

FAQs: Initial Certification for Post-Baccalaureate Students in Spanish or French

Who can apply? Anyone holding a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university.

What coursework is required?

Students who do not hold a B.A. in Spanish or French from an accredited college or university must complete coursework required for Spanish majors

(<http://www.westga.edu/~forlang/forms/INITCERTSPANISH2009.pdf>) or French majors

(<http://www.westga.edu/~forlang/forms/INITCERTFRENCH2009.pdf>) at UWG. All students must complete professional education courses and courses required by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission for teacher certification.

How long does the program take to complete?

The time will vary depending on whether you hold a B.A. in French or Spanish and if you have completed previous coursework required for certification that can be transferred to our program. For all students, there is a minimum residency requirement of 15 hours of coursework to be taken in our program.

Students who are currently teaching under a provisional certificate must complete at least 6 hours of teaching internship distributed over two semesters. Applicants with provisional certificates should have AT LEAST two years remaining on their provisional certification or they will not be able to complete the program before their temporary certification expires. Other applicants may need considerable more time than this, depending on the number of hours they are required to complete.

How do I know exactly which courses I will be required to take?

After completing your application to the Graduate School

(<http://www.westga.edu/~gradsch/apply.php>), your transcripts will be forwarded to the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, where they will be evaluated. PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE IS A \$25 FEE FOR THE TRANSCRIPT EVALUATION THAT MUST BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES. PLEASE MAKE YOUR CHECK PAYABLE TO UWG WITH THE WORDS "Transcript Evaluation" ON THE MEMO LINE. If you are accepted into the program you will be assigned an advisor and given a program sheet that indicates the remaining courses you need to take before being certified. YOUR ADVISOR IS YOUR BEST RESOURCE; IT IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TO FOLLOW THE PLAN LAID OUT BY YOUR ADVISOR IF YOU WISH TO COMPLETE THE PROGRAM IN A TIMELY FASHION.

What is required for Admission to the program?

There are two sets of requirements that must be fulfilled:

1. General requirements for admission to the Graduate School.
2. Specific requirements for admission to Teacher Education.

In addition, please send two professional letters of recommendation from professors or supervisors who are in a position to describe personal qualities you possess relevant to a career as a teacher.

Please go to the following site to read about these requirements:

<http://www.westga.edu/~gradsch/forms/printable/CERT.pdf>.