



U.S. EMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

ANNOUNCEMENT

SPECIAL EDUCATION IN TEFL

2011 SPECIAL EDUCATION IN TEACHING ENGLISH AS FOREIGN LANGUAGE (TEFL) ONLINE TRAINING PROGRAM

Host Institution – [University of Oregon](http://www.uoregon.edu)

Deadline for Applications: August 12, 2011



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1. Institute Objectives

The Special Education in Teaching English as Foreign Language (TEFL) Program is an exciting new 10-week online course that trains foreign English language professionals who work with individuals with special needs. The program offers an introductory overview of special education concepts in a TEFL context.

2. Program Description

The Special Education in TEFL Program is collaboration with the University of Oregon. Participants of this program will have opportunities to learn new information about working with individuals with special needs and apply the information to their unique local setting as Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (TEFL). A professional forum of idea exchange will be created among participants to foster deeper insight into the topic, current thought on best practices and innovation in teaching strategies. Participants will complete the course by designing a course-related project for implementation in their local setting.

Topics in this program may include, but are not limited to:

- Defining “special needs” and related terms.
- Best practices working as part of a special education team.
- Pedagogical approaches and practices (e.g., direct instruction, differentiated instruction, emergent literacy, project-based learning).
- Assessment tools and practices.
- Home-school-community-vocational connections.

The 10-week online course will commence on September 26, 2011 and end on December 2, 2011. Participants who successfully complete the course will receive a certificate of completion directly from the course providers. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the [American English Institute University of Oregon](http://www.englishinstitute.uoregon.edu) website to obtain general information about the program.

Definition of Special Education

The act of identifying individuals with special needs of any nature (learning disability, health needs, Autism, physical disability, behavior disorder, etc.), establishing a formal plan for services and/or strategies to provide appropriate education to that student, and the follow through or tracking of progress for meeting that student's needs within the broader context of the school system. Specifically, this can look like providing large print material for a student with a visual impairment, modifying assignments for a student with special learning difficulties, creating specialized lessons/curriculum for a student with a severe cognitive deficit, or adapting a desk for a student using a wheel chair. The examples can go on indefinitely.

3. Funding

The Office of English Language Programs (OELP) of the Department of State will cover all costs for tuition and materials. This includes tuition and the costs of any course materials sent from the institution, including CD-ROMs and books, for each participant. Course materials include downloadable or posted syllabi, assignments, and course readings; asynchronous contact between instructors and participants, between other experts and participants, and among participants; lectures via real-time, text, or audio-enhanced text; use of a bulletin board to post notes, assignments, feedback, etc.; information on additional web-based resources; OELP resources for English teachers.

4. Program requirements and restrictions

Participants for the Special Education in TEFL Program are expected to participate fully in the program. They should be highly motivated individuals who are dedicated both to their own professional development and to sharing the knowledge gained with colleagues through workshops or professional presentations. They are expected to dedicate an average of 8-10 hours of work per week and completing the course. It is important that applicants understand and accept these requirements and restrictions.

5. Candidate qualifications

- (a) Candidates should be a Malaysian citizen or a permanent resident working in Malaysia, typically between the ages of 25-50, highly-motivated and experienced. The ideal candidate should be a teachers or teacher trainers who work with individuals with special needs of any nature (as stated above).
- (b) Candidates should be fluent in English and able to do academic work at a U.S. university
- (c) Candidates should have regular access to e-mail and the Internet, familiar with Microsoft Word application, basic familiarity with the Internet and web browsers, ability to type in English well enough to perform online tasks in real-time, and to submit written assignments in a timely manner.
- (e) In order to get a better sense of potential participants motivations and goals, candidates are requested to provide a short personal statement (one page) indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience.

6. To apply for the program

Applicants should submit an application for this program by e-mail. The application deadline is August 12, 2011. The electronic application form may be downloaded from [Special Education in TEFL Application Form](#).

To submit an application or to request more program details, all interested candidates are welcome to contact Cultural Affairs Assistant Helena Bridget, Public Affairs, American Embassy, 376 Jalan Tun Razak, 50400 Kuala Lumpur. Tel: (03) 2168-5106; e-mail: publicaffairskl@gmail.com

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