Application Guidelines
Language, Literacy, and Sociocultural Studies Department

The Department of Language, Literacy and Sociocultural Studies (LLSS) offers master’s (M.A.) and doctoral (Ph.D.) degree programs that focus on language and literacy, American Indian education, bilingual education, language acquisition and the social foundations of education. Procedures for applying, criteria for admission, and how you will be notified are outlined below.

M.A. Program in LLSS

To Apply

1. Go to the Office of Admissions at http://admissions.unm.edu/. The deadlines for master’s degree applications are: **September 15th for Spring admission** and **February 1st for Summer and Fall admission**. Your on-line application will include: a) Letter of intent, b) CV/Resume, and c) Three letters of recommendation. Follow the instructions in the

2. Obtain **two** official transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended.

   Mail one to:
   Office of Admissions
   MSC 11 6305
   1 University of New Mexico
   Albuquerque, NM 87131

   Mail the other to:
   Debra Schaffer
   Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Studies
   MSC05 3040, Hokona Hall Rm 140
   1 University of New Mexico
   Albuquerque, NM 87131

3. Please complete the LLSS Demographic form
   [http://coe.unm.edu/uploads/docs/llss/llss-prog/llss-demo-frm.pdf]. **Email it to Debra Schaffer [schaffer@unm.edu]**

***Attention International Students:*** If you are an international student, you must submit scores from the TOEFL examination with your application packet. The minimum scores for the TOEFL are set by International Admissions, and the department has no control over these requirements. If you have attended a college in the United States for your bachelor’s or master’s degree then this requirement is waived. Please see the international web site at [http://admissions.unm.edu/international/graduate.html]

Criteria for Admission

1. Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Formal training and experience in education is recommended, but not required.
2. A minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA (grade point average). Lower GPA is acceptable if last two years of coursework (either undergraduate or non-degree) is above 3.0.
3. Letter of intent clearly—
   • Identifies the concentration in which you are interested [American Indian Education, Bilingual Education, Educational Thought and Sociocultural Studies, Literacy/Language Arts, Social Studies, or Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)].
   • Explains why you wish to pursue this concentration.
4. Recommendations indicate your ability to pursue graduate study.
Ph.D. Program in LLSS

To Apply

1. Go to the Office of Admissions at http://admissions.unm.edu/. The deadline for applications is **December 1st for a fall or spring admission**. Applications to the doctoral program are screened only once a year. Your on-line application will include:
   a) Letter of intent, b) CV/Resume, c) Three letters of recommendation, d) Writing sample,

2. Obtain **two** official transcripts from all colleges or universities you have attended.

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4. Talk with at least two program faculty members, either in person or by phone http://coe.unm.edu/departments/department-of-language-literacy-and-sociocultural-studies/llss-faculty-staff.html.

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Criteria For Admission

1. Master’s or bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university. Formal training and experience in education is recommended, but not required.

2. A minimum 3.3 cumulative GPA (grade point average). Lower GPA is acceptable if last two years of coursework is above 3.3.

3. Admittance to the doctoral program is highly selective, and depends on how your application provides evidence of:
   • Your ability to think critically about education and your professional experiences.
   • Your ability to think critically about culture generally your own culture specifically.
   • Your ability to do graduate level coursework.
   • Your ability to organize and express ideas in academic writing and other modes of expression.
   • The personal, community, and professional experience you bring to LLSS.
• How your interests fit mission of LLSS.
• A possible match with one or more faculty member's research interests.

Notification of Admittance

Admissions decisions will generally be made within a month of the application deadline. You will be notified of our admittance decision by the Office of Admissions and the LLSS Department. If admitted to the program, it is important that you contact the assigned advisor of your Program of Studies as soon as possible in order to begin developing your plan of studies.

Additional Information/Questions

Please contact the department office at 505-277-0437, or email Debra Schaffer at schaffer@unm.edu.

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