

TESOL Program Podcast

Hello, my name is Cori 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 GVSU's Master of Education in Literacy Studies Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages or TESOL emphasis. Today we're going to cover the admissions process, program requirements, and the qualities that distinguish this program.

The TESOL program allows graduates to work in K-12th grade settings, and provides both the Master of Education degree and ESL (English as a Second Language) endorsement. This program requires a minimum of 33 credit hours, and students who complete the ESL Endorsement have the option of adding three more courses for 9 credit hours to obtain their Master's Degree through the TESOL program.

The program is designed to assist in-service teachers and educators who are or will work with English Language Learners through enhancing classroom instruction and effective English as a Second Language assessment. Highly respected at both the state and national level, the program is approved by the Michigan Department of Education. The faculty are leaders in their field who combine research and practice to meet the needs of educators and students

Grand Valley 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.

Individuals interested in the Master of Education in Literacy Studies will also need to include three letters of recommendation with their application. More details as well as the online application can be found on the Literacy Studies website within the College of Education website, gvsu.edu/grad/tesol.

The great news about Grand Valley'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 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 Education in Literacy Studies program has earned National Recognition through the International Literacy Association. Graduates have become teacher leaders in school districts across Michigan and beyond, implementing effective literacy practices in their own classrooms and guiding other teachers in meeting the needs of their students. The program provides a balanced approach grounded in research-based classroom practices and immerses candidates in a rich learning environment that informs their own instruction. This means teachers can very quickly apply what they are learning in their graduate program to their own classroom instruction.

That is just a snapshot of the Master of Education in Literacy Studies TESOL emphasis 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 Dr. Rui Niu-Cooper at niucoope@gvsu.edu or to The Graduate School at gradschool@gvsu.edu. Thank you for your time and we hope you have enjoyed this podcast.