



SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE STUDIES IN ENGLISH

MA English

Composition
Linguistics
TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)

Certificates

Computational Linguistics
Immigrant Literacies
Special Study in TESOL
Teaching of Composition
Teaching Post-Secondary Reading
Technical and Professional Writing

Why study at SFSU?

As a graduate student in our department, you will join a vibrant intellectual community. You'll receive close attention and support as you work collaboratively with highly motivated graduate students and nationally recognized faculty. Our curriculum, which is informed by cutting-edge scholarship and social justice values, will prepare you for professional success.

MA, certificate, or both?

A master's program immerses you in the research, theory and practices of your field. It consists of 10 courses (30 units) and culminates in a final portfolio showcasing your knowledge, skills, growth, and achievement. The MA is ideal for students who seek a degree for professional advancement, as well as students who will pursue PhD studies.

A certificate program offers you professional development and specialization. Certificates consist of 4 courses (16 units). As a certificate student, you will attend seminars alongside our other degree-seeking students, work with our high-quality faculty and obtain skills and knowledge that are directly applicable to your career.

Both: Many of our MA students choose to combine their degree with one or more certificates to obtain additional areas of specialization and gain an edge in today's highly competitive job market.

Our programs offer:

- A nationally recognized faculty active in language and literacy research and scholarly publication
- Intellectually stimulating graduate seminars, conducted in a friendly, informal atmosphere
- Individual attention and support from faculty and advisors
- Academically rigorous curricula incorporating current research, theory, and practice
- Opportunities to be a tutor, classroom observer, teaching assistant, and/or classroom teacher during the MA
- Affordability: The typical MA entails full-time tuition for 2 semesters and half-time tuition for 2 semesters
- A strong placement record—both in local and national jobs and in PhD programs

PROGRAM SNAPSHOTS

MA ENGLISH

Composition

Engage with the research, theory, and practices of teaching academic reading and writing. Courses emphasize equity and success for linguistically and culturally diverse student populations. Excellent preparation for teaching in two-year colleges.

Linguistics

Study contemporary theory over a broad spectrum of the levels of linguistic structure: phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, discourse analysis, psycholinguistics and sociolinguistics.

Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages (TESOL)

Engage with theoretical foundations and contemporary research in linguistics, sociolinguistics, and second-language acquisition. Learn practical classroom teaching methodology suitable for adult second-language learners.

CERTIFICATES

Computational Linguistics

Explore computational methods and their theoretical underpinnings including text processing, statistical patterns, part-of-speech tagging, text segmentation and classification, extraction of meaning from texts and machine learning. The certificate may be combined with an MA.

Immigrant Literacies

Study language, literacies and the immigrant experience. The program integrates community service learning to enable certificate students to integrate their professional expertise and cross-disciplinary thinking with meaningful civic action.

Special Study in TESOL (Undergraduate)

The certificate is an introduction to the TESOL field with courses that provide foundational skills and knowledge in language acquisition and pedagogy needed for an entry level positions as an English as a Second Language (ESL) teacher, tutor, or instructional aide in a variety of settings in the US and language teaching contexts around the world.

Teaching Composition

Engage with the research, theory, and practices of teaching academic writing. Courses emphasize ways to support developing writing, particularly in accelerated, co-requisite and integrated reading-writing classes.

Teaching Postsecondary Reading

Engage with the research, theory, and practices of teaching academic reading. Courses emphasize ways to support developing readers, particularly in accelerated, co-requisite and integrated reading-writing classes.

Technical and Professional Writing (Undergraduate)

Study fundamentals of technical and professional writing. Courses emphasize technical writing, editing, document design, writing for the web, and grant writing. This undergraduate certificate may be combined with an MA.

Ready to apply?

Applications require a statement of purpose, an academic writing sample, recommendation letters, official transcripts, and TOEFL or IELTS scores for international student applicants (GRE is not required). The admissions deadlines are: Spring, November 15 and Fall, April 1.

Need more information?

See <https://english.sfsu.edu/> or email english@sfsu.edu. You can also contact Graduate Studies at gradadv@sfsu.edu.