

# TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES, GRADUATE/PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATE

**Admissions to the Teaching English To Speakers of Other Languages Graduate/Professional Certificate have been suspended as of fall 2025 and will be discontinued as of fall 2030. If you have any questions, please contact the department.**

English is now the international language of the world, indispensable for those working in business and the professions, science and technology, and virtually all fields of education. The demand for learning English continues to be high in almost every region of the world; in addition, there continues to be a large number of immigrants in the United States who require instruction in English as a second language. The need for qualified teachers of English to speakers of other languages, both for adults and for school-age children, remains urgent. Since 1968, the Department of English, through its Programs in English Linguistics, has offered a certificate in TESOL designed to provide academic and pedagogical preparation for prospective ESL/EFL teachers.

A Certificate in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) is offered as a graduate version and undergraduate version (including University Special students who have completed an undergraduate degree) for those who wish to teach English as a foreign or second language, normally in positions abroad.

## ADMISSIONS

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**Graduate** students must utilize the **Graduate Student Portal (<https://my.grad.wisc.edu/>)** in **MyUW** to add, change, or discontinue any doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. To apply to this certificate, log in to **MyUW**, click on **Graduate Student Portal**, and then click on Add/Change Programs. Select the information for the graduate/professional certificate for which you are applying. Professional students in the careers of Law, Medicine, Pharmacy, and Veterinary must contact the Program for information on how to apply.

- Student Status. Enrollment in any one of the required certificate courses along with enrollment in a graduate degree program at UW–Madison.
- Foreign Language. Satisfactorily complete at least four college-level terms (or the equivalent, such as four years in high school) of a modern foreign language, including its spoken form. For nonnative English speakers, English is considered the foreign language.

- Demonstrate English proficiency of spoken and written English commensurate with the role of language model. Nonnative English speakers must have a score of at least:
  - 50 on the SPEAK test (<https://esl.wisc.edu/ita-training/speak/>) **or**
  - 26 on the iBt speaking section, with an overall score of 100 on the iBt **or**
  - 600 on the paper version of TOEFL **or**
  - 7 on IELTS (<https://esl.wisc.edu/testinginformation/#ielts>).

## REQUIREMENTS

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#### GRADE REQUIREMENTS

- A grade point average of 3.0 in all required courses except ENGL 613–ENGL 618, which are graded as Credit/No Credit

#### PREREQUISITE COURSES (CAN BE TAKEN AT ANY TIME)

Code	Title	Credits
<b>Foundational Courses</b>		
ENGL 314	Structure of English	3
ENGL 315	English Phonology	3
ENGL 318	Second Language Acquisition	3
<b>Courses on Social Perspectives on English</b>		
Select one of the following:		3
ENGL 316	English Language Variation in the U.S.	
ENGL 414	Global Spread of English	
ENGL 416	English in Society	
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>12</b>

#### REQUIRED COURSES

- 9 credits of required graduate-level courses listed below along with all prerequisites and language requirements.
  - Must be taken for graduate credit
- Teaching practice: This requirement is normally fulfilled by completion of ENGL 515.
- All requirements for the certificate in TESOL must be satisfied within three successive academic years.
- Nonnative English speakers must take the SPEAK test (<https://esl.wisc.edu/ita-training/speak/>) and receive a score of 50 or higher (or take a comparable test as mentioned in "admissions requirements" above).

Code	Title	Credits
<b>TESOL Foundation Course</b>		
ENGL 415	Introduction to TESOL Methods	3
<b>Courses on Second Language Teaching</b>		
ENGL 515	Techniques and Materials for TESOL	3
Select three of the following:		3
ENGL 613	TESOL: Pedagogical Grammar I	
ENGL 614	TESOL: Pedagogical Grammar II	
ENGL 615	TESOL: Teaching Listening and Speaking	

ENGL 616	TESOL: Teaching of Reading
ENGL 617	TESOL: Teaching of Writing
ENGL 618	TESOL: Teaching Pronunciation

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**Total Credits** **9**

## LEARNING OUTCOMES

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1. Demonstrate knowledge of the historical trends in English language teaching, its theoretical underpinnings, and the role of English in society and as an international language.
2. Gain mastery of the sound and grammatical systems of English.
3. Understand and apply fundamental principles in the teaching of reading, writing, listening and speaking.
4. Understand and appreciate the importance of the principles of second language acquisition as related to the teaching of English to speakers of other languages.
5. Construct and execute well-crafted lesson plans including a week-long teaching unit