



**KEAN/STARTALK M.A. PROGRAM IN HINDI AND URDU LANGUAGE PEDAGOGY**  
**APPLICATION PACKET**

January 22, 2015

The School for Global Education & Innovation is pleased to invite you to submit an application for the **STARTALK Master's Degree Scholarship Program** which provides full funding for 2-years of coursework, valued at \$20,000, leading to an **M.A. degree in Hindi and Urdu Language Pedagogy** from Kean University. Additional information about the program is found on pages 7-8 of this packet.

Applicants admitted into the program will initially take courses during the 2015 Summer Session as non-matriculating students. Formal admission to the Graduate School in fall 2015 is contingent upon attaining targeted outcomes during summer coursework.

Application Requirements and an Application Checklist may be found on page 2. Note that applications should include all required information and must be submitted by the **MARCH 31 APPLICATION DEADLINE**. Applicants are advised to obtain the necessary documentation for admission as soon as possible to ensure they have all required materials in order to meet the deadline. Incomplete applications will NOT be considered by the Admissions Committee. **Application Packages should be mailed to:**

**JANIS JENSEN, DIRECTOR, STARTALK LANGUAGE INITIATIVES**  
**SCHOOL FOR GLOBAL EDUCATION & INNOVATION**  
**HUTCHINSON HALL J 305**  
**KEAN UNIVERSITY**  
**1000 MORRIS AVENUE**  
**UNION, NJ 07083**

- Applicants who meet program requirements will be contacted for a department interview as part of the application process.
- Formal notification of acceptance into the program will occur on or before April 30, 2015.
- Important program dates and information about the July 12, 2015 Program Orientation Session will be provided in the acceptance letter.
- Contact Janis Jensen, Program Director at [jjensen@kean.edu](mailto:jjensen@kean.edu) or 908-737-0552 should you have any questions about the program and/or the application process.

**APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS and CHECKLIST**

**1. Application Form**   
*(See attached form on page 3.)*

**2. Two Letters of Recommendation** in sealed and signed envelopes   
*(See attached form on page 6. Additional forms may be photocopied.)*

**3. Bachelor’s Degree Official Transcript**   
*(From an accredited college/university in U.S./abroad in sealed envelopes)*

**NOTE: Individuals who have completed university coursework in an institution in a country other than the United States must obtain a complete evaluation of foreign transcripts, degrees and other relevant documents through a transcript evaluation service.** These organizations are private enterprises which charge a fee for their services. Individuals pursuing a foreign transcript evaluation must follow the procedures outlined by the organization providing the evaluation. However, in all instances, original, official documentation will be required when requesting the evaluation and credentials will be evaluated on a course-by-course basis. Any organization accredited by the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES) may be used for this service. A current list of NACES members may be found at: <http://www.naces.org/members.htm>. **In the event applicants are not able to obtain transcripts from abroad for documentation/evaluation by the March application deadline, contact Janis Jensen ASAP to arrange an extension for obtaining transcripts. However, all other required documentation must be submitted by March 31 with the completed application.**

**4. Transcript Evaluation** *(If applicable)*

**5. Testing Requirement: ACTFL OPI and WPT in Hindi or Urdu**   
*(Minimal score of Advanced-Mid Level or above)*

The ACTFL OPI Testing Program is administered by Language Testing International (LTI). To schedule an **Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI)** and a **Writing Proficiency Test (WPT)**, contact Language Testing International. There is a fee for each of these tests, which must be scheduled at least 3-weeks in advance to allow time for scoring and reporting in order to meet the March 31 application deadline.

Language Testing International  
 Tel: (914) 963-7110 or 1-800-486-8444  
 Fax: (914) 963-7113  
<http://www.languagetesting.com>

**6. Professional Resume/CV**

**7. Personal statement of commitment to the 2-year program**



**APPLICATION FORM SECTION I**

1. **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Last Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**First Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Maiden Name/Other:** \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Apt. No.** \_\_\_\_\_  
**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip Code:** \_\_\_\_\_
4. **Home Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Daytime/Cell:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Male:** \_\_\_ **Female:** \_\_\_
5. **Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_
6. **Date of Birth:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Social Security Number:** \_\_\_\_\_
7. **Are you a legal resident of NJ?** \_\_\_\_\_ **For how long?** \_\_\_\_\_ **NO:** \_\_\_\_\_
8. **Ethnic Background** (e.g., Caucasian, South Asian): \_\_\_\_\_
9. **Citizenship:** \_\_\_ **U.S. Citizen** \_\_\_ **U.S. Permanent Resident/Resident Alien**  
 \_\_\_ If not U.S. Citizen, specify country of origin: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_ **F-1 Student Visa** \_\_\_ **Other non-immigrant Country of birth:** \_\_\_\_\_
10. **Do you have a permanent resident alien status?** \_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_ **NO**  
 If NO, what is your current visa status? \_\_\_\_\_
11. **How did you hear of the program?** \_\_\_\_\_
12. **Do you hold a teaching certificate or certificate of eligibility?** \_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_ **NO**  
 If YES, a copy must be submitted with the application.
13. **I am applying for the Fall Semester 2015** \_\_\_ **YES** \_\_\_ **NO** as a matriculated student for the M.A. Degree Program in Hindi and Urdu Language Pedagogy
14. **Colleges/Universities/ Post Secondary Schools** (List all post-secondary schools attended beginning with the most recent. Official transcripts must be submitted for each institution attended. Transfer credit will not be granted from any institution omitted from the application)

Name of Institution	City/State	From (M/Y)	To (M/Y)	Credits Earned	Type of Degree	Year of Degree

*I certify all of the information provided in this section is accurate and complete.*

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_



**APPLICATION FORM SECTION II**

**1. Work Experience (starting with the most recent)**

Dates	Employer/ Location	Position	Telephone Number

a. Permission to contact current supervisor: \_\_\_ YES \_\_\_ NO

b. Supervisor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

2. **References:** List the names, addresses and telephone numbers of individuals to whom the reference form on page 6 will be provided. References should be from individuals who are familiar with your academic and/or professional work.

Name and Address	Telephone Number

**3. List Professional Certifications**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4. List Continuing Education Experiences (seminars, workshops, programs, courses)**

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\_\_\_\_\_

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**5. List Community/Public Service Experiences**

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**6. List Professional Organizations (current membership only)**

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**APPLICATION FORM SECTION III**

**1. Academic and Professional Areas of Interest**

- a. **List SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS** (presented to a professional audience)

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- b. **List RESEARCH ACTIVITIES AND ROLE** (principal investigator, co-investigator, data collector)

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- c. **List PUBLICATIONS** (authored or co-authored)

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**2. PERSONAL STATEMENT-** Write a well developed essay that incorporates the information below and attach to the application.

- a. Introduce yourself. Provide information about your educational background including intellectual and personal development over your academic career.
- b. Articulate the history that led you to apply for this program.
- c. Indicate if you have had prior teaching experience, and if so, where and for how long.
- d. Indicate your specific area(s) of interest in the language education field.
- e. Explain why you would like to participate in this graduate program and why you would be a strong candidate.
- f. Indicate what you might be planning to do with an MA degree in language pedagogy.
- g. Advise of your personal obligations and if you foresee these obligations deterring you in any way from completing the 2-year program.
- h. Explain to what extent you are personally committed to a rigorous program of study and research and how you envision you may be able to make contributions to Hindi/Urdu studies and to participate in shaping the field through scholarship, teaching or service.

*I hereby certify that all information provided in this application is accurate and complete. It is a policy of Kean University that any misrepresentation or omission of fact will constitute cause for nullification of the application prior to admission or dismissal following admission. Kean is an affirmative action and equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate in admission to or access to its programs.*

**Applicant's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE FORM**

To the Applicant:

*In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, a candidate for admission to the program may waive the right to inspect this statement of recommendation upon admission or enrollment. Such a recommendation will be used only for the purpose of application for admission. A candidate is not required to execute a waiver as a condition for admission.*

I (print your name) \_\_\_\_\_ do \_\_\_ do not \_\_\_ waive my right to inspect or review the recommendation for admission to the program.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date Signature Social Security #

**To the Respondent:**

**The person named above is applying for admission to the MA Program at Kean University. We would appreciate your assessment of the applicant on this form.**

1. How long have you known the applicant?
2. What has been your relationship with him/her? Check all that apply. \_\_\_ Undergraduate teacher \_\_\_ Graduate teacher \_\_\_ Program advisor \_\_\_ Supervisor \_\_\_ Other
3. How well do you know the applicant? \_\_\_ very well \_\_\_ moderately well \_\_\_ slightly
4. In the chart below, describe the applicant's performance in relation to others whom you have known at a comparable stage of development. Check the column that best describes the applicant next to each characteristic.

Characteristic	Outstanding	Above Average	Average	Below Average	Not Known
Verbal Skills					
Writing Skills					
Academic Performance					
Professional Performance					
Academic Commitment					
Maturity					
Leadership					
Responsibility					
Potential					

5. Please provide your appraisal of the candidate's qualifications, aptitudes and potential for success in a graduate program and professionally. Be as specific as possible in stating the basis for your judgment. Include an indication of the applicant's major strengths/any areas of weakness. Attach to this form.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Position: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Organization: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone and Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO THE APPLICANT IN A SEALED ENVELOPE AND SIGN YOUR NAME DIRECTLY ACROSS THE SEAL.**

## Master's Degree Program in Hindi/Urdu Language Pedagogy

### I. PURPOSE

Kean University's Master's Degree Program in Hindi/Urdu Language Pedagogy addresses the current lack of a strong infrastructure at national and state levels to support Hindi/Urdu teacher development and research in the area of Hindi/Urdu-specific second language pedagogy. The program is designed for cohorts\* of Hindi/Urdu Native/Advanced-Mid(or higher) speakers who reside in the U.S., possess a Bachelor's Degree, and wish to teach Hindi/Urdu at the K-12/post-secondary level or to continue study and research on Second Language Acquisition and foreign language pedagogy at the graduate level. \*Students accepted into the 2015 initial program cohort are eligible for a full scholarship valued at \$20,000, funded by the National Security Administration through STARTALK.

### II. MA PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Master's Degree Program is a 2-year 30-credit program consisting of three components: (1) Acquisition of Content through online courses taught by Kean and Affiliate/Partner Faculty; (2) Acquisition of Pedagogical Knowledge and Skills (methods and assessment practices) through summer onsite courses; and (3) Integration of Content, Theory and Pedagogy into Clinical Practice through participation in the Kean STARTALK Summer Student Program. There is a required one-month summer residential component each year of the 2-year grant-funded program that covers tuition costs and summer housing near the Kean University Campus. The MA Program offers participants the opportunity to:

- Earn 30-credits through onsite, online and blended generic and Hindi/Urdu-specific content, language and pedagogy courses
- Participate in 6-weeks of clinical practice during Kean STARTALK Summer Student Programs
- Earn a NJ Certificate of Eligibility (CE) which authorizes candidates to seek and accept employment in NJ schools and leads to standard certification through the Provisional Teacher Program.

### III. FEATURES OF THE PROGRAM

#### ❖ Integration of Innovative Learning Technologies and Global Competencies

Each component of the program will integrate innovative learning technologies in both face-to-face and online learning environments and focus on the development of global competencies and the use of pedagogical approaches to foster global competence.

#### ❖ Syllabus

The syllabus for each course consists of several modules or topic areas typically taught by two or more instructors (a generalist and a language/content expert) to ensure implementation of best practices. Instructors may teach one or more modules and, in some instances, the entire course.

#### ❖ Faculty

Faculty consists of affiliate and specialized instructors offering content area expertise and resources to the project from the following partnering institutions:

- STARTALK NYU, New York University
- The South Asia Institute (SAI), Columbia University
- The National Heritage Language Research Center (NHLRC), UCLA, Berkley
- The Hindi/Urdu Flagship (HUF), University of Texas/Austin
- The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA), University of Minnesota



**MA PROGRAM COURSE REQUIREMENTS AND SUGGESTED SEQUENCE**

CODE	COURSE	CREDITS
<b>Summer Session Year 1 (4.5 credits) Onsite Courses</b>		
<b>GLOB 5905</b>	Introduction to Global Project-Based Learning for Teaching World Languages	<b>1.5 credits</b>
<b>GLOB 5920</b>	Methods I: Pedagogy for Implementing the <i>World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages</i> (Blended Course)	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Fall Semester Year 1 (6 credits) Online Courses</b>		
<b>GLOB 5945</b>	Language Acquisition: Theory and Research: L1,L2, Bilingual/Heritage learner Development	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>HIND 5800</b>	Introduction to Hindi and Urdu Language, Culture and Society	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Spring Semester Year 1 (6 credits) Online Courses</b>		
<b>HIND 5820</b>	Hindi and Urdu Language Structures for Teaching <i>(Partner Institution SAI, Columbia)</i>	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>HIND 5830</b>	Hindi Literature: Language, Style and Genre <i>(Partner Institution HUF, University of Texas, Austin) OR</i>	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>URDU 5840</b>	Urdu Literature: Language, Style and Genre <i>(Partner Institution Kevorkian Center, NYU)</i>	
<b>Summer Session Year 2 (4.5 credits) Onsite Courses</b>		
<b>GLOB 5910</b>	Global Project-Based Learning II	<b>1.5 credits</b>
<b>GLOB 5930</b>	Methods II: Assessment of Language Performance	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Fall Semester Year 2 (6 credits) Online Courses</b>		
<b>HIND 5860</b>	Issues in Hindi and Urdu Sociolinguistics	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>GLOB 5995</b>	Action Research: Inquiries and Projects	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>Spring Semester Year 2 (3 credits)</b>		
<b>HIND 5850</b>	The Hindi/Urdu Community and Heritage Language Learners: Theory and Practice <i>(Partner Institution: NHLRC, UCLA)</i>	<b>3 credits</b>
<b>TOTAL: 30 credits</b>		
<i>With the option to obtain a NJ Certificate of Eligibility which authorizes candidates to seek/ accept employment in NJ schools and leads to standard certification through the Provisional Teacher Program~</i>		
<b>Additional Program Requirements</b> <i>(Degree candidates must complete two of the three following requirements)</i>		
Transitioning to Teaching Language Online Course <i>(Partner Institution: CARLA, University of Minnesota)</i>		
4-day ACTFL OPI Training Module <i>(Partner Institution: STARTALK NYU)</i>		
STARTALK Blended Summer Teacher Program <i>(Partner Institution: STARTALK NYU)</i>		