



TESOL

Teaching English as a Second Language is a viable path for English majors. With a solid grasp of English, you are prepared to take the next step by acquiring additional credentials and experience. And when you're ready, you can teach English to students abroad or in your own community.

Career Path

Recommended Emphasis:

- ✓ Teacher Education is the best path, but literature or writing work as well.

Recommended Specialized Courses:

- ✓ English 343: Language Systems and Linguistic Diversity
- ✓ English 451: Understanding and Using English Grammar
- ✓ English 440: History of English
- ✓ Foreign Languages

Suggested Faculty Contacts:

Dr. Brad Montgomery-Anderson (English)

Dr. Blake Bickham (Education)

Jim Whitmore (CMU
BridgePathways)

Apply What You Learn:

- ✓ Volunteer to help non-native speakers of English learn to speak and write at the Mesa County Libraries, Mesa County Workforce, or Mesa County Public Schools.
- ✓ Volunteer to teach in Adult Literacy programs at the Mesa County Libraries.
- ✓ Be an online, English-speaking “penpal” and mentor to a non-native English speaker living in another country.
- ✓ Work in the CMU Office of Educational Access to help students with communication disabilities.
- ✓ Work in the CMU Tutorial Learning Center to help international students with assignments.

Useful Resources:

<http://www.tesol.org>

<https://www.americantesol.com>

<http://jetprogramme.org/en/>

Develop Your Expertise. Consider graduate and certificate programs by searching this site:

<https://www.tesol.org/docs/career-center/tips-for-choosing-a-ma-in-tesol-program---michelle-bagwell-4-9-13.pdf?sfvrsn=2>

<http://www.mastersintesol.net/programs/>

Observations and Advice:

There are several ways to qualify yourself to teach English abroad. Sometimes a BA in English is enough. Some locations and programs require, or at least prefer, a secondary school teaching license. Other programs require an MA in TESOL. You could attend private TESOL certification programs or earn your MA at a university. The essential move is to do your research. Learn what a particular location requires, and interrogate the credentials of organizations and institutions that promise TESOL degrees or certificates.