

E-Teacher Scholarship Program
Course Description

- 1. Introduction to Pedagogy and Practices for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages:** This course is designed to provide participants with current methodologies associated with teaching English language learners (ELLs) of different ages in various learning contexts. Participants will discuss and practice a wide variety of strategies and techniques for teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). While exploring best practices for teaching English, participants learn how to create an effective and communicative language classroom for all ELLs. In addition, participants will examine what best practices means in the context of teaching English in the 21st century, where the use of English incorporates modern technologies. This course is based partially on the “Shaping the Way We Teach English” materials.
- 2. Critical Thinking in Language Learning and Teaching:** This course is designed to deepen participants’ understanding of the theory and applied use of Critical Thinking principles and practices in the EFL classroom by engaging in the following types of activities: (a) Read and discuss professional information and articles to develop a deeper understanding of current topics in language pedagogy and they relate to general critical thinking skills. (b) Identify, evaluate, and select web-based materials and tools for use in the classroom. (c) Interact with colleagues regionally and internationally who share similar pedagogical interests. Create classroom materials and projects that demonstrate an understanding of course topics. Adapt and enhance existing materials so that they are culturally and age appropriate for their schools’ local curriculum.
- 3. Summative and Formative Assessment in Language Learning and Teaching:** This course will involve participants with the theory and practice of the major components of assessment, with a particular focus on English as a foreign language and addressing all four skill areas. Assessment topics covered include needs assessment, diagnostic, proficiency, achievement, formative, alternative, summative, standardized, strength-based, and differentiated. Participants will also explore aligning assessment to behavioral objectives and course goals, giving learners effective and helpful feedback, developing rubrics and tests, evaluating assessment with item analysis, and looking at reliability and validity. Articles and other readings give participants a firm foundation in assessment theory, and they will put theory into practice with an array of weekly practical applications, assignments, discussions, and tasks that include creating different types of assessment and feedback. The course will end with an assessment project organized as a WebQuest.
- 4. Building Teaching Skills through the Interactive Web:** Participants in this course deepen their understanding of the theory and applied use of Computer Assisted Language Learning (CALL) principles and practices in the EFL classroom. The course will model innovative online teaching practices, enable participants to understand and use appropriate technology to enhance learning outcomes for their students, and offer opportunities to share real-world application of technology tools and practices. The course will provide educators with support and problem-solving mechanisms as they implement technology and act as a train-the-trainers model so that participants can move forward after the course with concrete dissemination plans.
- 5. English for Specific Purposes, Aligning Context with Practices and Materials:** This online course will develop participants’ skills in designing, implementing, and evaluating English for Specific Purposes (ESP) courses based on best practices in the field. Because the foundation of this course is in best practices, new and experienced ESP practitioners are welcome from all areas of the field. Course participants may be addressing the needs of pre-experienced learners (preparing to enter a specific discourse community) who need (1) English for Academic Purposes (EAP) for courses in specific disciplines in universities, or (b) Vocational English for Specific Purposes (VESP) for courses at vocational and technical secondary schools.

Other course participants might be focused on English of Occupational Purposes (EOP) courses in the business sector or other fields that are intended for pre-experienced or experienced learners already in the workplace who need English as a tool for their job. Regardless of which ESP target learner population is the focus (EAP, VESP, or EOP), the target learners are usually adults with an intermediate level of English or higher. The course will also address the need for training in English for Specific Purposes to promote education and economic development at the local and national levels.

- 6. Special Education and Differentiated Instruction in EFL Contexts:** This course is designed to be a survey of teaching methods that support learners with special needs within the context of the TEFL classroom. Participants will read articles, visit websites, and discuss practices that provided teaching strategies for diverse learners with a wide variety of skills and varying levels of performance. The focus is placed on inclusive teaching models, with exploration of the current best practices. As a community of professionals, participants will engage in ongoing dialogue, sharing their experience, success, and concerns in their teaching. A support system will be established with exposure to resources found within individual teaching communities and external locations such as online forums and information centers. Emphasis will be placed on the creation of a resource for sharing among participants' local communities (e.g., classroom, school-wide basis, parents, or larger community).
- 7. Teaching English to Young Learners:** English learners at the primary level (approximately ages 5-10) are cognitively "primed" to acquire language skills in ways that lend themselves well to an integrated skills and content-based, experiential approach. The educator who understands the cognitive and social processes of second language acquisition for Teaching English to Young Learners (TEYL) is better equipped to help the learner navigate the processes of classroom learning activities while also creating a fun, positive environment. In many cases, TEYL educators in English as a Foreign Language settings have a limited amount of time to accomplish their teaching goals and meet local requirements regarding the use of specific texts, tests, or other materials. A low-resource environment can also pose challenges. In this course, participants have the opportunity to explore solutions for such challenges through an overview of current research and "best" practices (always context dependent) for TEYL plus hand-on experimentation with a wide array of freely available online and local resources.
- 8. Teaching English to Pre-teens and Teens (TEPT):** Educators in this course who work with pre-teens (ages 10-12) and teens (ages 13-18) will learn how to motivate these age groups by designing collaborative projects that involve several topics critical to 21st century learners. Student-centered practices and opportunities to introduce student choice in the EFL classroom will be modeled and applied in this course. Participants will learn how to identify, evaluate, and apply a wide variety of age-appropriate materials and how to develop students' language and critical thinking skills through project-based learning and collaborative problem-solving experiences.
- 9. Practical Applications in Listening and Speaking Skills (PALSS):** This course has two purposes: to develop participants' own English oral/listening skills, and to develop participants' ability to teach these two language skills. This course will enhance the Speaking skills of participants in small group sessions and with a weekly audio journal; and also the Listening skills of participants in small group sessions and with self-study activities.

For more information, please visit the link below:

<http://exchanges.state.gov/non-us/program/e-teacher-scholarship-program/details#applications>