

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

University of California, Irvine



Program Overview



English is the predominant language through which people communicate, connect and transact business in the emerging global community of the 21st century. The increased fluidity of international borders, the relative ease of travel and the growing global market presence have made the demand for quality English language programs and TESOL instructors higher than ever – both abroad and in the United States.

Designed to offer a balance of current theory and practical experience in second language acquisition instructional methods, the Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages certificate will prepare you with foundational knowledge and real-world skills to effectively step into a career in TESOL. Courses provide a comprehensive study of core knowledge in the field, including aspects of linguistics and sociolinguistics, the structure of English, methodology of teaching and assessing English, literacy development, curriculum development and language assessment.

CERTIFICATE ELIGIBILITY AND REQUIREMENTS

A certificate is awarded upon completion of eight required courses totaling 120 hours of instruction. Students must earn a letter grade of “C” or better in each course in order to be eligible for the certificate. To become an official candidate in the program, students pursuing the certificate must submit a Declaration of Candidacy. Students are encouraged to declare candidacy as soon as possible, but no later than after the third course in the program. To receive the certificate after completing all program requirements, students must submit a Request for Certificate. All requirements must be completed within five (5) years after the student enrolls in his/her first course. Students not pursuing a certificate are welcome to take as many individual courses as they wish.

PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Identify key foundational linguistic theories and the connection between those theories and effective teaching practices
- Plan and implement dynamic language lessons designed to meet the needs and interests of their learners
- Explain what it means to teach most effectively with variety in learning modalities, learning tasks, material resources and learning contexts
- Demonstrate an understanding of the structure of English and the ability to teach English grammar
- Define the aural and oral skill sets necessary to master speaking and listening in English and the best means to develop those skills
- Define the skills associated with reading comprehension and fluency and the best means to develop those skills
- Identify key strategies to build their learners' vocabulary skills
- Equip their learners with the requisite skills to write for academic, professional and social purposes
- Construct effective assessments to evaluate their learners' competencies in all skill areas
- List the most important considerations for teaching in their chosen learning context with adult learners in the U.S., or with varied age groups internationally

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

Individuals who wish to teach English in a variety of ESL settings in the United States and overseas, recent graduates, international students, aspiring educators, career changers, and current teachers who wish to enhance their competencies in the field of TESOL.

ON-SITE TRAINING

UCI Continuing Education can provide individual courses, specialized in-services, or the entire Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Certificate onsite at schools, district professional development centers, or other venues at reduced costs. To learn more, please email edu-bus@ce.uci.edu.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:
EDUCATION PROGRAMS
EDU-BUS@CE.UCI.EDU**

Required Courses



Theories of TESOL

Examine the philosophical approaches and theories that have historically influenced language instruction. This course will demystify the language acquisition process and provide a thorough understanding of the essential factors in first and second language development. Explore the psychological, cognitive, socio-cultural and pedagogical factors that affect language learning and current teaching methods.

Methods of TESOL

This course is designed to introduce participants to the methods that have been used historically to teach English as a second or foreign language. Course participants will learn how to prepare lesson plans and will also explore the significance of varied learning modalities in the development of effective lessons to meet the broadest range of language learners' needs. The focus in this course is on the practical application of knowledge about how to organize and present information for maximum learner understanding, how to select material resources, how to incorporate variety into language teaching, how to effectively teach a multilevel group of learners, and how to choose the broadest range of tasks and communicative activities to meet learning objectives and student goals.

Teaching Listening and Speaking Skills

This course will introduce participants to the features of oral language and the skills required to speak and to understand speech in English as a second or foreign language. Discuss and practice principles and strategies for assisting non-native speakers to improve their listening comprehension skills, as well as their spoken English fluency and accuracy, with an emphasis on communicative teaching techniques. Course participants will learn how to design and facilitate listening and speaking activities, and will create and share activities with their classmates.

Teaching Reading and Vocabulary Skills

One's ability to read presents opportunities to explore the world and allows one to participate in academic and professional pursuits. Additionally, reading effectively enhances the development of all other language skills. This course will examine the skills required to become effective readers and the techniques that teachers can use to help English language learners to develop these essential skills. Tied closely to success in reading is vocabulary knowledge. What kinds of vocabulary do ESL/EFL students need to learn? What learning skills should students develop in order to acquire the vocabulary they need? How can we link vocabulary development to reading fluency and comprehension skills? This course will address these questions and will provide opportunities for participants to reflect on and learn a variety of vocabulary teaching techniques.

Teaching English Grammar

This course will introduce participants to various methods used to teach grammar in an English as a second or foreign language context. Course participants will study different approaches to teaching grammar and learn how to prepare effective lesson plans around a specific grammar point or structure. Participants will review principles and strategies for

teaching grammar as an English language skill and will create and share two lesson plans with class members. Another important component of this course will be the opportunity for participants to observe and reflect on their own pedagogy, considering the methods and strategies studied in this class.

Teaching Writing and Vocabulary Skills

The ability to write provides opportunities for self-expression and allows one to participate in academic and professional pursuits. How can teachers support English language learners? What unique strengths do different learners have, and what challenges do they face? What pedagogical approaches and classroom techniques can teachers use to help? This course provide opportunities for students to apply the knowledge gained to different instructional settings and scenarios.

TESOL Observation and Practice

Experience and practice the principles taught throughout the TESOL certificate program by observing classrooms in multiple settings and reflecting on observations. Prepare and present lessons in the online course tailored to a specific learner audience. A combination of self-reflection and professional critique will provide students with the information needed to improve culturally responsive teaching practices.

Teaching in Adult Education Programs

In this course, students will learn about the unique teaching context of adult ESL education programs and how to best serve the needs of adult learners. We will open with an introduction to the differences between first and second language acquisition and reflect on how this affects decision making when teaching adult language learners. We will consider the challenges of teaching in common types of adult ESL programs and ways to approach them. Through the TESOL Standards for adult ESL programs and other resources, students will learn about best practices in teaching adult ESL learners. Students learn how to evaluate texts and materials appropriate for teaching this particular audience.

OR ↕

Teaching English Internationally

English has become the most predominant language through which people communicate, connect, and transact business cross-nationally in the emerging global community of the 21st century. The increased fluidity of international borders, the relative ease of travel, and the advent of multi-national corporations has made the demand for quality English language programs and qualified TESOL instructors higher than ever. This course will provide support to individuals planning to seek international employment as English language instructors and it will help prepare participants for the international teaching experience by considering means of adapting to a new cultural milieu and examining a variety of international teaching contexts. Participants will learn how to go about finding international employment opportunities and will be guided in assessing employment options to acquire an optimum teaching position. Participants will investigate a country of interest to them and will learn how to evaluate international employment contracts.



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