

Learning Outcomes

In the first core course which focus specifically on English language teaching, students are given an extensive introduction to the fundamentals of TESOL, its evolution as a field over the past century, and a thorough account of the current best practices in the industry. You will also be exposed to, and gain practice with, the fundamental skills needed in teaching second language learners. Students gain initial practical experience in and application of TESOL methodology in two ways. First, students are assigned to complete up to 15 hours of tutoring throughout the semester with an ESL learner in the community. Second, students create and then lead lesson warm-ups and activities demonstrations.

After completing LINGUIS 565/767 “Introduction to TESOL Methods”, students will be able to:

- Demonstrate a developing knowledge of the historical development of second language teaching approaches and the sociopolitical context of English as a world language
- Understand the theoretical basis underlying appropriate course design for various populations
- Implement a variety of approaches and techniques for teaching language skills

Following from this, students develop a more comprehensive understanding of sound methodological approaches that can be used in the teaching of reading, writing, grammar, and listening/speaking to ESL/EFL learners. This course will delve deeper into the fundamental principles and teaching practices in L2 language learning. This provides enrollees in the program with well-rounded exposure to some of the most thoroughly tested and well-proven pedagogical techniques in language teaching to date.

Students who complete LINGUIS 410 “Methodologies in English Language Teaching” will be able to:

- Develop a further understanding of the major methodologies used in teaching second languages
- Employ a variety of classroom techniques for developing English language skills
- Enhance their instructional planning skills by moving beyond planning a series of activities to develop a full lesson which incorporates a variety of modalities



Speak - spoke - spoken
see - saw - seen
go - went - gone
be - was / were - been
buy - bought - bought
write - wrote -

Competent TESOL teachers must also be versatile with regard to the materials they use in the ESL/EFL classroom. As such, students in the program spend a semester familiarizing themselves with materials development and adaptation in all areas of English language teaching. This experience provides the skills necessary to select appropriate coursebooks for your future students, and the ability to create your own authentic materials or modify and build off of materials given to you in the institutions where you are likely to be employed.

Students who finish LINGUIS 567 “Materials for ESL Instruction” will be able to:

- Recognize and identify the crucial role of materials in curriculum development and lesson planning
- Describe and extend the theoretical underpinnings and motivations for sound materials design
- Evaluate the effectiveness of a number of different materials and coursebooks in popular use
- Adapt and develop learning materials in all language teaching modalities for a variety of purposes

In the final pedagogically oriented course in the program, students take part in a semester long teaching practicum at one of several participating teaching institutions in the Milwaukee area. Here, you will gain some initial experience in teaching ESL by being paired with a professional ESL instructor in the community. You will be given the opportunity to observe and then lead activities in the class. As you gain confidence, you will eventually take full control of the course, develop your own lesson plans and activities, and finish out the semester as an experienced instructor.

At the end of LINGUIS 789 “Practicum in Teaching ESL to Adult Learners”, students will be able to:

- Synthesize and apply methodological principles learned in previous program courses
- Model best practices in English language teaching by observing and learning from the teaching of experienced professionals in the field
- Formulate and then implement a variety of lesson plans and activities for your assigned learners
- Assess the effectiveness of your teaching approaches by critically reflecting on your performance
- Construct a TESOL materials project based on sound theoretical and pedagogical anchors

We here in the TESOL program have designed the curriculum in such a way that, at the end of the program, students will be well-prepared to teach with confidence in a number of modalities and in a variety of different locales and venues both domestically and around the world.

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