



Course Syllabus

Course Description

This 120-hour introductory course aims to provide the requisite mix of language teaching theory and practical teaching knowledge that allows new teachers to step into an English language classroom overseas with confidence. The course of study begins with background theory and issues in language teaching before proceeding to more practical teaching skills such as lesson planning, classroom skills, and classroom management. From there, students are given an overview of the components of the major language skills so they can understand, utilize, create and adapt lessons to meet the language levels and needs of their students.

Assignments & Evaluation

Course Length: 120 hours

Modules: 19 modules

Schedule: Self-paced

Certificate: Certificate of Completion

Course Materials

All course materials are created specifically for this course.

Resources:

- All resources are included in the Learning Management System (LMS).
- No additional resources required, unless specified
- Students are encouraged to do additional research outside of the course



Technical Support

For technical support regarding the course, please [contact TEFL Support](#).

Assessments

Various assessments within the course are used to test students' knowledge of what they have learned within the modules as well as reflect on their own experiences and reasons for wanting to teach abroad.

Course assessments include the following:

Module Assignments: Modules 1 to 13 include a mandatory assignment at the end of each module. These assignments are graded and require a passing grade of 100% in order to move onto the assessment for the module. Grading takes place Monday to Friday at 9am and 5pm EST.

Module Reflections: Modules 14 to 19 include mandatory reflections that require students to reflect on what they've learned within the module. Reflections are due at the end of each module. Students must receive a passing grade of 100% in order to continue with their learning. Grading takes place Monday to Friday at 9am and 5pm EST.

Module Assessments: Each module includes a final assessment that requires students to reflect on what they've learned throughout the module. All questions are pulled from practice assessments used throughout the module. Students must receive a minimum of 70% in order to continue with their learning.



Course Breakdown

Core Modules

Module 1: Introduction to Teaching English as a Foreign Language

Approximate length: 10 hours

Lesson 1: Contexts for Learning English

Lesson 2: Cultural Educational and Linguistic Backgrounds

Lesson 3: Introduction to Second Language Acquisition (SLA)

Lesson 4: Multiple Intelligences and Learning Styles

Lesson 5: Common Teaching Approaches

Description

This module aims to provide teachers with an understanding of the effects that varying motivations, backgrounds and contexts have on learning, as well as to cover common approaches and methodologies used in the classroom.

Key Content Areas

1. Contexts for learning English
2. Cultural, educational, and linguistic backgrounds
3. Second language acquisition
4. Learning styles
5. Common teaching approaches

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Graded multiple choice exam

Modules 2: Components of Language



Approximate length: 5 hours

Lesson 1: Components of Language

Lesson 2: The Role of Lexis, Grammar, Syntax, Phonology, and Pragmatics in the Classroom

Lesson 3: First Language Transfer

Lesson 4: Developing Knowledge of Language

Description

This module introduces teachers to basic concepts and terminology used in language teaching to help form a baseline knowledge of language awareness and analysis.

Key Content Areas

1. Basic TEFL concepts and terminology
2. Role of lexis, grammar, syntax and phonology in the classroom
3. First language transfer and its significance in the classroom
4. Developing your learners' knowledge of language

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Graded multiple choice exam

Module 3: The Role of Teachers

Approximate length: 5 hours

Lesson 1: The Role of Teachers

Lesson 2: Differences Between Adult and Young Learners

Lesson 3: Universal Design for Learning

Lesson 4: Maximizing Learning Through Scaffolding

Description

This module will discuss teaching and education basics for new teachers and provide them with a grounding in modern student-centered approaches to teaching, as well as universal design for learning principles.

Key Content Areas

1. Teacher's role as facilitator, mediator and knowledge source when teaching adult and young learners of English
2. Learner differences between adults and young learners
3. Universal design for learning
4. Maximizing learning effectiveness through scaffolding

Assessment



- Written assignment (reflective)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 4: Lesson Planning Foundations

Approximate length: 10 hours

Lesson 1: Lesson Planning Foundations

Lesson 2: Lesson Planning for Adults

Lesson 3: Lesson Planning for Young Learners

Lesson 4: Planning for Instruction and Classroom Procedure

Lesson 5: Evaluating Lesson Plans

Description

This module provides teachers with the knowledge and practice to effectively plan and evaluate language lessons.

Key Content Areas

1. Lesson planning principles
2. Lesson planning for adults
3. Lesson planning for young learners
4. Planning for instruction and classroom procedure
5. Evaluating lesson plans

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (lesson planning)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 5: Effective Classroom Skills and Management

Approximate length: 10 hours

Lesson 1: Establishing Norms and Organizing Your Classroom for Effective Lessons

Lesson 2: Before, During, After Classroom Management Frameworks

Lesson 3: Classroom Language

Lesson 4: Instructional Components of Classroom Management

Lesson 5: Professional Development

Description



This module aims to provide teachers with the necessary classroom management and organizational skills that will allow them to be an effective instructor and maximize learning time in each lesson.

Key Content Areas

1. Establishing norms and organizing your classroom for effective lessons
2. Before-During-After classroom management frameworks
3. Classroom language
4. Instructional components of classroom management
5. Assessment for learning
6. Professional development

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (professional development plan)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 6: Teaching Reading

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Elements of Speaking

Lesson 2: Classroom Speaking Activities

Lesson 3: Developing Speaking Activities

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching reading to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Basic concepts for reading skills
2. Literacy components of reading (subskills and helping learners decipher meaning)
3. Types of reading and their features
4. Sequencing reading lessons and activities
5. Common reading activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment



Module 7: Teaching Listening

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Intensive and Extensive Listening

Lesson 2: Sequencing Listening Activities

Lesson 3: Developing Listening Activities

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching listening to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Basic concepts for listening skills
2. Types of listening and their features
3. Common listening barriers and reducing affect
4. Pre/during/post listening strategies
5. Common listening activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 8: Teaching Writing

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Intensive Reading Strategies

Lesson 2: Extensive Reading Strategies

Lesson 3: Sequencing Reading Lessons

Lesson 4: Activities for Teaching Reading Strategies

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching writing to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Basic concepts for writing skills
2. Literacy components of writing (subskills, spelling, punctuation, etc.)
3. Types of reading and their features
4. Sequencing writing activities



5. Common writing activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 9: Teaching Grammar

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Approaches to Writing and Writing Instruction

Lesson 2: Components of Writing

Lesson 3: Structuring a Writing Lesson

Lesson 4: Activities to Use in Class

Description

This module will (re)introduce teachers to key grammatical concepts and provide them with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching grammar to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Approaches to teaching grammar
2. Tense and aspect
3. Syntax and text construction (parts of speech, clauses, sentences, etc.)
4. Common grammatical focuses (count/non-count, conditionals, modality, finite/non-finite, etc.)
5. Common grammar activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 10: Teaching Speaking

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Teaching Grammar Skills in the Classroom

Lesson 2: Teaching Verbs and Tenses



Lesson 3: Teaching Clauses, Sentences, and Other Parts of Speech

Lesson 4: Grammar Games

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching speaking to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Basic concepts for speaking skills
2. Features of spoken English
3. Common language functions of speaking
4. Sequencing speaking lessons and activities
5. Common speaking activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 11: Resources, Games and Materials

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Issues of Learning and Teaching Vocabulary

Lesson 2: English Vocabulary Features

Lesson 3: Practicing Vocabulary

Lesson 4: Developing Vocabulary Activities

Description

This module will highlight best practices for supplementing lessons with ancillary resources, and provide teachers with the tools to adapt and create their own resources.

Key Content Areas

1. Selecting and evaluating materials
2. Adapting materials
3. Sources of materials
4. Techniques for developing your own resources

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment



Module 12: Teaching Pronunciation

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Features of Speech and Teaching Challenges

Lesson 2: Speech Sounds and Stress

Lesson 3: Integrating Pronunciation Instruction

Lesson 4: Pronunciation Instruction Techniques

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching pronunciation to English language learners.

Key Content Areas

1. Features of speech (articulate, phonemes, etc.)
2. Connected speech
3. Teaching sounds (vowels, consonants, diphthongs, etc.)
4. Stress and intonation
5. Techniques for teaching pronunciation
6. Common pronunciation techniques

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

Module 13: Teaching Vocabulary

Approximate length: 7.5 hours

Lesson 1: Resource Types

Lesson 2: Language Games and Activities

Lesson 3: Creating Your Own Games and Activities

Lesson 4: Best Practices for Adapting and Scaffolding

Description

This module will provide teachers with the requisite knowledge of the concepts, features and best practices behind effective practices for teaching vocabulary to English language learners.

Key Content Areas



1. Word classes, families, and formation
2. How words are learned and practical applications in the classroom
3. Techniques for presenting vocabulary, word parts and word chunks in the classroom
4. Testing vocabulary
5. Common vocabulary activities

Assessment

- Written assignment (reflective)
- Written assignment (activity development and evaluation)
- Graded multiple choice assessment

International Teaching and Global Effectiveness

Module 14: Humans and Culture

Approximate length: 4 hours

Lesson 1: The Unreliable Human Brain

Lesson 2: How the Human Brain Responds to Difference

Lesson 3: How Culture Conditions the Brain

Lesson 4: Models for Effective Intercultural Engagement

Assessments:

- Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

1. Experience how unreliable human perception is and the neuroscience of difference
2. Understand how culture shapes perception
3. Understand how our own identities are shaped by the cultures we belong to
4. Develop skill/strategies for managing our amygdala and negative emotional reactions to difference

Module 15: Navigating the Intercultural Development Continuum



Approximate length: 4 hours

Lesson 1: Navigating the IDC

Lesson 2: The Five Stages of the IDC

Lesson 3: The IDC and You

Assessments:

- Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

1. Describe the difference between a monocultural and intercultural mindset
2. Describe the five stages of the Intercultural Development Continuum
3. Learn how understanding cultural values can help you effectively adapt to a new culture
4. Provide extra examples of how to develop through the stages of the continuum
5. Identify strengths and opportunities for growth of each stage of the IDC

Module 16: The DIVER Tool

Approximate length: 3 hours

Lesson 1: Describing, Interpreting, and Evaluating

Lesson 2: The Importance of Verifying

Lesson 3: Using DIVER to Avoid Stereotypes

Assessments:

- Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

1. Define and differentiate between the terms *describe*, *interpret*, and *evaluate*
2. Explain the importance of verifying interpretations and evaluations before taking action
3. Brainstorm how to verify your own interpretations and evaluations

Module 17: Effectiveness in the Classroom



Approximate length: 3 hours

Lesson 1: Effectiveness in the Classroom

Lesson 2: Leadership Styles in Action

Lesson 3: Building the Bridge

Assessments:

- Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

1. Gain self-awareness of your own preferences for how to be motivated into action
2. Recognize how differences in the ways people are motivated might show up in your classroom and workplace
3. Develop strategies to effectively bridge to these differences in the classroom and beyond

Module 18: Effectiveness in the Classroom Part 2

Approximate length: 3 hours

Lesson 1: Cultural Dimensions

Lesson 2: Cultural Dimensions in Action

Lesson 3: Cultural Dimensions and You

Assessments:

1. Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

2. Gain self-awareness of your own preferences for how to be motivated into action
3. Recognize how differences in the ways people are motivated might show up in your classroom and workplace
4. Develop strategies to effectively bridge to these differences in the classroom and beyond

Module 19: Facing Complex Power Dynamics

Approximate length: 3 hours



Lesson 1: Your Cultural Toolkit

Lesson 2: Understanding Unearned Advantages

Lesson 3: How to Avoid an Us vs Them Mentality

Assessments:

- Written reflections

By the end of this module, you will:

1. Understand the unearned advantages that you might have coming from a highly developed Western country, and the potential impact of these advantages on the classroom and your host culture.
2. Recognize the potential impact of unearned advantages on members of the host culture, and recognize your role as an ambassador of your country in the local community.
3. Develop strategies for most effectively managing the challenges of different power dynamics during your time abroad — both in the moment and after the fact — in order to build, maintain, or strengthen relations with members of the host culture.