



Executive Memorandum 22-004

February 3, 2022

From: Gayle E. Hutchinson, President

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gayle E. Hutchinson".

Subject: Approval to Change the Name of the MA in Teaching International Languages

Upon the recommendation of the Academic Senate, with the concurrence of the Provost, and with the approval of the Chancellor's Office, I approve changing the name of the MA in Teaching International Languages to the MA in Language Teaching. The CSU degree program code will remain 08998, with a paired CIP code of 13.1306. This change will be effective fall 2022.

Policy Title:	EM 22-004 Approval to change the name of the MA in Teaching International Lanugages
Contact:	Department of Languages and Cultures
Supersedes:	
Revision:	
Enabling Legislation or Executive Order:	

CSU The California State University
OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR

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Alison M. Wrynn, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Chancellor,
Academic Programs, Innovations, and Faculty
Development
Phone 562-951-4672
awrynn@calstate.edu

December 6, 2021

Dr. Debra Larson
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
California State University, Chico
400 West First Street
Chico, California 95929

Dear Debra:

Effective spring 2022, Chico State is authorized to change the title of the Master of Arts in Teaching, International Languages to the Master of Arts in Language Teaching. The CSU degree program code will remain 08998 and the associated CIP Code will remain 13.1306. The campus is responsible for making the appropriate changes to the CSU Degrees Database and to the campus academic plan.

If you have questions, please contact Kristy Ochoa at kochoa@calstate.edu.

Sincerely,

Alison M. Wrynn

Alison M. Wrynn, Ph.D.
Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Programs, Innovation and Faculty Development

AMW/bf

c: Dr. Sylvia A. Alva, Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs
Dr. Daniel Grassian, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
Dr. Sharon Barrios, Dean of Graduate Studies

Signature: 
Alison Wrynn (Dec 6, 2021 15:08 PST)

Email: awrynn@calstate.edu

CSU Campuses
Bakersfield
Channel Islands
Chico
Dominguez Hills
East Bay

Fresno
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Humboldt
Long Beach
Los Angeles
Maritime Academy

Monterey Bay
Northridge
Pomona
Sacramento
San Bernardino
San Diego

San Francisco
San José
San Luis Obispo
San Marcos
Sonoma
Stanislaus

Graduate Program Name Change

Current Program Name: MA in Teaching International Languages

Propose Name Change to: MA in Language Teaching

Complete only if applicable

Program named above is:

Option within

(degree program name)

Certificate

Please attach the following required documents:

1. **Rationale for Change.** Provide as much detail as possible; rationale should address disciplinary convention, recruitment and employment issues, and titles used at other institutions. For Degree Name Changes see Chancellor's Office requirements.
2. **Evidence of Consultation.** Provide evidence of consultation with faculty, students, and other stakeholders (staff, community members, etc.)
3. **Catalog copy of program.**

Required Signatures:

The Department of International Languages, Literatures, and Cultures
has reviewed and approved this name change:

<u><i>cmgoulding</i></u>	<u>5/6/2021</u>
Chair, Department Curriculum Committee	Date
<u><i>cmgoulding</i></u>	<u>5/6/2021</u>
Department Chair	Date

The College of Humanities & Fine Arts
has reviewed and approved this name change:

<u><i>Joseph M. Alexander</i></u>	<u>May 12, 2021</u>
<small>Joseph M. Alexander (May 12, 2021 15:11 PDT)</small>	Date
Chair, College Curriculum Committee	
<u><i>Tracy Butts</i></u>	<u>May 12, 2021</u>
<small>Tracy Butts (May 12, 2021 15:48 PDT)</small>	Date
College Dean	

Graduate Studies has reviewed and approved this name change:

<u><i>Sharon Barrios</i></u>	<u></u>
Dean of Graduate Studies	Date

Send completed form to Curriculum Services at zip 128; SSC 464B

Note: The department will be notified of the dates for EPPC, Academic Senate, and, if applicable, WASC and Chancellor's Office review.

Rationale for changing the “MA in Teaching International Languages” to “MA in Language Teaching”

We intend to change the degree name “MA in Teaching International Languages” to “MA in Language Teaching” to better align the degree name with terms widely used in the field of second language acquisition and as well as in other MA programs nationally and internationally. The term “international language” is used in no other MA program similar to the MA at CSU Chico in the US or abroad. Rather, most MA degree names include “second/foreign language teaching” or “language teaching.” Likewise, in second language acquisition (SLA) research and the language teaching profession, the terms “second language,” “foreign language,” or simply “language” are widely used and preferred, whereas “international language” is not. Using “international language” suggests an outdated (national, monolingual) perspective that has long been replaced by transnational and multilingual perspectives in SLA.

We believe the name “Language Teaching” best conveys the content of the MA program. The alternatives “foreign language” (used to refer to a language not spoken in the community surrounding the learner) and “second language” have been criticized in the field for different reasons. While “second language” and “foreign language” have been used in the discipline to talk about specific language learning contexts, each of them presents semantic problems for a degree name. The term “second language” has to do with the cognitive and psycholinguistic foundations of the field of SLA in the 1960s, when SLA researchers referred to any additional language learned as a “second language” because second language processing mechanisms were regarded the same regardless of the number of languages learned or the context and instructional setting of learning (whether the language is spoken in the place where it is learned). However, a social perspective in SLA research developed later and takes into account learner variables as well as the social and cultural contexts of learning, including whether the language is a learners’ third or fourth language. “Foreign language” is problematic as it defines languages and their speakers through otherness and also implies that target languages are only spoken elsewhere. In addition, the term “international languages” (e.g., English and Esperanto) does not include all of the languages the MA students can teach and emphasize in their program (e.g., Italian). Typically, about half of students in the program intend to teach English either domestically or abroad after graduation and the second largest cohort has a specialization in Spanish.

Finally, the uniqueness of the current degree name raises concerns about post-graduation employability or acceptance to Ph.D. programs in second language acquisition or applied linguistics. “Teaching International Languages” is not perceived as the name of an academic degree.

MA Programs in (Second/Foreign) Language Teaching Similar to MA in Teaching International Languages (TIL)

USA

MA in Language Teaching Studies
University of Oregon
<https://lts.uoregon.edu/program-overview>

World Masters in Language Teaching
MA in Teaching – TESOL
University of Southern California
<https://rossier.usc.edu/programs/masters/world-masters-in-language-teaching/>
<https://rossieronline.usc.edu/academics/tesol/>

MA in Second Language Teaching
Brigham Young University
<https://gradstudies.byu.edu/program/second-language-teaching-slat-ma>

MA in Foreign Language Teaching
Michigan State University
<http://maflt.cal.msu.edu/>

MA in Second Language Education
University of Minnesota
<https://www.cehd.umn.edu/ci/academics/sle/MA-SLE.html>

MA in Foreign Language Education
New York University
<https://steinhardt.nyu.edu/teachlearn/foreign/ma>

MA in Modern Foreign Language Education
Boston University
<https://www.bu.edu/wheelock/academics/graduate/mat/foreign-language/>

Master of Education in Foreign Language Education
University of Pittsburgh
<https://www.education.pitt.edu/academics/foreign-language-education/master-education-foreign-language-education>

MA in the Teaching of Languages
University of Southern Mississippi
<https://www.usm.edu/foreign-languages-literatures/master-arts-teaching-languages-matl>

MA in TESOL and Teaching Foreign Language
Middlebury Institute of International Studies

<https://www.middlebury.edu/institute/academics/degree-programs/language-education>

M.Ed./MS in Foreign Language Education

Auburn University

<http://www.education.auburn.edu/graduate-degree-cert/foreign-lang-masters>

MA in Foreign Language Education

University of Texas at Austin

<http://catalog.utexas.edu/graduate/fields-of-study/education/foreign-language-education/>

MA in Foreign Language and ESL Education

University of Iowa

<https://education.uiowa.edu/academic-programs/foreign-language-and-esl-education>

MS in Foreign Language Education

Florida International University

<https://tl.fiu.edu/academics/degrees-and-programs/MS-Foreign-Language-Education-TESOL-Track/index.html>

MA in Multilingual Education

University of Northern Colorado

<https://www.unco.edu/programs/multilingual-education/>

Graduate Certificate in Second and Foreign Language Teaching

University of Washington

<https://grad.uw.edu/about-the-graduate-school/interdisciplinary-programs/second-and-foreign-language-teaching/>

Graduate Certificate in Language Instruction

Washington University in St. Louis

<https://rll.wustl.edu/cert/langinstruction>

Canada

Master of Education in Language and Literacy Education

University of Toronto

https://www.oise.utoronto.ca/ctl/Current_Students/Language_and_Literacies_Education/Master_of_Education_in_Languages_and_Literacies_Education.html

MA in Second Language Teaching

University of Ottawa

<https://arts.uottawa.ca/en/programs/second-language-teaching>

MA in Applied Linguistics

Brock University

<https://brocku.ca/social-sciences/applied-linguistics/graduate-program/>

UK

MA in Language Teaching
University of London, Birbeck

http://www.bbk.ac.uk/study/2019/postgraduate/programmes/TMALNGTC_C/

Language Teaching MA
Queen Mary University of London

<https://www.qmul.ac.uk/postgraduate/taught/coursefinder/courses/language-teaching-ma/>

MA in Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching
University of Southampton

<https://www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/index.page?>

MSc in Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching
Oxford University

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/msc-applied-linguistics-for-language-teaching?wssl=1>

MA in Applied Linguistics for Language Teaching
University of York

<https://www.york.ac.uk/study/postgraduate-taught/courses/ma-applied-linguistics-language-teaching/>

Language teaching relates to the science of second language acquisition (SLA), a theoretical and empirical research field. Names of professional journals in this field are, for example:

Annual Review of Applied Linguistics

Applied Language Learning

Applied Linguistics

Australian Language Matters

Australian Review of Applied Linguistics

Bilingualism: Language and Cognition

Brain and Cognition

Canadian Journal of Applied Linguistics/ Revue canadienne de linguistique appliquee

Canadian Modern Language Review

Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL)

Cognition

Didactica (Lengua y Literatura)

ELT Journal

EUROSLA Yearbook

Folia Linguistics

Foreign Language Annals

Intercultural Education

International Journal of Applied Linguistics (INJAL)

International Journal of Bilingualism
International Review of Applied Linguistics (IRAL)
ITL, Review of Applied Linguistics
Issues in Applied Linguistics
Issues in Language Learning
Journal of English for Academic Purposes
Journal of Experimental Psychology: Learning, Memory, and Cognition
Journal of Pragmatics
Journal of Research in Reading
Journal of Second Language Writing
Language Awareness
Language Communication
Language, Culture, and Curriculum
Language and Education
Language and Intercultural Communication
(Journal of) Language, Identity, and Education
Language Learning
Language Policy
Language in Society
Language Teaching Research
L2 Journal
Modern Language Journal
Multilingua
Reading and Writing Quarterly
Reading Psychology
Second Language Research
Studies in Second Language Acquisition (SSLA)
System
Die Unterrichtspraxis/Teaching German
TESL Canada Journal/Revue TESL du Canada
TESOL Journal
TESOL Quarterly
World Englishes

Re: MA in TIL name change**Paul Olejarczuk** <polejarczuk@csuchico.edu>

Wed 5/5/2021 3:08 PM

To: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Hi Frieda,

Sure, feel free to submit our correspondence as evidence of consultation.

Best,

Paul

Paul Olejarczuk, PhD.
Assistant Professor of Linguistics
Advisor, TESOL Certificate Program
Department of English
California State University, Chico

On May 5, 2021, at 3:05 PM, Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu> wrote:

Hi Paul,

Thanks so much for the fast response! That's great that you think "MA in Language Teaching" would be the best option. And I also really like Oregon's program name! I agree too that the plural of language in the Mississippi MA is nice as well, but I think the simplicity of "MA in Language Teaching" is great. And of course the acronym MALT -- that hadn't occurred to me yet!

I believe that the name change might already go into effect in the following AY, so maybe Fall 2022? At least that's the timeline for the new option to go into the catalogue if it passes the EPPC/senate votes. However, the option is a bigger process than the name change, so it might be faster. I'll ask Nicol Gray about that.

Would you mind if I included your statement as evidence of consultation when we submit the paperwork for the name change proposal?

Thanks again for your input!

Frieda

Dr. Friederike Fichtner
Assistant Professor of German & Second Language Acquisition
Director of the MA program in TIL
California State University, Chico

From: Paul Olejarczuk <polejarczuk@csuchico.edu>**Sent:** Tuesday, May 4, 2021 7:50 PM**To:** Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>**Subject:** Re: MA in TIL name change

Hi Frieda,

I agree that "foreign" is obviously problematic. I also don't find "second" to always be accurate, and "non-native" has its own set of issues. I support the change to "MA in Language Teaching" -- it's descriptive, concise and free of baggage (plus MALT is a great acronym!).

From the list you provided, I also liked Southern Mississippi's "MA in the Teaching of Languages"

because it pluralizes "Languages" (though it is too much of a mouthful otherwise). I am also partial to Oregon's program name (but I am biased there).

By the way, when would the change go into effect?

Best,

Paul

Paul Olejarczuk, PhD.
Assistant Professor of Linguistics
Advisor, TESOL Certificate Program
Department of English
California State University, Chico

On May 4, 2021, at 7:28 PM, Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu> wrote:

Hi Paul,

I'm writing because we would like to propose a name change for the MA in TIL and I'd really appreciate your input since you teach in the program and have served on many graduate advisory committees. We're considering proposing "MA in Language Teaching" as a new name. Another option would be "MA in Second Language Teaching" (for which I found lots of MA degree names as well), and "MA in Foreign Language Teaching" is also very common (but "foreign" language is problematic, so we're not considering it).

The new name would be more in line with conventions in the field of second language acquisition (where "language teaching" and "second language teaching" are common terms, but not "international language") and with similar MA programs in the US and internationally. I'm also attaching a list of MA programs similar to ours.

Please let me know what you think of changing the name to "MA in Language Teaching" and if you have any other suggestions.

Thanks so much for your input in advance!

Frieda

Dr. Friederike Fichtner
Assistant Professor of German & Second Language Acquisition
Director of the MA program in TIL
California State University, Chico
<MA programs in language teaching and SLA journal names.docx>

Re: MA in TIL name change

Saundra K Wright <SKWright@csuchico.edu>

Wed 5/5/2021 2:19 PM

To: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Of course! Please feel free to use it.

From: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 2:17 PM

To: Saundra K Wright <SKWright@csuchico.edu>

Subject: Re: MA in TIL name change

Hi Saundra,

Thanks so much for responding so quickly! I'm so glad that you think "MA in Language Teaching" would be a good choice. Would you mind if I included your statement as evidence of consultation when we submit the forms for the name change?

Thanks so much again!

Frieda

Dr. Friederike Fichtner

Assistant Professor of German & Second Language Acquisition

Director of the MA program in TIL

California State University, Chico

From: Saundra K Wright <SKWright@csuchico.edu>

Sent: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 12:49 PM

To: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Subject: Re: MA in TIL name change

I think "MA in Language Teaching" works well. In the past, students in the program occasionally encountered difficulties on the job market when a degree in "TIL" didn't match well for specific job qualifications. Having a name that is in line with other degree programs makes complete sense to me.

Thanks for consulting us!

Saundra

From: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Sent: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 6:45 PM

To: Saundra K Wright <SKWright@csuchico.edu>

Subject: MA in TIL name change

Hi Sandra,

I'm writing regarding the possible name change of the MA in TIL that we talked about a couple of weeks ago. I'd really appreciate your input since you also teach in the MA program and frequently serve on graduate advisory committees. We're considering proposing "MA in Language Teaching" as a new name and I was wondering if you would prefer that over "MA in Teaching International Languages." Another option would be "MA in Second Language Teaching" (for which I found lots of MA degree names as well), and "MA in Foreign Language Teaching" is also very common, but the word "foreign" comes with many issues, so we're not considering it.

I think the new name would be more in line with conventions in the field of second language acquisition (where "language" or "second language" or "foreign language" is used, but not "international language") and with similar MA programs in the US and internationally. I'm also attaching a list of MA programs similar to ours.

Please let me know if you would approve of "MA in Language Teaching" or if you have any other suggestions or concerns.

Thanks so much in advance!

Frieda

Dr. Friederike Fichtner
Assistant Professor of German & Second Language Acquisition
Director of the MA program in TIL
California State University, Chico

From: Maris R Thompson <mrthompson@csuchico.edu>

Sent: Thursday, May 6, 2021 2:59 PM

To: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Subject: Re: MA in TIL name change

This is such a good move. I am in complete support. International makes no sense and is very monolingual, Ameri-centric, and just plain outdated.

I like MA in Language Teaching. My issue with the MA in Second Language teaching, while in alignment with the field, it's a misnomer to say "second" language for many people. Often students are learning a 3rd or even 4th language.

M

Dr. Maris Thompson

Coordinator, Liberal Studies Program

Professor, School of Education

Tehama Hall 211A

California State University, Chico

Office: (530) 898-4196

From: Friederike Fichtner <ffichtner@csuchico.edu>

Date: Wednesday, May 5, 2021 at 9:14 PM

Subject: MA in TIL name change

Dear Maris,

I'm writing because we would like to propose a name change for the MA in Teaching International Languages and I'd really appreciate your input, especially because we've just proposed the new MA option in single subject credential (Spanish) together and you would teach some of the courses in the new option. We're considering proposing "MA in Language Teaching" as a new name. Another option would be "MA in Second Language Teaching" (for which I found lots of MA degree names as well), and "MA in Foreign Language Teaching" is also very common (but "foreign" language is problematic, so we're not considering it).

The new name would be more in line with conventions in the field of second language acquisition (where "language teaching" and "second language teaching" are common terms, but not "international language") and with similar MA programs in the US and internationally. I'm also attaching a list of MA programs similar to ours.

Please let me know what you think of changing the name to "MA in Language Teaching" and if you have any other suggestions.

Thanks so much for your input!

Frieda

Dr. Friederike Fichtner
Assistant Professor of German & Second Language Acquisition
Director of the MA program in TIL
California State University, Chico

Statement from MA in Teaching International Languages (TIL) Director Dr. Friederike Fichtner

Feedback from TIL graduate students about the new program name

As graduate coordinator and instructor of many core courses in the MA program in Teaching International Languages, I have consulted two cohorts of graduate students about a possible MA program name change on several occasions over the last three years (2019-2021). In conversations in and outside of class, we discussed reasons for and benefits of changing the program name to align more with terms used in the field of second language acquisition as well as with similar MA programs in the US and internationally.

The graduate students' responses to the idea of changing of the program name to "MA in Language Teaching" have been overwhelmingly positive and strongly in support of this change. Our discussions of possible new program names also included "MA in Second Language Teaching" (also widely used in MA program names in the US and abroad) as well as "MA in Foreign Language Teaching" as possible options, but a majority of students consistently favored "MA in Language Teaching."

These discussions always end with students asking if they can use the new name upon graduation, which is strong evidence that they find it far preferable to the current name.