

E-Teacher Scholarship Program 2012-13

English for Specific Purposes, Best Practices for Courses and Materials (ESP)

OFFERED BY UNIVERSITY OF OREGON, LINGUISTICS DEPT./AMERICAN ENGLISH INSTITUTE

The Office of English Language Programs of the U.S. State Department is offering this 10-week online teacher training for eligible candidates. The course will introduce the most recent English language teaching methods and techniques, offer the opportunity to engage in an innovative distance-learning program that employs the latest in modern technology, and provide direct access to U.S. experts with whom participants might not normally have the opportunity to interact.

Course Description

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-experience learners (preparing to enter a specific discourse community) who need English for Academic Purposes (EAP) for courses in specific disciplines in universities or Vocational English for Specific Purposes (VESP) for courses at vocational and technical secondary schools. Other course participants might be focused on English for 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. Participants create a personalized "ESP Toolkit," a folder on their own computer or external drive for documents and resources for use in creating and delivering their own ESP courses.

By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Differentiate between ESP and English for General Purposes (EGP).
- Recognize best practices in ESP for course needs analysis, curriculum design, materials development, delivery, and evaluation.
- Create an initial needs assessment for a specific target learner population and evaluate the effectiveness of their current materials and methods.
- Locate high quality sources of authentic materials on the Internet and in their own communities to further the development of key professional communication skills and content knowledge.
- Adapt authentic texts and select teaching points for their learners.

Requirements

Candidates should be highly motivated in-service EFL educators at the **secondary** or **post-secondary** level or teacher trainers who are both dedicated to their own professional development and willing to share their knowledge with colleagues. In addition, they should:

- Have high intermediate to advanced level English language proficiency in all skill areas (approximately 525 TOEFL), particularly reading and writing.
- Have access 4-5 times per week minimum to reliable computers with high-speed Internet.
- Have basic technology skills for email, the Web (e.g., searches, downloads, uploads, managing of course logins/passwords) and file management (e.g., PDF, MS Word/Excel).