



California State University, Sacramento  
Department of English (TESOL Program)  
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T (916) 278-6586 • F (916) 278-5410 [http://www.csus.edu/engl/grad.html#tesol\\_ma](http://www.csus.edu/engl/grad.html#tesol_ma)

# Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages Master of Arts Program

## Program Goals

- Provide students with a thorough grounding in the structure of English
- Give students a solid background in language acquisition theory
- Provide *practical* training, including a unique methodology series, a carefully designed practicum, and a large variety of for-credit and paid internship opportunities.

## Strengths of the TESOL Program at CSUS

- Well-established program (since 1983)
- Committed and experienced faculty
- Multiple opportunities to gain teaching experience
- Rigorous and practical academic training
- Preparation for Ph.D. Programs in Applied Linguistics or Education

## Program of Study

### Required Courses (30 units)

Ten courses:

- English 200D (Research in TESOL)
- English 410B (ESL Teaching Internship)
- English 200E (Curriculum & Assessment Design)
- English 210B (Sociolinguistics and TESOL)
- English 210G (Second Language Acquisition)
- English 215A (Reading/Vocabulary Acquisition)
- English 215B (ESL Writing)
- English 215C (Pedagogical Approaches to Grammar)
- English 215D (Pedagogy of Spoken English)
- English 598T (Culminating Experience)

### Elective (3 units)

One course from the following list:

- English 110M; English 110T;  
English 210C; English 220A;  
English 220C; English 225C;  
English 299; English 410A;  
English 410E; English 410L

One upper division or graduate course not on this list may be accepted as an elective with the prior permission of the graduate coordinator.

## Contact Information

TESOL Coordinator	Julian Heather ( <a href="mailto:tesol@csus.edu">tesol@csus.edu</a> )
Graduate Studies	(916) 278-6470
Financial Aid	(916) 278-6554
Office of Global Education	(916) 278-7772

## How to Apply

- Ensure that you meet the requirements listed overleaf
- Submit an online application at [http://www.csumentor.edu/admissionapp/grad\\_apply.asp](http://www.csumentor.edu/admissionapp/grad_apply.asp)
- Include all undergraduate transcripts (and post-graduate, if applicable)
- Check the Office of Graduate Studies website for deadlines:  
<http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/FutureStudents/apply.html>
- Submit the completed supplemental department application packet to the TESOL Coordinator. This packet is available on the program website: [http://www.csus.edu/engl/grad.html#tesol\\_ma](http://www.csus.edu/engl/grad.html#tesol_ma)

Contact the TESOL Coordinator if you need help in completing the application.

## Admission Information

The admission requirements for the MA TESOL Program are as follows:

- A completed bachelor's degree in any field with an overall GPA of 3.0 and 3.0 over the final 60 semester units (or equivalent) of study
- International students must meet the following minimum TOEFL scores:
  - 600 or higher on the traditional TOEFL, with a score of 5 or higher on the Test of Written English (TWE)
  - OR 250 or higher on the computerized TOEFL, with a score of 5 or higher on the TWE
  - OR 100 or higher on the *iBT* TOEFL, with a score of 24 or higher on the writing section
- 6 units of undergraduate prerequisites (or equivalents approved by the TESOL Coordinator), which must have been completed with grades of B or better:
  - English 110A: Linguistics & the English Language
  - English 110Q: Grammar for ESL Teaching

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Should I get the M.A. or the Certificate?

It depends on your career goals. If you plan to teach at the adult education level or to go overseas, a certificate may be adequate. If you hope to teach at the community college or university level, you will need the M.A.

### How long does the program take?

While individual circumstances may vary, it is realistic to expect to complete the M.A. in two years, beyond prerequisites.

### Do I have to take all of the prerequisites at Sacramento State?

If you have taken equivalent coursework elsewhere, it may be substituted for the prerequisites listed above. All substitutions must be approved by the TESOL Coordinator. Under no circumstances will any coursework more than seven (7) years old be accepted for transfer.

### Do I have to complete all the prerequisites before applying to the MA TESOL Program?

No, you don't. You can complete any outstanding prerequisites after being accepted to the program.

### Is financial aid available?

In a public university, financial aid in general is scarce. For graduate students, it is limited primarily to loans and specialized scholarships. California residents may also apply for the California Graduate Fellowship program.

### Are there opportunities to gain ESL teaching experience during the MA TESOL program?

Yes! We have several available internship courses in the English Department, in the on-campus intensive English program, and in local community colleges. In addition, students may be eligible for paid graduate assistant or teaching assistant positions in English and the on-campus intensive English program.

### Can I teach elementary or high school ESL with a TESOL Certificate or M.A.?

No. You will need a regular teaching credential. However, a TESOL Certificate or M.A. in addition to a credential may improve your employment prospects.

### Can I get academic credit for work experience completed prior to admission the TESOL program?

Under no circumstances do we award academic credit for work experience completed prior to admission to the TESOL Program.