CURRICULUM

CODE	DESCRIPTIVE TITLE	UNITS
CORE COURSES		
ALS 204	Methods of Research in Alternative Learning System	3
ALS 205	Research Presentation and Publication	3
ALS 206	Philosophy and Principles of ALS	3
MAJOR COURSES		
ALS 211	Understanding the Nature of the ALS Learner	3
ALS 221	ALS Curriculum (Life Skills Approach) and Designing its Learning Environment	3
ALS 231	Instructional Modalities and Assessment of Learning in ALS	3
ALS 241	Current Trends, Issues, and Concerns in ALS	3
ALS 251	Innovative Project in ALS	3
ALS 261	Instructional Materials Development for ALS	3
ALS 271	Experiential Learning in Teaching and Management of ALS	3
ALS 281	Redesigning ALS Learning Experiences	3
ALS 291	Digital Citizenship and Distance Education	3
ELECTIVE COURSES		
ALS 216	Risk Reduction and Disaster Management in ALS Setting	3
ALS 217	Culture, Gender and Development in the ALS Setting	3
ALS 218	Administration and Supervision of the ALS	3
MASTER'S THESIS		
ALS 300-A	Thesis A	3
ALS 300-B	Thesis B	3
MASTER'S PROJECT		
ALS 301-A	Master's Project A	3
ALS 301-B	Master's Project B	3

CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS TO FINISH THE DEGREE

THESIS TRACK		NON-THESIS TRACK	
CORE COURSES	9	CORE COURSES	9
MAJOR COURSES	15	MAJOR COURSES	21
ELECTIVE COURSES	6	ELECTIVE COURSES	6
MASTER'S THESIS	6	MASTER'S PROJECT	6

THESIS TRACK
- Pass a Comprehensive Examination
- Proposal & Final Defense
- Thesis Manuscript
- At least one (1) publication in a refereed journal or juried creative work

TOTAL UNITS: 36

NON-THESIS TRACK
- Pass a Comprehensive Examination
- Project Presentation
- Master's Project
- At least one (1) publication in a refereed journal or juried creative work

TOTAL UNITS: 42

FEES

PARTICULARS	AMOUNT (PHP)
Admission Fee (new student):	
Local	100
Foreign	$25
Tuition Fee Per Unit	1,000
Technology Fee	3,000
Medical Fee	100
Library Fee	350
ID Fee (new students)	186
Miscellaneous Fee	100
ID Validation Fee (every semester)	12
Entrance Fee (new students)	100

VISION

Globally renowned community of learning promoting collaboration, research, innovation, and knowledge sharing beyond traditional landscape.

MISSION

Provide quality life-long education for all through open, distance, and e-learning systems.

GOALS

1. To design and deliver accessible, high-quality degree programs through distance learning, leveraging technology, industry partnerships, and learner support services to meet the evolving needs of students and society.
2. To establish a sustainable continuing education system that fosters professional growth and lifelong learning through accessible, high-quality programs and industry-aligned opportunities.
3. To design and implement flexible and innovative delivery systems tailored to the needs of distance learners, ensuring accessibility, engagement, and effective learning outcomes.
4. To cultivate leadership in open and distance education by advancing expertise, research, and best practices in innovative and inclusive learning methodologies.
5. To ensure the accessibility of instructional packages for all learners through strategic collaboration, institutional partnerships, and innovative distribution mechanisms.

CONTACT US

- BSU Open University
- open.university@bsu.edu.ph
- 0915 152 8703
- ou.bsu.edu.ph

OPEN UNIVERSITY

"Bringing quality and affordable education to your doorsteps."

MASTER IN ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM

BOR. Res. No. 44, s. 2023

B S U   C A R E S

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Master in Alternative Learning System (MALS) is a degree program which intends to equip ALS educators and practitioners with competent knowledge, skills and attitude required for the implementation of a responsive, pragmatic and progressive alternative learning system, thereby assuring the attainment of equal access to basic educational services by the masses.

MODE OF INSTRUCTION

A combination of self-study modules and synchronous session at designated learning centers/ (online) will be provided to participants once a month in a semester. Field activities, assignments, and examinations will supplement this.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

ALS 204 METHODS OF RESEARCH IN ALS

This course prepares the students in the Graduate level for research in the academe and in the field. Different research methods used in Alternative Learning System are introduced. Quantitative, Qualitative, or Mixed research designs are discussed in detail, with examples in contrived and actual/field settings. Alignment between problem statements and research methodologies (design, sampling, instrumentation and data gathering procedure) are emphasized that will improve the relevance, coverage and quality of the research.

ALS 205 RESEARCH PRESENTATION AND PUBLICATION

Statistics and its uses in research are introduced in this course together with various statistical software and applications used in data analysis are presented in the earlier parts of this course. Such is geared towards equipping the students with tools necessary for defense, presentation and publication requirements of their research outputs. As culmination, a form of research is designed as an avenue for the research output presentation and dissemination.

ALS 206 PHILOSOPHY AND PRINCIPLES OF ALS

This course covers various philosophical foundations of the Alternative learning System (ALS) including its historical and legal bases. The context of this course is based on local and international perspectives to enable students to appreciate the rationale of ALS in Philippine Education. This also deals with understanding not only of the principles that surrounds and explains the art and science of teaching the curriculum content and clients of ALS but also the rationale for the practice of these principles.

ALS 211 UNDERSTANDING THE NATURE OF ALS

This focuses on understanding of the current generation of the ALS learners – their nature, socio-demographic profile, interests and aspirations, etc.– and correlating the same to their enrolment in the ALS program. This course will also include research activities about the nature of the ALS learners with the intention of identifying characteristics that will help and factors that will predict a successful ALS learner. Such data will be used by ALS practitioners for instructional management.

ALS 221 ALS CURRICULUM (LIFE SKILLS APPROACH) AND DESIGNING ITS LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

The course is centered on the exploration of the ALS curriculum content which is summarized to be the Life Skill Approach and designing appropriate environment for the learning of said curriculum content. Specifically, the life skill approach includes the core life skills as essential tools for understanding one's strengths and weaknesses, discerning opportunities, and threats, and improving relationship with others. The core life skills techniques and strategies is understood in the context of the six (6) learning strands of the ALS curriculum.

ALS 231 INSTRUCTIONAL MODALITIES AND ASSESSMENT OF LEANRING IN ALS

This course includes the different instructional modalities and formats for learning the alternative learning system such as, blended, onsite, online, mobile teaching etc. It also includes a discussion of the probable and appropriate approaches and methods of assessing the ALS learners' learning outcomes, thereby establishing a result-oriented data not only for promotion but also academic advising.

ALS 241 CURRENT TRENDS, ISSUES, AND CONCCERNS IN ALS

The course equips students with Informal Education (InfEd) in ALS as an "in-time learning" that is, "learning a skill at a time most needed" (right now). Further, the students are immersed in ALS current trends (such as latest guidelines regarding ALS like DO 13 s. 2019 and DO 47 s. 2021) practices and innovations in the conduct and implementation of ALS. Issues, concerns and challenges besetting ALS will also be included as topics where interventions are proposed for their resolutions.

ALS 251 INNOVATIVE PROJECTS IN ALS

This course helps students develop a perspective on managing innovation. The course equips the students with the capability to lead and design their ALS organization in effectively implementing innovation initiatives and strategically achieving its intent. The course includes set of frameworks, tools, and concepts that can help them address several important challenges in managing innovation. Other topics include leadership of new product development teams, planning and evaluation of innovation initiatives, and management of innovation across organizational boundaries, as happens with alliances or virtual firms.

ALS 261 INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS DEVELOPMENT FOR ALS

This course focuses on the production, utilization, management and assessment of instructional materials to suit varied teaching and learning situations specifically in the context of ALS.

ALS 271 EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING IN TEACHING AND MANAGEMENT OF ALS

This course provides students with experienced-based activities where students will have the actual application and experience on community organizing, recruitment, enrollment, organizing and conduct of literacy livelihood skills training classes with andragogy approach to adult teaching, designed to improve the quality of life among clientele. Its application has been linked to service learning to help learners acquire specific knowledge and skills, as well as to develop ethical sense and responsibility in society.

ALS 281 REDESIGNING ALS LEARNING EXPERIENCES

This course intends for the students to redefine learning experiences not only as mainstream classroom experiences but also the recognition of ALS program. This is done through leading the students to take ownership ALS through PBL (project-based learning) and DT (design thinking) experience as innovative anchors in preparing ALS learners in a globally competitive new century.

ALS 291 DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

This course is designed for students to learn how they can help create a safe and positive experience online. Also, students will be enabled to produce 21st-century digital citizens who are confident in using ICT and digital tools in a responsible and ethical manner.

ALS 216 RISK REDUCTION AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT IN ALS SETTING

This course is intended to prepare the ALS practitioner in strategically reducing probable effects of anticipated disasters and skillfully managing the effects of their occurrence. This course includes understanding of strategies necessary to minimize organizational, personnel and financial safety risk in the event of an unforeseen emergency. This includes approaches designed to help improve disaster outcomes by assessing, identifying, and reducing the different risk factors involved.

ALS 217 CULTURE, GENDER, AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE ALS SETTING

This course provides students with an understanding of the different cultural and gender orientations of the ALS learners and how these either affect or boost their dynamics in the learning environment. Specifically, this course teaches the students on how to implement a culture and gender sensitive ALS program.

ALS 218 ADMINISTRATION AND SUPERVISION OF THE ALS

This course is geared to lead the students to transformational leaders in ALS. The course teachers the students to become innovators, persuasive players, and champions of strategic decision-making following protocols. The course also equips the students with knowledge and skills in conducting SWOT analysis as basis for strategic and operational planning necessary to leverage key prospects for strategic opportunities.

ALS 300-A MASTER'S THESIS

Independent research study in consultation with the advisory committee is a must. This course requires the student to write his/her thesis proposal and be able to defend it.

ALS 301-B MASTER'S THESIS

Independent research study in consultation with the advisory committee is a must. This course requires the student to write, defend and bind his/her final manuscript.

ALS 300-A MASTER'S PROJECT

This course intends to enhance and fine-tune his/her project management capabilities by planning a project related to their degree program for implementation and evaluation in the succeeding semester. This course enables them to put into practice the management theories and concepts that they learned from their respective degree programs. Under the guidance of their advisers, they prepare a Development Project Proposal/Outline based on an overview of all the courses in their degree program. Specifically, they are to identify possible project ideas based on a needs' determination process applied to a chosen host organization/community. They must prioritize the project ideas using a set of criteria and choose one with the best comparative advantage.

ALS 301-B MASTER'S PROJECT

With the guidance of the students' advisers, this course facilitates the implementation, documentation and reporting of the results of the approved Development Project Proposal/Outline. The implementation starts with organizing the resources to be used including linkages with the project stakeholders identified in the Proposal as partners, co-implementers and beneficiaries. Implementation is monitored and evaluated with appropriate documentation tools and strategies (both narratives supplemented with video and/or photo documentation). The result of the implementation is presented in a Knowledge Sharing Session initiated by the OU (or in a virtual presentation, as deemed proper). This serves as his/her oral presentation before his/her Advisory Panel.