

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES**M.A.-TESOL PROGRAM**

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Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages: TESOL (M.A.)

Bringing together knowledge and skill from linguistics, education, humanities, and the social sciences, the Seattle Pacific University M.A.-TESOL program will prepare you for leadership and service in the field of teaching English as a second or foreign language. Close interaction with faculty committed to excellence in teaching and scholarship is integrated with active involvement in the ESL community. A low faculty-to-student ratio is a hallmark of the program, which offers the following:

- Theory made practical.
- Balance between academic preparation and teacher training.
- Strong emphasis on ethical and intercultural sensitivity.
- Practica to ensure your success and confidence in the classroom.

DEGREE DESCRIPTION

The M.A.-TESOL program, begun in 1993, is rooted in a four-strand approach. The first strand, academic preparation, includes courses in phonology, morphology, syntax, and second-language acquisition. The second strand, pedagogy, includes methods courses that serve as a bridge between theory and practice. The third strand, practica, includes a language-learning practicum in which students reflect on the frustrations and rewards of learning another language. This strand also includes a two-quarter teaching phase during which students near the end of their program are placed with seasoned “host teachers” for classroom observation and teaching experience. The fourth strand, electives, gives students a chance to explore individual interests in the TESOL field, including courses in technology. The M.A.-TESOL program is 54 credits.

SCHEDULING

The 3-credit courses generally meet once a week for three hours. TESOL courses are usually held during afternoon and evening hours, Monday through Thursday. This makes full- or part-time employment possible. Students are also free to take only one or two courses per quarter as other obligations must be met, or to take up to 9 credits per quarter. All coursework must be completed within six years.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

1. Hold a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university, or its equivalent.
2. Submit letters of recommendation from at least two people. The letters submitted must come from unrelated individuals familiar with the applicant's intended field of study.
3. Submit an official copy of transcripts from the college or university that granted the bachelor's degree and any institution attended since that time.
4. Present a GPA of at least 3.0 (4.0=A) in the last 45 quarter credits of coursework completed before applying for admission or in all undergraduate work, whichever is higher.
5. Present an acceptable score on the appropriate entrance examination (for GRE, a minimum score of 500 on the verbal portion and 3.5 on the analytical writing portion; for MAT, a minimum of 35).
6. Submit an essay in response to questions provided in the application packet.
7. Provide proof of English proficiency if English is not the first language (TOEFL paper-based score of at least 600 or 250 on the computer-based test.)
8. Provide an affidavit of support reflecting financial support covering each year of intended enrollment if the applicant is not a citizen or permanent resident of the United States.
9. Complete an application for the M.A.-TESOL program and include the \$50 application fee.

Students may enter the program at the beginning of any quarter. The completed application packet must arrive in the M.A.-TESOL office by the applicable deadline below for admission to that quarter:

QUARTER APPLICATION DEADLINE

Autumn	August 1
Winter	December 1
Spring	March 1
Summer	May 1

PROGRAM CURRICULUM

Our program prepares you to teach in colleges and universities, and in various language institutes within the United States and abroad. The program may be completed in six quarters of full-time coursework. Practica scheduling and other considerations may extend this period.

PREREQUISITES

Proficiency in a foreign language equivalent to at least one year's study at the college level and one or more basic courses in linguistic theory (e.g., LIN 2100) are required. With the approval of the program director, these courses may be taken concurrently with the master's coursework as the program is begun.

Students wishing to apply coursework completed prior to application must provide applicable transcript data; students may transfer up to 12 comparable graduate credits into the SPU program.

M.A.-TESOL DEGREE (54 CREDITS)

Academic Preparation (18 credits)

LIN 6145 Phonology (3)
 LIN 6150 Morphology (3)
 LIN 6410 Syntax (3)
 LIN 6200 Second Language Acquisition (3)
 TESL 6650 Professional Issues and Ethics (3)
 TESL 6070 Comparative Religion (3)

Pedagogy (21 credits)

LIN 6365 Methodology of Foreign Language Teaching (3)
 TESL 6250 Testing and Curriculum Development (3)
 TESL 6300 Technology in Language Teaching (3)
 TESL 6400 Teaching ESL Grammar (3)
 TESL 6480 Teaching ESL Reading (3)
 TESL 6500 Teaching Listening and Speaking (3)
 TESL 6581 Teaching ESL Writing (3)

Electives (6 credits)

Select from the following:
 COM 6180 Cultural Communication (3)
 LIN 6601 History of the English Language (3)
 LIN 6300 Historical Linguistics (3)
 LIN 6400 Comparative Syntax (3)
 TESL 6950 Intensive Grammar (3)
 EDU 6085 Values and Ethics in Education (3)

Practicum (3 courses/9 credits)

TESL 6930 Language Learning Practicum
 TESL 6940 Teaching Practicum Phase I
 TESL 6941 Teaching Practicum Phase II

PRE-MA-TESOL LINGUISTICS COURSE WAIVER POLICY

The Academic Preparation required courses LIN 6145 Phonology, LIN 6150 Morphology, and LIN 6410 Syntax constitute the “common body of knowledge” foundational to the program. Students who have covered some or all of this subject matter in an undergraduate program may request a waiver. Waivers are granted for prior coursework if the content is equivalent, the bachelor’s degree was earned within seven years, and the course grade was at least B. If the bachelor’s degree is more than seven years old, or the grade was less than B but not less than C+, then students may take a competency test to waive the course.

Competency tests must be completed within the year following the student’s date of admission to the program. If the competency examination is successfully completed, the applicable linguistics course will be waived. If not, the student must take the linguistics course or successfully complete a credit-by-examination test for which a fee is charged.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS**COM 6180 Cultural Communication (3)**

Examines theory and literature of the ethnography of communication, with direct application in the description and analysis of language in its social context. Class open to graduate students.

COM 6900 Independent Study (1–5)

Registration approval: Independent Study Agreement. Student works independently with a faculty member on a mutually agreed upon topic. May be repeated for credit up to 15 credits.

LIN 6145 Phonology (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Provides a thorough study of sound systems and processes, with problem-solving experience in the analysis of English and other languages. This course is specifically geared to the needs of language teachers. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6150 Morphology (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Features a thorough study of word structures and processes, with problem-solving experience in the analysis of English and other languages. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6200 Second Language Acquisition (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Presents an intensive study of the research literature so that students will become familiar with recent findings on the acquisition of a second language and with the research process. Course equivalent: LIN 4200. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6300 Historical Linguistics (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Studies the nature of language change, illustrated by the history of the Indo-European language family, especially English. Presents a diachronic study of phonology, morphology and syntax, with emphasis on reconstructed Indo-European, classical texts and modern European diversity. Offered alternate years.

LIN 6365 Methodologies of Foreign Language Teaching (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Overviews the theoretical paradigms of second language learning and teaching; definition and evaluation of communicative competence; strategies for teaching skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing; and selection and development of instructional materials. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6400 Comparative Syntax (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Provides an intensive investigation into non-English sentence structure. Examines basic rule-making and rule-testing in a variety of languages. Not offered every year. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6410 Syntax (3)

Prerequisite: LIN 2100.

Provides an intensive investigation into contemporary English sentence structures through the application of current syntactic theory. Examines basic rule-making and rule-testing in English. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6601 History of the English Language (3)

Examines Anglo-Saxon, middle and modern forms of English in historical development and individual language systems. Includes phonology, morphology, syntax and some of the relationships of each language stage to literary expression during its era. Offered alternate years.

LIN 6900 Independent Study (1–5)

Registration approval: Independent Study Agreement.

Student works with a faculty member on a mutually agreed upon topic. Class not open to undergraduate students.

LIN 6950 Special Topics (1–5)

Focuses on topics relating to linguistics. May be repeated for credit one time.

TESL 6070 Comparative Religion (3)

Offers students an introduction to the primary religions of the world, providing a basis from which to understand various worldviews in the context of their historical development and their contemporary setting. Focuses on enabling future ESL/EFL instructors to gain an understanding of the religious perspectives and ethical systems which have influenced their students. Windows to the worlds' major faith traditions will be opened through readings in the history of the tradition (including an introduction to the key figures of that tradition), readings from important and relevant scriptures, readings on current faith and practice, some use of video materials, lecture and discussion. Course equivalent: THEO 6070.

TESL 6250 Testing and Curriculum Development (3)

Explores approaches to curriculum development, the assessment of ESL proficiency and the development of tests. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6300 Technology in Language Teaching (3)

Develops an understanding of how to effectively integrate technology such as audio, video, computer software, the Internet and e-mail into the communicative language classroom. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6400 Teaching ESL Grammar (3)

Helps MA-TESOL students develop a better conscious understanding of the grammar of the language they have chosen to teach, and allows them to effectively present grammatical points to their own future students. Discusses the basic elements of word classes, phrases and sentences, and focuses on elements of English grammar that are especially difficult for non-native speakers, including tenses, negation, interrogatives and modals. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6480 Teaching ESL Reading (3)

Introduces recent research on second language reading. Explores a number of approaches that enable second language students to develop these modes of language. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6500 Teaching Listening and Speaking (3)

Highlights historical and current perspectives on the theory and practice of teaching listening and speaking. Includes pronunciation, communicative strategies and cross-cultural aspects. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6581 Teaching ESL Writing (3)

Explores a variety of approaches and strategies for teaching ESL writing. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6650 Professional Issues and Ethics (3)

Examines the characteristics of ethical leaders and the influence of core values on teaching. Gives attention to the issues involved in being an effective teacher/leader and colleague in a work environment that is often challenging and unpredictable. Invites students to reflect on these issues in light of Christian faith and beliefs. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6900 Independent Study (1–5)

Registration approval: Independent Study Agreement.

Student works with a faculty member on a mutually agreed upon topic. May be repeated for credit up to 15 credits. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6930 Language Learning Practicum (3)

Provides students the opportunity to become members of an elementary class in a language they have never studied, responsible for all activities, home-work and tests. In addition, they keep a journal and observe their learning experience. Students in the practicum meet several times with one another and the practicum supervisor for discussion and debriefing, and write a brief summary at the end of the quarter. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6940 Teaching Practicum Phase I (3)

Registration approval: Graduate Director.

Allows students to observe professional teachers in the TESOL field model teaching methods and techniques in a classroom setting. Gives students a sense of the day-by-day progress of classes - something quite different from micro-teaching a single point. Students observe ESL classes eight hours per week. In order to give maximum exposure to different levels and teaching styles, the two classes are in different subjects, at different levels, and taught by two different instructors. Students meet with host instructors and the practicum supervisor on a regular basis; these people make recommendations about students' readiness to proceed to Phase II. Class not open to undergraduate students.

TESL 6941 Teaching Practicum Phase II (3)

Registration approval: Graduate Director.

Allows students to attend class two hours daily continuing with one of the Phase I teachers and gain actual teaching experience. Students teach about 15 hours during the quarter at the host teacher's discretion. Some of these hours are done consecutively, so the student can get the feel of implementing long-term instructional plans. Phase II gives students opportunities to teach and receive immediate feedback and reflection from the host teacher. Students are observed by the practicum coordinator about two to four hours for feedback. The decision as to whether the student is ready to leave Phase II or continue for one or more additional quarters is made by the MA-TESOL committee, guided by the recommendations of the practicum supervisor and the host instructor. Class not open to undergraduate students.

THEO 6070 Comparative Religion (3)

Offers students an introduction to the primary religions of the world, providing a basis from which to understand various worldviews in the context of their historical development and their contemporary setting. Focuses on enabling future ESL/EFL instructors to gain an understanding of the religious perspectives and ethical systems which have influenced their students. Windows to the world's major faith traditions will be opened through readings in the history of the tradition (including an introduction to the key figures of that tradition), readings from important and relevant scriptures, readings on current faith and practice, some use of video materials, lecture and discussion. Course equivalent: TESL 6070. Class open to TESOL majors.

FACULTY

Kathryn Bartholomew, *Associate Professor of Foreign Languages and Linguistics; Director of Graduate TESOL*; B.A., University of Washington, 1969; M.A., 1970; Ph.D., 1979. At SPU since 1989.

Katya Nemtchinova, *Associate Professor of TESOL and Russian*; D.A., State University of New York, Stony Brook, 1997. At SPU since 1997.

Nancy McEachran, *TESOL Practicum Coordinator*; M.S., Eastern Washington University, 1985; M.A., Seattle Pacific University, 1998. At SPU since 1999.