

# MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IN THE FIELD OF SPECIAL EDUCATION FOR CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS AND EQUITY IN TEACHING

The advanced master's program in special education for cultural responsiveness and equity in teaching (SECRET) is one of the few programs in the country that prepares educators to meet the cultural, language, social, and learning needs of a growing number of culturally and linguistically diverse, and/or exceptional students. This program is designed for initially licensed teachers who wish to further their expertise regarding culturally responsive instruction, assessment, and service practices. This program prepares professionals to effectively teach and support students with a disability, and improve their skills in culturally responsive teaching. The master's program combines 33 credits of coursework with field-based experience and mentoring. It is nationally recognized by CAEP and leads to K-12 advanced certification in ESOL, special education, and bilingual special education.

Visit the program website (<https://gsehd.gwu.edu/programs/masters-special-education-cultural-responsiveness-and-equity-teaching/>) for additional information.

## ADMISSIONS

**Admission deadlines:** Fall – Rolling admissions (January 15 to be considered for merit-based tuition support)

Spring– Rolling admissions

Summer – Rolling admissions

**Standardized tests:** Not required.

**Recommendations:** Two (2) recommendations (preferably one from a faculty member and the other from a professional supervisor)

**Prior academic records:** Transcripts are required from all colleges and universities attended, whether or not credit was earned, the program was completed, or the credit appears as transfer credit on another transcript. Unofficial transcripts from all colleges and universities attended should be uploaded to your online application. Official transcripts are required only of applicants who are offered admission.

Transcripts from institutions outside the United States must be accompanied by an official transcript evaluation from an accredited independent evaluating agency. Please be sure you request a detailed evaluation that includes all course titles, credit hours, grade-point average (GPA), United States degree equivalency, and date of degree conferral. For a list of acceptable foreign credential evaluation services (<https://www.naces.org/members.php>).

**Statement of purpose:** In an essay of 250 to 500 words, state your purpose in undertaking graduate study at The George Washington University, describing your academic objectives, research interests, and career plans. Also discuss your related qualifications, including collegiate, professional, and community activities and any other substantial accomplishments not already mentioned in the application.

**Additional requirements:** A resume is required.

**International applicants only:** Please review International Applicant Information (<https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements>) (<https://graduate.admissions.gwu.edu/international-student-application-requirements/>) carefully for details on required documents, earlier deadlines for applicants requiring an I-20 or DS-2019 from GW, and English language requirements.

### Supporting documents not submitted online should be mailed to:

Office of Graduate Admissions  
Graduate School of Education and Human Development  
The George Washington University  
2136 G Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20052

### Contact for questions:

[gsehdadm@gwu.edu](mailto:gsehdadm@gwu.edu) ~ 202-994-9283 (phone) ~ 202.994.7207 (fax)  
9:30 am – 6:00 pm, Monday through Friday

## REQUIREMENTS

The following requirements must be fulfilled: 33 credits in required courses, successful completion of the master of arts in education and human development comprehensive examination, and completion of the relevant teacher licensure assessments (see below).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Required</b>		
CPED 6551	Second Language Instructional Methods	
CPED 6556	Linguistic Applications in English as a Second Language	
CPED 6627	Teaching Second Language Reading and Writing	
EDUC 6114	Introduction to Quantitative Research	
SPED 6266	The Development of Language and Literacy	
SPED 6268	Development of Children and Youth with Disabilities	

SPED 6275	The Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Student with Disabilities: Policy, Research, and Trends
SPED 6276	Academic and Psychosocial Assessment of the Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Student (taken twice)
SPED 6277	Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities
SPED 6997	Internship in Teaching Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students with Disabilities (taken for 3 credits)

Master of Arts in Education and Human Development  
comprehensive exam required

Completion of the relevant teacher licensure assessments (i.e., PRAXIS) required by the District of Columbia Educator Licensure Services Office