

MASTER'S IN BILINGUAL EDUCATION



UCAM
UNIVERSIDAD CATÓLICA
DE MURCIA



General Information

Location: UCAM Universidad, Murcia (Spain)

Commencement: October

Duration: One Academic Year

Seats: 60

Credits: 60 ECTS (1 ECTS = 25 hours)

Language: English

Tuition Fee: €3,700 for EU Citizens / €4,400 for Non-EU Citizens

Contact

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Background

The knowledge of foreign languages, especially English, stands in the limelight of current teaching around the world. In America, Asia or the European Community, there is an increasing demand not only to teach English as a second language, but also to use English as a medium through which to teach other subjects; this has been introduced through the CLIL method of linguistic immersion in Bilingual Centers. This trend starts from nursery teaching, and continues through secondary education, up to and including tertiary education: for example, in Graduate and Master's Degrees.

This Master's program is built on 5 fundamental pillars: adequate training in English language and CEFR level B2 certification (through an official university master degree with B2 CEFR competences); the use of bilingual teaching (CLIL) strategies and resources; the study of their underlying theories; the application of these theories during work placements in schools; and the consolidation of the acquired knowledge in the final Master's thesis.

Student Profile

UCAM Master's in Bilingual Education was particularly designed for people who aim to reach the level of linguistic and methodological competence necessary to teach in bilingual education and CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) programs.

This Master's Degree is aimed at international and Spanish university graduates from different academic backgrounds such as Pre-Primary and Primary Education, Engineering, and other graduates with an interest in bilingual teaching and in the CLIL approach. This Master's Degree in Bilingual Teaching is also aimed at all those teachers currently working in Primary or Secondary private or state schools. As an entry requirement for this postgraduate degree, candidates must have and prove the B1 level of English language (according to the CEFR).



Objectives

Bilingualism is currently defined as the ability to communicate efficiently in two languages regardless of the modes and ages of acquisition. The interest and importance of learning a foreign language is increasing nowadays due to the globalization process in which today's society is immersed. As a consequence of the changes that have taken place in Europe over the last decades, there has been a significant shift in the linguistic awareness of European citizens.

The academic, scientific and professional interest of this Master stems from the socio-economic needs that require fully-qualified people who are able to communicate in more than one language. As a result, many approaches have arisen in the teaching scene with the aim of meeting students' needs and developing new methodologies that allow the learning of a foreign language in a natural way. The Content Language Integrated Learning (CLIL) is the most widely used methodology in Europe. The integration of two curricula, language and content, demands a methodological and linguistic education of teachers of primary and secondary education.

The aim of this Master is to provide current and future teachers with the linguistic and methodological training necessary for the new bilingual teaching situation. The students will be constantly exposed to the English language for the development of their communicative competence in the foreign language along the course. Moreover, students will be introduced to the current bilingual policies as well as the methodological principles of the CLIL approach as far as theories, materials, resources and evaluation are concerned. Near the end of the academic year, students will also have the opportunity to put their training into practice during a supervised internship in one of the selected bilingual educational institutions of the UCAM internship program/Murcia Region.

Career Opportunities

The Master's Degree in Bilingual Education will help meet the current demand for experts in the field of bilingual teaching and learning. Successful graduates can choose from a range of positions within the bilingual education context. Skills developed during the course prepare students to work in the following areas:

- Primary and secondary school bilingual teaching
- Assessment and management of bilingual programs in schools
- Curriculum development
- Materials design and evaluation
- Assessment of ICT tools applied to bilingual education
- Research and innovation in bilingualism and related educational issues