

# Certificate in TESL

**Purpose:** The Certificate in TESL is a professional credential intended to provide a foundation for teaching English as a second or foreign language in non-public school settings. It is designed for three groups: (A) Undergraduates who complete a UIUC Minor in TESL, (B) undergraduates majoring in Linguistics with a specialization in TESL, and (C) graduate students who complete all requirements of the stand-alone certificate.

**Language Requirement:** The candidate must be either a native speaker of English, or a non-native speaker of English who has taken the Illinois ESL Placement Test and completed all language courses required by the test. See [Illinois ESL Placement Test](#).

**Program Requirements:** The certificate consists of six course, three of which are required, and three of which are elective, chosen from five options. Except for the introduction to linguistics, only EIL courses satisfy course requirements; no equivalencies with other courses will be considered. Students must maintain a B average or better (3.00 on a 4.00 scale) for all UIUC courses in order to receive the certificate.

Required (3)	Elective (3)
Introduction to Linguistics Ling 100 (undergraduate students only) or Ling 400	Engl Grammar for ESL Teachers EIL 422
Theoretical Foundations of SLA EIL 489	Second Lang Reading & Writing EIL 445
Intro to TESL Methodology EIL 411	Lang in Social Interaction - I EIL 456
	Principles of Lang Testing EIL 460
	Engl Phon & Morph for TESL EIL 488

**Award Conferred:** Certificate candidates are awarded a certificate from the Department of Linguistics, signed by the Department Head and the Program Director. Undergraduate students receive the certificate at the time of the candidate's baccalaureate graduation.

## A. Certificate in TESL for Undergraduate Students

**Declaring a Minor:** The undergraduate candidate pursuing the Certificate in TESL via the Minor in TESL must declare a Minor in TESL at the beginning of course work for the minor.

Undergraduates pursuing the Certificate in TESL via a **Major in Linguistics** are advised to contact the Program Director at the beginning of course work for the TESL specialization

**Total Credit Hours:** Completion of the Minor in TESL satisfies course requirements. Completion of requirements of the Certificate in TESL satisfies course requirements for a specialization in TESL within the Major in Linguistics..

## B. Certificate in TESL for Graduate Students

**Admission Requirements:** Submit application documents to the Program Director.

1. Baccalaureate degree
2. Admission application for non-degree status  
<http://www.grad.uiuc.edu/admissions/apply/>
3. Three letters of recommendation
4. Posted UIUC minimum English proficiency test scores or better

**Application Deadline:** Application deadline for admission is March 1 for first consideration. Applications will be accepted until the program is full.

**Additional Language Requirement:** International graduate candidates accepted for admission are automatically enrolled in ESL 507 during their first Fall semester.

**Total Credit Hours:** 20-24 hours. Students are encouraged to complete an introduction to linguistics course before entering the certificate program to satisfy the Introduction to Linguistics requirement. A transcript showing the course (completed within five years of starting the certificate) and a syllabus of the course must be submitted at the time of application to the program director for consideration. If the course is accepted, five courses (20 credit hours) remain to be completed.

**Cohort Starts:** All graduate certificate candidates are expected to begin the certificate program on-campus in the Fall semester.

**Number of Required Campus Visits:** One Fall semester on campus.

**Program Length:** Students can finish the certificate in ten months by taking courses on the UIUC campus in Fall and Spring semesters. Using online UIUC courses after the first semester on campus, students can finish the Certificate in about one year. See <http://education.illinois.edu/programs/online/besl/snapshot.html> .

**Online Courses Available:** Introduction to Linguistics, Theoretical Foundations of SLA, Second Lang Reading & Writing, and Engl Phon & Morph for TESL.

UIUC EIL courses completed as part of the certificate (and not used for another degree) may be applied to meet course requirements for the Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language in the Department of Linguistics at UIUC.

**Tuition:** The tuition rate for professional courses is established by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. For current information, please see: <http://www.continuinged.uiuc.edu/oce-sites/outreach/tuition.cfm>

Financial aid from the Department of Linguistics is not available.

### **Program Contact:**

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