Bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Your application must include official transcripts, and if English is not your native language you must provide scores from one of our approved standardized tests such as the TOEFL, IELTS, MELAB, or the PTE Academic. There is a \$30 nonrefundable application fee, however this fee is waived if you attended GVSU previously or are currently attending GVSU.

As part of the application process, students must also submit a personal statement explaining their educational and career goals through the study of applied linguistics, a writing sample, and two letters of recommendation.

More program details as well as the online application can be found on the Applied Linguistics website, www.gvsu.edu/linguistics.

The great news about GVSU's graduate programs is that tuition rates for Michigan resident and non-resident students are the same. In other words, there are no extra costs for being an out of state student. Current tuition costs and information about scholarships and financial aid can be found at www.gvsu.edu/financialaid or by calling 616-331-3234. For information on graduate assistantships, please contact The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu.

The Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics is a 36 credit hour program with 27 of these credit hours covering foundational and core courses. 3 credit hours will go towards practicum experience or internships. The remaining 6 credit hours will be dedicated to completion of the master's thesis. If students choose the 3 credit hour capstone project option instead of the thesis, they will also take 3

credit hours of an elective course. For a complete listing of all courses please visit www.gvsu.edu/linguistics.

The Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics program at GVSU is unique for a number of reasons. The curriculum of this program mirrors national standards, and program faculty have diverse areas of expertise in the field and wide-ranging experiences and professional backgrounds. We strive to build a cohesive and vibrant program with small class sizes and we welcome both domestic and international students to apply to this exciting and rigorous program.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics graduate program at Grand Valley State University. We hope that you will consider applying to a graduate program at GVSU. Any questions can be directed to the Graduate Program Director, Dr. Shinian Wu, at wus@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.