ADULT/UNIVERSITY LEVEL
TEACHING ENGLISH TO
SPEAKERS OF OTHER
LANGUAGES, GRADUATE
CERTIFICATE

UWM’s TESOL certificate prepares students for a career teaching
English to non-English speaking adults. TESOL is an internationally-
recognized acronym that denotes the holder of the certificate has
received specialized training in the methodologies of teaching English,
second language acquisition, bilingualism, and multicultural awareness.

The use of English as a common language of communication has risen
dramatically in the last few decades, and the demand for TESOL trained
instructors is high in certain parts of the world. Asia, Central America, and
South America are three particular hot spots where people have a strong
desire learn English or improve their English language skills.

Students who love to travel often make a career out of traveling the globe,
picking up jobs in various nations. Others stay closer to home and find
similar positions in the U.S. teaching English to immigrants, visitors,
foreign students, or others who have not learned English as their first
language. TESOL is a dynamic profession that combines innovation and
creativity with interactions in culturally-diverse communities.

The Adult/University-Level TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other
Languages) Graduate Certificate Program is designed to meet the needs
of graduate non-degree students or graduate students concurrently
enrolled in a UWM master’s or PhD program. Requirements for this
program are very similar to those for the undergraduate-level "Adult/
University-Level TESOL Certificate Program" but is more rigorous and can
be applied (concurrently or subsequently) to the Master of Arts program
in Linguistics.

Admission Requirements

Application Deadlines
Application deadlines vary by program, please review the application
deadline chart (http://uwm.edu/graduateschool/program-deadlines) for
specific programs. Other important dates and deadlines can be found
by using the One Stop calendars (https://uwm.edu/onestop/dates-and-
deadlines).

Eligibility and Admission
Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree and have a minimum
2.75 cumulative undergraduate grade point average to be admitted to a
certificate program.

Application
• Students wishing to obtain this certificate must declare their
intention by applying to the program office or director.
• All graduate certificate applicants—even those already enrolled
in a UWM graduate program—must apply to the Graduate School
through the Panthera Admission Application (https://graduateschool-
apply.uwm.edu).
• Graduate degree and previously admitted graduate non-degree
students who decide to pursue a certificate program must submit the
Panthera application before completing 6 credits in the certificate
sequence.
• Applicants must possess a baccalaureate degree and have a
minimum 2.75 cumulative undergraduate grade point average to be
admitted to a certificate program.
• Submit the following materials to the TESOL Certificate Program
Coordinator in the Department of Linguistics:
  • Adult/University-Level TESOL Graduate Certificate Program
application form (available from the Linguistics Department
office).
  • Transcripts of all college-level academic work, with evidence of a
GPA of 2.75 or better.
  • A statement of purpose.
  • Two letters of recommendation from persons knowledgeable
about the applicant’s recent academic and/or work experience.
  • Applicants who are not native speakers of English should also
submit TOEFL scores of at least 550 (paper-based test) or 79
(internet-based test), or at least 6.5 on the IELTS exam, and 45 on
the TSE, or an equivalent means of demonstrating proficiency.

Credits and Courses
Students are required to complete the six courses (18 credits) plus
teaching internship (3 credits) outlined below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS/MALLT 708</td>
<td>Proseminar in Linguistics</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 410</td>
<td>Literacy, Grammar, and Methodologies in ESL Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 420</td>
<td>Introduction to Second Language Acquisition</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS/ENGLISH 565</td>
<td>Introduction to Adult/University Level TESOL</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 430 or ANTHRO 570</td>
<td>Language and Society Issues in Bilingualism</td>
<td>3</td>
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Electives
Select one of the following: 3

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ENGLISH 404</td>
<td>Language, Power, and Identity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 415</td>
<td>First Language Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 460</td>
<td>Introduction to Phonology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 464</td>
<td>Introduction to Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 468</td>
<td>Language in its Various Forms: (Subtitle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 470</td>
<td>Historical/Comparative Linguistics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 560</td>
<td>Advanced Phonology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 564</td>
<td>Advanced Syntax</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS/ED PSY 748</td>
<td>Oral Language, Cognition, and Literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS/ENGLISH 806</td>
<td>Seminar in Linguistics: (Subtitle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 569</td>
<td>Practicum in Adult/University TESOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LINGUIS 789</td>
<td>Practicum in Teaching ESL to Adult Learners</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 19-24
Certificate Requirements

Transfer Credit
No more than 6 credits may be taken at an institution other than UWM. These courses are subject to Graduate School transfer policy and must be approved by the director of the certificate program. Students who have completed any of the required courses for undergraduate credit must substitute other courses at the graduate level, selected in consultation with the certificate program coordinator to fulfill the credit requirements.

Grade Point Average Requirement
A minimum cumulative 3.00 grade point average in certificate courses taken at UWM is required.

Articulation with Degree Programs
1. Credits and courses required for a certificate may double count toward meeting UWM graduate degree requirements subject to the following restrictions:
   • Degree programs must approve the courses from certificates that can double count toward the degree.
   • All credits taken in completion of certificate requirements may count towards a UWM graduate degree as long as they do not contribute more than 90% of the total credits needed to obtain the degree. (Note: Students in PhD programs must still complete the minimum residency requirements)
   • Certificate courses used toward meeting degree requirements must be completed within the time limit for transfer credit.
2. Courses completed for a degree may be counted toward a subsequent certificate, subject to all certificate policy requirements.
3. A course may count toward no more than one certificate and one degree.
4. Students may not earn a certificate subsequent to a concentration in the same area.

Time Limit
Certificate program time limits shall be established as follows:
• 18 or fewer credits/Three years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.
• 19 or more credits/Four years from initial enrollment in the certificate sequence.

For certificates that are designed as add-ons to degree programs and are awarded concurrent with the degree, the time limit shall be the same as that of the degree program.

Contact Information
Current Students contact Associate Professor Sandra Pucci,
pucci@uwm.edu
Prospective Students contact a Letters & Science Admissions Counselor at
(414) 229-7711 or let-sci@uwm.edu
http://uwm.edu/linguistics/tesol/