Graduate Certificate in Teaching English as an Additional Language

Fully Online Program

The Graduate Certificate in Teaching English as an Additional Language (TEAL) will prepare you for effectively teaching English to adults in diverse settings locally and abroad. Such teaching contexts include language institutes, cultural associations, community centers, faith-based entities, and workplace classes. By pursuing this certificate, you will develop theory and pedagogy for meeting linguistic and sociocultural needs of adults who wish to improve their English for personal reasons, work needs, and/or academic purposes. By pursuing this TEAL certificate, you can also support your own professional development for career enhancement and leadership advancement.

Coursework
TEAL has online courses to serve you and others throughout Alabama, in other states, and around the world. This TEAL certificate consists of five courses (EESL 625, EESL 627, EESL 637, EESL 677, EESL 687) for a total of 15 credit hours. Also required is EESL 007 (zero credit hours), which are weekly teaching experiences that culminate in a practicum during the final semester. This certificate can be pursued while working full-time or while enrolled in a degree program.

The TEAL certificate is designed to deepen and broaden knowledge and skills for teaching English to adults. This expertise is needed in multiple settings where increasing numbers of adults seek to improve their English in order to qualify for new employment opportunities and, in turn, raise their quality of life. To help adults reach these goals, consider pursuing the TEAL. Here, you will
- learn theories about how adults learn new languages and then apply these theories in the teaching of English to adult learners.
- plan, use, and evaluate diverse instructional methods, strategies, and techniques for diverse types of adult learners such as long-term English users, migrant workers, and internationally contracted workforce groups, as well as immigrants, refugees, and asylees.
- diagnose learners' English proficiency and design and deliver instruction to improve communication skills focused on speaking English at a highly comprehensible level.
- develop and implement an individualized curriculum based on adult ESL standards that focus on a specific purpose or context (e.g., workplace setting).
- expand and finetune instructional techniques by teaching English classes weekly for three (or more) semesters and receiving regular, sequenced feedback from SOE mentors, initially in the UAB Community English Program and later in workplace settings.

Program Checklist (see attached)

Admission Requirements
Admission eligibility is based on having an undergraduate degree in any major from a regionally accredited institution with an overall GPA of 2.5 (or be approaching completion of a degree). *Please note that most applicants do NOT have a degree in education*. Register for a Zoom information session by emailing jprado@uab.edu or spezzini@uab.edu. After attending this session, submit a certificate-seeking admission application (https://cloud.reach.uab.edu/graduate-application). If you are currently pursuing a degree at UAB, select "Add Certificate Program."

Using TEAL toward a Master's Degree
You can use all five TEAL courses toward a master's degree. If you wish to earn an ESL master's, submit a degree-seeking application to the MAEd/ESL program's TESOL track and then take six additional ESL courses. If you wish to earn an interdisciplinary master's, submit a degree-seeking application to UAB's Graduate School and stack your TEAL certificate with another UAB certificate (e.g., special education, higher education administration, health coaching, public management).

Teaching English as an Additional Language (TEAL) Graduate Certificate

Plan of Study

Required Courses: The TEAL certificate requires four content courses (EESL 625, EESL 627, EESL 637, EESL 687) and a practicum course (EESL 677). Each of these courses consists of three credit hours for a total of 15 credit hours. TEAL also requires EESL 007, which is a 0-hour experiential learning course taken each semester.

Required Courses	Credit Hours	Type	Semester
EESL 625 Phonology for ESL Teachers	3	content	Spring
EESL 627 Teaching Adult Language Learners	3	content	Summer
EESL 637 Methods Teaching English as International Lang.	3	content	Fall
EESL 687 English for Specific Purposes	3	content	Fall
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING AND PRACTICUM			
EESL 007 Community English Teaching (experiential learning)	0	experiential	Fall, Spring, & Summer
EESL 677 Field Studies (practicum)	3	practicum	Fall, Spring, or Summer

	15 total	

Course Rotation: EESL 637 and EESL 687 take place in the Fall semester, EESL 625 in Spring, and EESL 627 in Summer. As the culminating practicum, EESL 677 occurs during a student's final semester (Fall, Spring, or Summer). To prepare for their practicum, students take a 0-hour experiential learning course (EESL 007) each semester.

Program Timeline: Students can start in fall, spring, or summer. Based on their start date, students follow a three-semester program timeline (see below). They participate weekly in experiential learning (italicized) each semester and, by doing so, put into practice what they are learning through their coursework. They do a practicum in their final semester.

Semesters	Students starting in Fall	Students starting in Spring	Students starting in Summer
Fall	**EESL 637** Methods **EESL 687** Specific Purposes *EESL 007 Community English*		
Spring	**EESL 625** Phonology *EESL 007 Community English*	**EESL 625** Phonology *EESL 007 Community English*	
Summer	**EESL 627** Adult Learners **EESL 677** Field Studies: Practicum	**EESL 627** Adult Learners *EESL 007 Community English*	**EESL 627** Adult Learners *EESL 007 Community English*
Fall		**EESL 637** Methods **EESL 687** Specific Purposes **EESL 677** Field Studies: Practicum	**EESL 637** Methods **EESL 687** Specific Purposes *EESL 007 Community English*
Spring			**EESL 625** Phonology **EESL 677** Field Studies: Practicum

Alternative Plan: If students wish to advance more slowly, they can opt for a five-semester course plan. Although this plan is longer, students will continue to do experiential learning each semester.

Semester	COURSES: Content-Based and Culminating Practicum	*Experiential Learning*
1st Fall	**EESL 637** Methods for Teaching English as an International Lang.	*EESL 007 Community English*
1st Spring	**EESL 625** Phonology for ESL Teachers	*EESL 007 Community English*
Summer	**EESL 627** Teaching Adult Language Learners	*EESL 007 Community English*
2nd Fall	**EESL 687** English for Specific Purposes	*EESL 007 Community English*
2nd Spring	**EESL 677** Field Studies (teaching practicum)	