Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), M.S.Ed.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION (http://education.temple.edu)

About the Program

The Master of Science in Education program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) is designed for professionals from a variety of backgrounds and with varied career interests. These include:

- Those interested in teaching positions that do not require state certification, including jobs overseas or in business settings, community agencies, college and university English language institutes, and parochial or other independent elementary and secondary schools.
- Those who are already certified to teach in a public school system in Pennsylvania and want to learn how to better meet the needs of English language learners.
- Those from abroad who desire to develop expertise in teaching English in their native country.

Time Limit for Degree Completion: 4 years

Campus Location: Main

Full-Time/Part-Time Status: Students complete the degree program through classes offered after 4:30 p.m. The degree program can be completed on a full- or part-time basis.

Job Prospects: Graduates are prepared to meet the needs of English language learners both stateside and abroad.

Non-Matriculated Student Policy: Students may take up to, but not more than, 9 credits of graduate study in the program before being admitted to the program. The credits transfer into the program, if the student is admitted. Students completing non-matriculated courses before being admitted to the program are NOT guaranteed admission.

Financing Opportunities: Financial support opportunities may include scholarships, tuition remission, and other financial aid such as grants, loans, and federal work study.

Admission Requirements and Deadlines

Application Deadline:

Fall: March 1
Spring: November 1

Applicants should submit all required admissions documents by the application deadline to receive priority consideration for admission and financial support.

APPLY ONLINE to this graduate program.

Letters of Reference:

Number Required: 2, with a third submitted at the applicant's discretion. Please submit the "Reference Report for Graduate Study," found at http://www.temple.edu/grad/admissions/documents/Web_GRAD_REFERENCE_REPORT.pdf.

From Whom: Letters of recommendation should be obtained from college/university faculty members and others who can provide insight into the applicant's academic competence.

Coursework Required for Admission Consideration: All applicants must present credentials that are the equivalent of the appropriate baccalaureate degree at Temple University.

Bachelor's Degree in Discipline/Related Discipline: A bachelor's degree is required. Applicants who do not meet the 3.0 UGPA requirement may be considered for admission if they meet one of the following exceptions:

1. **Standard exception**: 3.5 UGPA during the last two years AND a minimum of 3.25 Graduate GPA for 9 credits (typically taken as a non-matriculated student in the program prior to application for admission).

2. **Special exception**: Applicants who do not meet regular admission criteria may be considered for a special exception if a compelling case can be made for admission on the basis of some additional source of data.
Statement of Goals: In 500 to 1,000 words, outline your interest in seeking a degree with a specific focus on the career to which you aspire, your interests, and your academic and job-related experiences that are relevant to the program.

Standardized Test Scores:
For applicants whose native language is not English, the TOEFL or IELTS exam is required:
TOEFL score: 100 iBT or 600 PBT minimum
IELTS score: 7 minimum

Resume: Current resume required.

Program Requirements

General Program Requirements:
Number of Credits Required Beyond the Baccalaureate: 31

Required Courses:

Core Courses
- TESL 5611 Applied Language Study I: Assessment of English Learners’ Language and Literacy Development 3
- TESL 5612 Applied Language Study II 3
- TESL 5614 Approaches to Teaching English Language Learners 3
- TESL 5616 Teaching Second/Foreign Language Skills: Curriculum and Assessment in TESOL 3
- TESL 5618 Second Language Acquisition 3
- TESL 5621 Contexts for Teaching and Learning Language 3

TESOL Electives
Select a minimum of two TESOL electives from these approved courses: 1
- ENES 8654 Issues in Eng Ed-S
- ENES 8734 Discourse Analysis Tchrs
- ENES 8744 Current Issues Lang Educ
- TESL 8625 Applied Linguistics
- TESL 8626 Second Language Writing
- TESL 8634 Bilingualism and Bilingual Education
- TESL 8635 Educating English Language Learners: State of Knowledge
- TESL 8636 Assessment of English Language Learners
- TESL 8643 Research Methods in Applied Linguistics
- TESL 8644 Current Issues in Applied Linguistics

Non-TESOL Electives 2
- 6

Non-Didactic Course
EDUC 9993 Master’s Comprehensive Examination 1

Total Credit Hours 31

1 With advisor approval, other appropriate courses may be taken. Students may also choose to take more than two TESOL electives, thus requiring fewer non-TESOL electives.
2 To fulfill this requirement, courses may be taken either within the College of Education or in other schools/colleges at Temple University. Non-TESOL electives are recommended to be taken in, but are not limited to, such fields as Anthropology, Educational Media, Educational Sociology, English, Foreign Language Education, Linguistics, Literacy, Secondary Education, and Urban Education.

Culminating Events:
Comprehensive Examination:
In order to take the comprehensive exam, the student must remain in good academic standing. Thus, the student cannot accumulate more than two grades below "B-" or one "F" and must maintain at least a 3.0 grade point average.

Contacts
Program Web Address:
http://education.temple.edu/tesol/masters
Department Information:
Dept. of Teaching and Learning
College of Education
1301 Cecil B. Moore Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19122-6091
educate@temple.edu
215-204-0999

Submission Address for Application Materials:
http://apply.temple.edu/coe

Department Contacts:
Admissions:
Office of Enrollment Management
educate@temple.edu
215-204-0999

Courses
TESL 5611. Applied Language Study I: Assessment of English Learners' Language and Literacy Development. 3 Credit Hours.
The purpose of this course is to introduce current and future teachers to the structure of the English phonology and the lexicon and to familiarize them with the key principles of language teaching and diagnostic assessment in these areas. The practicum component of the course gives students an opportunity to apply this theoretical knowledge to practice and to conduct hands-on analysis of an individual learner's pronunciation and vocabulary.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5612. Applied Language Study II. 3 Credit Hours.
The purpose of the course is to introduce current and future teachers to the structure of the English grammar and to the concepts of interactional and narrative competence. The practicum component of the course gives students an opportunity to apply this theoretical knowledge to practice and to conduct hands-on analysis of an individual learner's grammar and discourse.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5613. Understanding English Language Learners' Language and Literacy Development. 3 Credit Hours.
This course focuses specifically on the academic language needed for ELLs to be successful in U.S. schools. The course begins with an emphasis on foundational knowledge of language structures (i.e. English phonology, morphology and syntax) as well as a thorough review of key theories and principles in first and second language acquisition. The course also looks at the particular issues faced by students at different points in their education: elementary, middle and high school and the role of literacy in the content areas. With this, students will understand the complexities of reading and writing development in more than one language.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5614. Approaches to Teaching English Language Learners. 3 Credit Hours.
The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the most current methods in teaching English as a second language and English as a foreign language. The course is a hands-on course that provides many practical strategies and ideas for how to teach an effective language lesson. Students will be offered multiple opportunities to apply and reflect upon particular approaches. Course activities include lectures, discussions, small-group activities, and poster writing. Students are expected to write multiple lesson plans and share videotapes of their teaching with their classmates. The emphasis is to start where each student is and take them to the next level of professionalism as a language teacher.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
TESL 5616. Teaching Second/Foreign Language Skills: Curriculum and Assessment in TESOL. 3 Credit Hours.
This course will guide you in understanding and applying principles of curriculum design and teacher-based assessment. Course readings, assignments and class discussions will guide you through thinking about how to best teach English language learners by adapting a curriculum that has been handed to you (i.e. a mandated curriculum), by building upon existing curricula in your instructional setting, or by creating a curriculum from scratch. In this course, curriculum is conceived of as an instructional process which includes planning, instructing and assessing. A foundational idea in this course is that assessment can and should be integrated into instruction. As such, you will learn how to sequence instruction in response to students’ performance on a variety of authentic assessments. You will also learn approaches to environment and needs analysis and will experience how these analyses can inform teaching and curriculum design. Toward the end of the course, the Continua of Biliteracy will be used as an organizing framework that will guide you toward taking a critical stance when reflecting upon the curriculum you have created.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5618. Second Language Acquisition. 3 Credit Hours.
The purpose of this course is to introduce key concepts in second language acquisition (SLA) and to survey state-of-the-art findings and current debates about linguistic, neurolinguistic, cognitive, affective, and social aspects of second language learning and use. Classroom discussions focus on understanding SLA concepts on linking theories and empirical research to classroom practice. This course serves as a precursor to the Master's comprehensive exam.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5621. Contexts for Teaching and Learning Language. 3 Credit Hours.
In this course, we explore sociocultural and political dimensions of language learning and teaching. Learning a language is not a politically neutral enterprise: Who is encouraged to learn a language and who is prevented from accessing linguistic resources are closely related to issues of power. By focusing on sociocultural, political, racial, and economic perspectives, the course emphasizes the interplay between the macro-level relations of power in society and the micro-level experiences of language learners. In other words, we are in the business of taking a critical look at why language learning is encouraged and valued in certain situations while it is discouraged and marginalized in other situations. We will draw on language learning situations both in the U.S. and in international contexts.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 5631. Foundations of Language Teaching: Meeting the Needs of English Language Learners. 3 Credit Hours.
This course offers students an introduction to theory, research and practice in teaching English language learners in the elementary, middle and secondary grades. The course begins with an overview of sociocultural characteristics of ELLs, legal responsibilities, and educational and language policies in the United States. Students will also learn the basic theories and principles associated with second language acquisition. Students will explore the philosophies of bilingual and ESL education as well as different program models that address the education of linguistically diverse students. Students will be introduced to an array of contemporary, research-based instructional approaches, including content-based instruction, task-based language teaching, and sheltered English instruction. As a result, they will gain an understanding of how to adapt standards-based lessons for English language learners. Through a practicum component, students will learn to design lessons and assessments for small-group instruction. Students will also develop cross-cultural competence through interactions with ELLs, teachers and school staff. NOTE: This course is only for students in the Post-Baccalaureate Program, the Graduate Certification Program and the ESL Certificate Program.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8625. Applied Linguistics. 3 Credit Hours.
Applied Linguistics is a 3-credit graduate-level course whose goal is to provide an overview of themes and topics in applied linguistics, to highlight current debates and controversies, and to make students more informed research consumers and better academic writers. Discussions will cover a wide range of areas where applied linguists conduct research on language, including but not limited to advertising, business, economy, education, healthcare, landscape, law, military, politics, and religion.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.
TESL 8626. Second Language Writing. 3 Credit Hours.
Second Language Writing is a 3-credit graduate-level course that introduces students to the teaching and learning of Second-Language Writing through the exploration of major issues in the theory, research and pedagogy. Students will learn about the scope of Second-Language Writing as a field and engage in theoretical debates about teaching second-language writers and practical responses to these debates. Students will also investigate and reflect upon their own writing processes and products, and will also conduct an investigation of a second-language writer. The course will focus on the social nature of writing as well as the nature of writing as a cognitive process. Additional topics to be studied include revision, intercultural rhetoric, plagiarism and textual borrowing, responding to and assessing student writing, reading-writing connections, and grammar feedback. This course will help students learn how to responsibly address the needs of second language writers in ESL and EFL contexts as well as university-level and K-12 contexts.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8634. Bilingualism and Bilingual Education. 3 Credit Hours.
Bilingualism and Bilingual Education is a 3-credit graduate-level course designed to introduce students to a range of perspectives on bilingualism and bilingual education, addressing both psycholinguistic aspects of bilingual development and sociocultural and political dimensions of educating bilingual students. Discussion topics will include: infant bilingualism; family language policy; code-switching; bilingualism and cognition; the impact of bilingualism on individuals’ identity; politics of bilingual education; immersion education; heritage language maintenance; third language acquisition, and bilingualism and deaf education.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8635. Educating English Language Learners: State of Knowledge. 3 Credit Hours.
Educating English Language Learners (ELLs) is a 3-credit graduate-level course designed to critically examine the state of knowledge on ELL education. Discussion topics will include: politics of ELL education, ELLs’ oral language development, literacy development, content instruction, assessment, first language maintenance, college access and success, and use of technology in ELL education.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8636. Assessment of English Language Learners. 3 Credit Hours.
Assessment of English Language Learners is a 3-credit course designed to cover a broad range of language assessment issues. The goal is to provide teachers of English as a second or foreign language with a basic foundation in language assessment issues; the knowledge to be able to critique language assessment instruments currently in use; and the tools to create valid classroom tests that not only reliably measure student achievement and proficiency, but also can serve to help guide instructional decisions.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8643. Research Methods in Applied Linguistics. 3 Credit Hours.
Research Methods in Applied Linguistics is a 3-credit graduate-level course designed to familiarize students with a representative array of research methods used in the field of applied linguistics. Using concrete examples, the course will introduce students to basic principles of research design and methods of data collection and analysis from a variety of perspectives. Students will also be required to design, conduct, and write up an original research study.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.

TESL 8644. Current Issues in Applied Linguistics. 3 Credit Hours.
Current Issues in Applied Linguistics is a 3-credit doctoral-level seminar designed to introduce students to cutting-edge research in the fields of applied linguistics, TESOL, and second/foreign language education.

Level Registration Restrictions: Must be enrolled in one of the following Levels: Graduate.

Repeatability: This course may not be repeated for additional credits.