

**Program Handbook**

**Master of Science Program in**

**Deaf Education**

**REVISED COPY**

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**Lamar University**

**Beaumont, Texas**

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# **Introduction**

The Master of Science program in Deaf Education handbook, graduate catalog, and official university website provide information concerning policies and procedures for students in the Master of Science program in Deaf Education. The student is responsible for reading all literature on the Deaf Studies program, College of Graduate Studies, College of Fine Arts and Communications, and Lamar University policies and procedures.

The Master of Science program in Deaf Education emphasizes an ASL/English Bilingual Education approach to pedagogy. This philosophy is evident throughout the curriculum, through course content and practical applications. The philosophy is one that views Deafness as a cultural and linguistic entity and employs a comprehensive approach to services for students who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing. American Sign Language is utilized to promote cognitive, linguistic, and academic development through visual-gestural modalities, as well as the printed form of English.

General admissions requirements can be found in the graduate catalog and on the university website. After the student has been accepted by the College of Graduate Studies, and the Department of Deaf Education, the student meets with the Director of the Master of Science program in Deaf Education (or a designated representative). The Director will assist the student and advise them on first semester courses and address the issue of who will be the student’s faculty Academic Advisor. The Director of Deaf Education will also provide an overview of the program and answer any questions the student may have at that time. Furthermore, the Director will continue to assist the student until an Academic Advisor is assigned.

Assistance may include, but is not limited to, course selection, research topics, procedural and policy requirements, and doctoral program requirements and deadlines. A student’s Academic Advisor must be a member of the Deaf Education and Deaf Education Department faculty, must hold graduate faculty status at Lamar University, and will be chosen during the student’s first year of residence. Once assigned, the Academic Advisor assists the student in deciding what courses are to be taken, what research topics should be investigated, and in some cases, what types of financial support are available to the student.

**Master of Science Program in Deaf Education**

The Master of Science program in Deaf Education allows students to explore, research, and critique Deaf ways of being in historical and theoretical aspects. Students are expected to examine and critique existing knowledge and production of new knowledge relating to Deaf communities and their sign languages.

Students will take courses focusing on cultural studies, history, critical theory, philosophy, literature, disability studies, visual culture, critical pedagogy, public policy, social justice, and advocacy. This program will increase the knowledge of Deaf Education in students that will better prepare them for work in a variety of fields related to Deaf communities in the United States.

Admission to the Master of Science program in Deaf Education is marked by several milestones listed below. Students are expected to accomplish Program Learning Outcomes throughout all stages of their master’s studies.

**Admission Process**

1. Take the GRE and meet the institutional GRE and GPA standards.
2. Apply for admission to the program through www.applytexas.org
3. A minimum 3.0 GPA in undergraduate is required.
4. A minimum ASLPI score of 3.0 is expected as program graduates are expected to be skilled in American Sign Language, which is the mode of instruction.
5. Three letters of recommendations
6. Admission interview with DSDE faculty
7. Acceptance to the program
8. Completion of coursework
9. Completion of Capstone or Certificate requirements
10. Graduation from the program.

# **Acceptance**

Once a student formally enters the program, the Program Director will meet with the student and conduct the initial advising. This advising includes review of the student’s program plan and recommendations for courses to take in the fall, spring, and summer semesters. Until this time, the Program Director will serve as the Academic Advisor.

**Forms**

All forms mentioned in this handbook can be found at [Lamar’s College of Graduate Studies Forms](https://www.lamar.edu/graduate-studies/forms.html) page.

**Transfer Credits**

Transfer credits must be submitted to the Director of the Program and approved within the student’s first semester of study in the program. Approval is required from both the Director and Department Chair. Only six credits are allowed to be transferred. A copy of the transcript with course descriptions (if requested) must be submitted with [Form G-6: Transfer Credit](https://www.lamar.edu/arts-sciences/_files/documents/nursing/G-6%20Transfer%20Credit%20Form.pdf) to Graduate Studies office.

# **Progress Through the Master of Science program in Deaf Education**

**Program Learning Outcomes**

Graduates from the Master of Science program in Deaf Education will:

1. Students will obtain Deaf Education and Content Area certifications.
2. Students will utilize their knowledge and skills in career preparation for obtaining employment.
3. Students will demonstrate evidence of learning from this program through portfolios of their coursework and clinical teaching or on-the-job internships.

**Tracks within the Master of Science program in Deaf Education**

There are two main tracks offered as part of the Master of Science program in Deaf Education. The differences in the two tracks are explained below.

**Capstone Track**

Although the Master of Science program in Deaf Education goals are to prepare teachers for the K-12 program, some students’ goal is not to work with K-12 Deaf students. Currently, capstone track students complete the same course work as students in the certification track. The only difference is students pursuing teacher certification are required to take pedagogy courses and participate in clinical teaching or internship. Students following the capstone track are required to complete a capstone project before graduation.

**Teacher Certification Track**

The Master of Science program in Deaf Education degree provides certification in Deaf Education (EC-12). Graduates from the Master of Science program in Deaf Education are prepared to teach in Early Childhood through 12th grade settings and are employed in residential and mainstreamed programs throughout the United States. Upon completion of the program, pre-service teachers are eligible to apply for certification from the Texas Education Agency and are accredited by the Council on Education of the Deaf (CED), which is aligned with the Council of Exceptional Children (CEC) and National Council for Accreditation of Texas Education (NCATE). Most students in the program are pursuing teacher certification.

Admission to the Master of Science program in Deaf Education is marked by several milestones listed below. Students are expected to accomplish Program Learning Outcomes throughout all stages of their master’s studies.

**Required Courses for Major**

**Core Courses** - 24 Hours

DSDE 5309 Advanced Clinical Practicum

DSDE 5310 Multicultural and Deafness

DSDE 5311 ASL V

DSDE 5313 Speech & Audio Deaf Education

DSDE 5314 Advanced Deaf Studies

DSDE 5318 ASL/ENG Bilingual Education & Deaf

DSDE 5319 ASL/ENF Bilingual Lit & Deaf

DSDE 5320 ASL/ENG Bilingual Assessment

DSDE 5321 Instructional Design

DSDE 5322 Modern Math & Science

DSDE 5326 Psychology of Deafness

DSDE 5328 Multi-disabled Deaf

DSDE 5329 Law and Deaf Education

**Pedagogy**

PEDG 5330 Essentials of Effective Teaching\*

PEDG 5340 Normal Human Growth & Dev

PEDG 5350 The Learning Process\*

PEDG 5375 Content Area Reading

PEDG 5387 Teaching Reading in Elementary Schools\*

PEDG 5345 Instructional Design\*

PEDG 5383 Internship\*

\*Those holding teacher certification are exempted from these courses.

**Class Schedule**

Classes for the Master of Science program in Deaf Education take place on the weekends during the Fall and Spring semesters. Students attend classes for eight weekends during the semester. Classes are on Friday afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00 and Friday evening from 6:00 to 10:00. Saturday classes are in the morning from 8:00 to 12:00 and in the afternoon from 1:00 to 5:00. The summer session comprises a seven-week session taught Monday through Friday. The summer session is split into two smaller sessions, which are each three and a half weeks long.

The summer session comprises a seven-week session taught Monday through Friday. The summer session is split into two smaller sessions, which are each three and a half weeks and tend to start in the second week of June and end during the first week of August. Each coursework session is 3-4 weeks. Specific dates for the summer classes are provided during Spring semester. During the Summer sessions, students are required to attend classes physically on campus.

## **Program Plan**

A program plan should be developed in consultation with the Program Director within your first semester of study. The plan will guide your coursework throughout the program and assist in keeping you on track with all program requirements and expected Program Learning Outcomes. You are responsible to make plans for your coursework, specify the cognate courses ahead of time with your program director (course number, course title, credits) for approval, and insert your grades on the program plan for your records.

There are two tracks in the Master of Science program in Deaf Education: Thesis track and Certification track. The thesis track is for students who aspire to pursue further studies in Deaf Education. The certification track is for students who do not plan to pursue further studies in Deaf Education.

## **Program Plan: Two Tracks**

There are two tracks in this program: The Teacher Certification track and the Capstone track. The differences between these tracks are discussed below.

# **Teacher Certification Track**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Required Courses** | **Semester/Credit Hours** |
| DSDE 5318: ASL/English Bilingual Ed & Deaf | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5310: Multiculturalism & Deafness | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5311: ASL V: Linguistics | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5321: Instructional Design\*  | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5328: Deaf student/Multiple Handicaps | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5322: Modern Math & Science | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5319: ASL/English Bilingual Lit & Deaf | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5329: Law and Deafness | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5320: ASL/English Bilingual Assessment | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5313: Speech & Audiology | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5326: Psychology of the Deaf | Summer – 3 hours |
| PEDG 5330: Essentials of Effective Teaching\*  | Spring – 3 hours |
| PEDG 5350: The Learning Process\*  | Fall/Spring/Summer - 3 hours |
| PEDG 5344: School Law\*  | Fall/Spring/Summer - 3 hours |
| PEDG 5383: Internship or PEDG 4630: Clinical Teaching\*  | Fall/Spring/Summer - 3 hours |

\* **Students who are already certified teachers are exempt from these courses**

**Note:** Pedagogy courses are required for state certification. **Special Education** courses are required for students receiving the OSEP grant. Additional courses may be required for certification as per candidate’s area of specialization.

**Master of Science in Deaf Education Teacher Certification Track**

Additional information for students choosing to focus on obtaining their Master of Science in Deaf Education to become a teacher of the Deaf is covered in the Teacher Certification Track document.

# **Capstone Track**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Required Courses** | **Semester/Credit Hours** |
| DSDE 5318 Bilingual Education and Deaf Students | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5310 Multicultural issues in Deafness | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5311 ASL V: Linguistics | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5321 Instructional Design | Fall – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5328 Multi-disabled Deaf | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5322 Math & Science | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5319 Bilingual Literacy and Deaf Students | Spring – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5329 Law and Deafness | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5320 Bilingual Assessment and Deaf Students | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5313 Speech & Audiology | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5326 Psychology of the Deaf | Summer – 3 hours |
| DSDE 5390 Thesis | 3 hours |
| DSDE 5391 Thesis | 3 hours |

**Master of Science in Deaf Education Capstone Track**

Additional information for students choosing to focus on obtaining their Master of Science in Deaf Education with the objective of continuing their Deaf Education studies is covered in the Capstone Track document.

**Sequence of Courses: DSDE Master of Science program in Deaf Education**

**Certification Track**

**Year 1: Fall**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Course #** | **Course Title** | **Credits/Grade** |
| DSDE | 5318 | Bilingual Education and Deaf Students | 3 |
| DSDE | 5310 | Multicultural Issues in Deafness | 3 |
| DSDE | 5311 | ASL V: Linguistics | 3 |
| DSDE | 5321 | Instructional Design\* | 3 |

**Year 1: Spring**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5328 | Multi-disabled Deaf | 3 |
| DSDE | 5322 | Math & Science | 3 |
| DSDE | 5319 | Bilingual Literacy and Deaf Students | 3 |

**Year 1: Summer 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5329 | Law and Deafness | 3 |
| DSDE | 5320 | Bilingual Assessment and Deaf Students | 3 |

**Year 1: Summer 2**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5313 | Speech & Audiology | 3 |
| DSDE | 5326 | Psychology of the Deaf | 3 |

**Year 2: These courses are offered in fall/spring/summer unless otherwise noted**\*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| PEDG | 5330 | Essentials of Effective Teaching\*  | 3 |
| PEDG | 5350 | The Learning Process\* | 3 |
| PEDG | 5344 | School Law\*  | 3 |
| PEDG | 5383 or 4630 | Internship or Clinical Teaching\*  | 3 |

\* **Students who are already certified teachers are exempt from these courses**

**Sequence of Courses: DSDE Master of Science program in Deaf Education**

**Capstone Track**

**Year 1: Fall**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Course #** | **Course Title** | **Credits/Grade** |
| DSDE | 5318 | Bilingual Education and Deaf Students | 3 |
| DSDE | 5310 | Multicultural Issues in Deafness | 3 |
| DSDE | 5311 | ASL V: Linguistics | 3 |
| DSDE | 5321 | Instructional Design | 3 |

**Year 1: Spring**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5328 | Multi-disabled Deaf | 3 |
| DSDE | 5322 | Math & Science | 3 |
| DSDE | 5319 | Bilingual Literacy and Deaf Students | 3 |

**Year 1: Summer 1**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5329 | Law and Deafness | 3 |
| DSDE | 5320 | Bilingual Assessment and Deaf Students | 3 |

**Year 1: Summer 2**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5313 | Speech & Audiology | 3 |
| DSDE | 5326 | Psychology of the Deaf | 3 |

**Year 2:**

**These courses are offered in fall/spring/summer unless otherwise noted**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category**  | **Course #**  | **Course Title**  | **Credits/Grade**  |
| DSDE | 5390 | Capstone | 3 |

**Lamar University Graduate Academic Policies and Procedures**

Information in this section can be found in Lamar University’s [Comprehensive Catalog: Graduate Academic Policies and Procedures](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html):

**Regulations and Policies**

The [Regulations and Policies](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#reg) section covers matters related to Student Responsibility and Health Insurance.

**Academic Policies of the College of Graduate Studies**

The [Academic Policies of the College of Graduate Studies](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#acadpol) section covers the policies and regulations of the College of Graduate Studies for all graduate students.

**General Degree Requirements**

The [General Degree Requirements](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#general) for the College of Graduate studies gives an overview of what students should be aware of with regard to their degrees.

**Candidacy Requirements for Degrees**

The [Candidacy Requirements for Degrees](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#candidacy) section covers the requirements for all graduate students who are not considered to be candidates for a degree until they have completed a specified set of graduate courses and have proven their academic capability.

**Advisory Committees, Thesis, and Other Requirements**

The [Advisory Committees - Appointment and Modification](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#advisory) section covers information related to advisory committees which are required for students who choose the thesis track, which is covered in the [Thesis and Other Requirements](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#thesis) section.

**Non-Thesis Requirements**

The [Non-Thesis Requirements](file:///Users/paul/Downloads/Non-Thesis%20Requirements) section covers information related to students who choose the certification track.

**Special Topic Projects**

The [Special Topic Projects](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#special) section applies to students who choose not to pursue either the thesis or the certification tracks.

**Graduation Procedure**

The [Graduation Procedure](https://www.lamar.edu/catalog/graduate-academic-policies/index.html#graduation) section applies to all students who intend to graduate at the end of a particular semester.