

Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) Certificate

English Department, CSUSB

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Introduction to the TESL Certificate

1. The English Department is now offering a TESL Certificate. The Certificate will appear in the 2011-2012 University *Bulletin*; however, students can take courses now for the Certificate and file for the Certificate in their last quarter of Certificate coursework.
2. The TESL Certificate coursework prepares students for EFL/ESL teaching positions overseas and in the U.S. The Certificate also serves secondary school teachers who wish to become more effective in teaching English learners, as well as students who are interested in pursuing further graduate study in linguistics, applied linguistics and/or TESL.
3. The Certificate coursework (see below) includes both undergraduate linguistics courses (i.e., 300-500 level courses) as well as graduate courses (i.e., 500-600 level courses). Students who complete some of the coursework as undergraduates can use this coursework toward the Certificate; alternatively, students can take all of the Certificate coursework as postbaccalaureate students.
4. In order to *complete* the Certificate, students must have postbaccalaureate standing. That is, they must have completed a Bachelor's degree and be a postbaccalaureate student at CSUSB (i.e., be in a Master's program, Credential program, or Certificate program). However, as noted above, undergraduate students are eligible to take the 300-500 level courses in the Certificate. In addition, they may begin to take 600-level coursework in the final quarter of their senior year if they have fewer than 16 quarter units needed to graduate and they do not use the 600-level courses toward their BA; undergraduate students must complete a petition to take 600-level courses from the Office of Records, Registration and Evaluations. Students may complete their remaining Certificate coursework once they are a postbaccalaureate student at CSUSB.
5. Master's or Credential students may complete the Certificate while they are completing their Masters or Credential. If students later decide to complete the MA in English Composition—Applied Linguistics & TESL Concentration, they may also use at least some of the applicable coursework from the Certificate toward the MA degree (if students file for the Certificate before completing the MA, they may need to petition to have more than 12 Certificate units apply toward the MA.). Students in the MA in English Composition--Composition or Literature concentration may also wish to complete the TESL Certificate and thus gain versatility in their subject matter expertise and future career options.

Admission to the TESL Certificate

1. Postbaccalaureate standing; (i.e., completion of a Bachelor's degree), although students may take some of the Certificate coursework prior to completing a Bachelor's degree (see 3. above).
2. A minimum grade point average of 3.0 in undergraduate upper division coursework;

3. For students who do *not* possess a bachelor's degree from a postsecondary institution in a country where English is the principal language of instruction, a minimum score of 575 (computer-based score of 233; internet-based score of 90) on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)
4. Completion of ENG 311 (The English Language) with a grade of "B" (3.0) or better.
5. Students who are already enrolled in a CSUSB Credential or Master's program do not need to complete an application for admission to the Certificate; if they have met the admission requirements 1-4 above, they may begin taking the Certificate coursework. Students who are *not* enrolled in a CSUSB Credential or Master's program, can apply for admission to the TESL Certificate through the CSU Mentor website.

Requirements for the Certificate

1. Completion of the certificate coursework with a minimum grade point average of 3.0;
2. Completion of the certificate within a seven-year period. Students who have taken any required course that expires because it exceeds the seven year limitation will be required to retake the course or its equivalent, as designated by the English Department graduate coordinator. Petitions to waive this requirement will not be approved.

Certificate Coursework (30 units)

1. ENG 312. Theories of Language Acquisition and Learning (4)
2. ENG 420. English Grammar I (4)
3. ENG 524. Sociolinguistics (4)
4. ENG 619. Second Language Acquisition (4)
5. Four units chosen from:
 - ENG 625. TESL Methods and Materials for Speaking and Listening (4)
 - ENG 626. TESL Methods and Materials for Reading and Writing (4)
6. ENG 664. Internship in ESL Teaching (2)
7. Eight units chosen from:
 - ENG 523. English Grammar II (4)
 - ENG 615. Discourse Analysis: Theories and Applications (4)
 - ENG 616. Contrastive Rhetoric (4)
 - ENG 617. Linguistic Pragmatics (4)
 - ENG 625. TESL Methods and Materials for Speaking and Listening (4) if not used in category 5
 - ENG 626. TESL Methods and Materials for Reading and Writing (4) if not used in category 5

Filing for the Certificate

While still enrolled at CSUSB, a student must file an application for granting the Certificate with the Office of Records, Registration and Evaluations. The awarding of the certificate will be noted on the student's transcript.

More Information

Contact the [Applied Linguistics and TESL Coordinator](#).