Date Submitted: 12/11/21 7:56 pm

Viewing: **ENGL Lang Prof : English Language Proficiency Requirements**

Last approved: 09/16/21 6:29 pm

Last edit: 12/11/21 7:56 pm

Changes proposed by: jgiganti

Catalog Pages Using
this Program
    [Admissions](#)

Submitter:	User ID:	jgiganti	Phone:
575-7332			

Program Status   Active

Academic Level   Graduate

Type of proposal   Policy

Select a reason for this modification
Making Minor Changes to an Existing Certificate or Degree (e.g. changing 15 or fewer hours, changing admission/graduation requirements, adding/changing Focused Study or Track)

Effective Catalog Year   Fall 2022

College/School Code
    Graduate School and International Education (GRAD)

Department Code
    Department of Graduate Dean (GRSD)

Program Code   ENGL Lang Prof

Program Title

In Workflow

1. **GRAD Dean Initial**
2. **GRAD Dean Initial**
3. **Director of Curriculum Review and Program Assessment**
4. **Registrar Initial**
5. **Institutional Research**
6. **GRSD Chair**
7. **GRAD Dean**
8. **Global Campus**
9. **Provost Review**
10. **University Course and Program Committee**
11. Graduate Council
12. Faculty Senate
13. Provost Final
14. Registrar Final
15. Catalog Editor Final

Approval Path

1. 12/12/21 9:29 am Pat Koski (pkoski): Approved for GRAD Dean Initial
2. 12/12/21 9:30 am Pat Koski (pkoski): Approved for GRAD Dean Initial
3. 12/13/21 9:52 am Alice Griffin (agriffin): Approved for Director of Curriculum Review

and Program
Assessment

4. 12/14/21 9:26 am
Gina Daugherty
(gdaugher):
Approved for
Registrar Initial

5. 12/14/21 9:55 am
Doug Miles
(dmiles): Approved
for Institutional
Research

6. 01/03/22 9:40 am
Jim Gigantino
(jgiganti): Approved
for GRSD Chair

7. 01/03/22 9:40 am
Jim Gigantino
(jgiganti): Approved
for GRAD Dean

8. 01/04/22 8:57 am
Suzanne Kenner
(skenner): Approved
for Global Campus

9. 01/04/22 9:09 am
Ketevan
Mamiseishvili
(kmamisei):
Approved for
Provost Review

History

1. Sep 16, 2021 by Lisa
Kulczak (lkulcza)

2. Sep 16, 2021 by Lisa
Kulczak (lkulcza)

English Language Proficiency Requirements

Program Delivery
Method

   On Campus

                Is this program interdisciplinary?

   No

                Does this proposal impact any courses from another College/School?

   No

Program Requirements and Description

Requirements

English Language Proficiency Requirements

Non-Native Speakers of English. All applicants, regardless of citizenship, whose first language is not English, must submit a **valid** minimum score of 6.5 on the International English Language Testing System **Academic** (IELTS), 79 on the Internet-based Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL), 58 on the Pearson Test of English - **Academic** ~~Academic~~ (PTE-A), 3.9 on the International Test of English Proficiency-Academic (iTEP), or 176 on the Cambridge Assessment English C1 Advanced (C1 Advanced) **at** ~~taken within~~ the **time of application,** ~~preceding two years,~~ unless they have received a **bachelor's or** graduate degree from an accredited U.S. **college** ~~graduate school,~~ or **university, or receive a waiver of the English Language proficiency requirement by the Graduate Council Academic Appeals Committee by demonstrating an acceptable level of language proficiency as defined in the Graduate School Handbook located on the Graduate School Web site. The Duolingo English Test (DET) with a minimum score of 105, evidence of English Language Proficiency** ~~they have~~ demonstrated **by a "B" or better on the West African Senior School Examination Certificate (WASSCE), the General Certificate of Secondary Education (GSCE), the International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGSCE), or the International Baccalaureate (IB) may be used on a case-by-case basis to fulfill the English Language Proficiency requirement with approval of the Graduate Dean. Individual departments may have higher requirements, and reference should be made to program descriptions.** ~~an acceptable level of language proficiency as defined in the Graduate School Handbook located on the Graduate School Web site. Individual departments may have higher requirements, and reference should be made to programdescriptions.~~Students applying to a Ph.D. program in the Sam M. Walton College of Business must submit one of these tests at the time of admission.

Non-native speakers of English, regardless of citizenship, even if eligible for a **waiver of the English Language Proficiency requirement** ~~TOEFL waiver, must demonstrate competency in both spoken and written English to be eligible~~ for **admission/enrollment, must demonstrate competency in both spoken and written English to be eligible for** a graduate assistantship that requires direct contact with students in a teaching or tutorial role, in a traditional classroom setting or via distance education.

~~Competency in spoken English may be demonstrated by submitting a test score of at least 7 on the IELTS (speaking) sub-test, 26 on the Internet-based TOEFL (speaking) sub-test, 71 on the PTE-A (speaking) sub-test, 4.5 on the iTEP (speaking) sub-test, 185 on the C1 Advanced (speaking) sub-test, or "pass" on the Spoken Language Proficiency Test (SLPT). Competency in written English may be demonstrated by either 1) submitting a test score of at least a 6.0 on the IELTS (writing)sub-test, 26 on the Internet-based TOEFL (writing) sub-test a 71 on the PTE-A (writing) sub-test, a 4.5 on the iTEP (writing) sub-test, a 185 on the C1 Advanced (writing) sub-test; a 4.0 on the GRE (analytical writing) sub-test, a 4.5 on the GMAT (writing) sub-test, or a 75 on the English Language Proficiency Test (ELPT) OR 2) by concurrently enrolling in ELAC 5033 Research Writing for Non-Native Speakers OR ELAC 5043, Research Writing in the STEM Fields, and ELAC 0011 Writing Workshop: Grammar through Editing. Option 2 is available via placement by test scores (5.5 IELTS writing sub-test, 23 Internet-based TOEFL writing sub-test, 3.5 GRE or 4.0 GMAT analytical writing subtest, 62 PTE-A writing subtest, 3.5 on the iTEP writing sub-test, 162 on the C1 Advanced writing sub-test,or 70 on the ELPT). The Graduate Coordinator or Department Chair/program Director must request option 2.~~

Competency in spoken English may be demonstrated by submitting a test score of at least 7 on the IELTS Academic (speaking) sub-test, 26 on the Internet-based TOEFL (speaking) sub-test, 71 on the PTE-A (speaking) sub-test, 4.5 on the iTEP (speaking) sub-test, 185 on the C1 Advanced (speaking) sub-test, or "pass" on the Spoken Language Proficiency Test (SLPT). Competency in written English may be demonstrated by either 1) submitting a test score of at least a 6.0 on the IELTS (writing)sub-test, 26 on the Internet-based TOEFL (writing) sub-test a 71 on the PTE-A (writing) sub-test, a 4.5 on the iTEP (writing) sub-test, a 185 on the C1 Advanced (writing) sub-test; 4.0 on the GRE (analytical writing) sub-test, or a 4.5 on the GMAT (writing) sub-test. The Duolingo English Test (DET) may not be used to fulfill this requirement. OR 2) by enrolling in ELAC 5033 Research Writing for Non-Native Speakers OR ELAC 5043, Research Writing in the STEM Fields, and ELAC 0011 Writing Workshop: Grammar through Editing. Option 2 is available via placement by test scores (5.5 IELTS writing sub-test, 23 Internet-based TOEFL writing sub-test, 3.5 GRE or 4.0 GMAT analytical writing subtest, 62 PTE-A writing subtest, 3.5 on the iTEP writing sub-test, or 162 on the C1 Advanced writing sub-test. The Graduate Coordinator or Department Chair/program Director must request option 2. Students applying to a Ph.D. program in the Sam M. Walton College of Business must submit one of these spoken English tests (above) at the time of admission.

English Language Use by Non-Native Speakers. Applicants, regardless of citizenship, whose first language is not English and who are admitted to graduate study at the University of Arkansas, are required to present an acceptable score on one of the following tests: TOEFL (Writing), IELTS **Academic** (writing), PTE-A (writing), iTEP (writing), C1 Advanced (writing), GRE (analytical writing), GMAT (analytical writing) or **the Duolingo (writing) test on a case by case basis with approval of the Graduate Dean.** ~~ELPT (writing).~~ Depending upon exam scores, a student may be required to take one or more ELAC course(s) during their first term of study. ~~Students may be required to take the English Language Placement Test (ELPT) prior to the beginning of classes in their first term ofstudy.~~Non-native speakers in the following categories are exempt from this requirement, although individual departments may require any of these tests for admission. (Please note that those students who will be in graduate assistantships in which they will have direct contact with students in a teaching or tutorial role must still demonstrate proficiency in spoken English, even if they qualify for one of these exemptions.)

Graduate students who earned bachelor's or master's degrees **from accredited** ~~in~~ U.S. institutions or **from** ~~in~~ foreign institutions where the official and native language is English;

Graduate students with an Internet-based TOEFL writing score of **26,** ~~29,~~ IELTS **Academic** writing score of **6.0,** ~~7.0,~~ PTE-A writing score of **71,** ~~80,~~ iTEP writing score of **4.0, C1 Advanced writing score of 169,** ~~4.5,~~ or **a DET writing score of 115 on a case by case basis with the approval of the Graduate Dean.** ~~C1 Advanced writing score of 185.~~

Graduate students with a **4.0** ~~4.5~~ on the analytical writing portion of the GRE or a **4.5** ~~5.0~~ on the writing portion of the GMAT.

Diagnostic and placement testing is designed to test students' ability to use English effectively in an academic setting, and its purpose is to promote the success of non-native speakers in completing their chosen course of study at the University of Arkansas. Test results provide the basis for placement into English Language and Culture (ELAC) support courses or course sequences. Courses are offered by the Graduate School and International Education for those students whose language skills are diagnosed as insufficient for college work at the level to which they have been admitted (undergraduate or graduate study). Credit in ELAC courses may not count toward University of Arkansas degrees. Non-native speakers diagnosed as having language competence sufficient for their level of study will not be required to enroll in ELAC courses.

~~The ELPT is administered by Testing Services during New Student Orientation and there is a $15 charge.~~ Graduate students assessed course work as a result of performance on the ~~ELPT,~~ TOEFL writing, IELTS **Academic** writing, PTE-A writing, iTEP writing, C1 Advanced writing, GRE or GMAT analytical **writing, or DET** ~~writing~~ will be required to complete the ELAC course(s) to support initial course work taken in their fields. Graduate departments/degree programs will have the discretion to waive either the requirement for the language evaluation or the required language courses.

International ~~The publication, "International~~ Student **Information regarding admission and enrollment** ~~Information,"~~ is available from the Graduate **and International** ~~and International~~ Admissions **Office Website.** ~~Office, 213 Gearhart Hall, 1 University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72701.~~

Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
Changes to the English Language Proficiency Requirements for Graduate Students are as follows, approved by EASL Committee of Faculty Senate, September 2021: 1) Clearing up catalog language allowing waiver of test score requirement for bachelors and masters degrees earned at US institutions 2) Adding additional options for students to meet admission requirement without test scores through various internationally recognized certificate programs AND creating appeal process through Graduate Council Academic Appeals Committee for certain instances 3) Elimination of DET to meet GA contact requirement	1) Provides clarity and reflects GSIE practice of waiving requirements for those with bachelors degrees 2) Provides clarity and reflects GSIE practice of waiving admission requirements for those with internationally recognized certificates. Also, creates a pathway for appeal for those with strong language credentials but no test score to be exempt from this requirement--see attached graduate handbook entry for process 3) DET is a relatively new exam. It was approved in February 2020 to be used for the contact GA

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
4) Resetting minimum test scores for ELAC course requirements through Elimination of "recommended" ELAC requirements for graduate students. 5) Elimination of ELPT as an option as Testing Services will no longer offer that exam after Spring 2022	requirement, though there are still inconsistencies in test results. DET was supposed to be only for case by case basis when other exam options were not available (ie during pandemic). There are multiple options available to students once they are admitted to fulfill the contact GA requirement. 4) The Graduate School has had a long policy of "recommending" ELAC courses to students in certain score bands and then "requiring" for students in lower score bands. Data shows that the majority of students who are recommended to take ELAC courses do not and those that do have minimal difference in academic outcomes from those that do not. Therefore, to make the process more efficient and easier for student/faculty to understand, we are eliminating the recommended bands and instead resetting minimum test scores to the already approved required bands. The change therefore is minimal--anyone who previously was required to take ELAC is still required to take ELAC. The recommended is the only elimination. 5) ELPT is an in-house testing option for students to meet writing requirement. This exam is cumbersome and costly to administer and no other SEC or benchmark school offers an in-house option. Testing Services will no longer administer this exam after Spring 2022 so we are updating catalog to reflect that change.

Upload attachments

[Handbook Changes for English Lang Proficency.docx](Handbook%20Changes%20for%20English%20Lang%20Proficency.docx)

Reviewer Comments

Key: 853