

## TEFL/TESL CERTIFICATE PROGRAM – GRADUATE

University of South Alabama – College of Education and Professional Studies

### MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED: 15

		Hours	Semester	Grade
<b>Core Courses (15 Hours)</b>				
<i>(Advisor approval needed. Course overrides will be necessary.)</i>				
ELT 530	Methods and Materials for ESOL	3	_____	_____
ELT 545	Cross-Cultural Understanding**	3	_____	_____
LNG 500	Introduction to Applied Linguistics	3	_____	_____
LNG 510	Applied Linguistics	3	_____	_____
ELT 525 or LNG 496	Practicum or Internship	3	_____	_____

Revised 7/28/21

\*\*EDF 515 Education in a Diverse Society may be substituted with permission of the program coordinator if ELT 545 is not offered.

### **Who can apply?**

Candidates for the graduate certificate must be enrolled in the Graduate School. Students who would like to pursue the TEFL/TESL certificate independent of a degree program can make an application online. Interested individuals will need to have a bachelor's degree.

### **How to Apply to the TEFL/TESL Certificate:**

If you are not a currently enrolled student in a graduate program (master's or doctorate), then you will need to apply for admission to the TEFL/TESL Certificate Program online.

### **Criteria**

A minimum GPA of 3.0 on all program of study courses is required. No grades of D or F may be counted.

Those enrolled in the Certificate program may also elect to pursue the master's degree in ESOL and will be allowed to apply the Certificate courses toward their degree program once admitted and upon approval of the ESOL Program Coordinator.

Students enrolled in an ESOL graduate program may opt to complete this program to earn the certificate in addition to completing their degree program.

## TEFL/TESL Certificate

The University of South Alabama offers Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)/ Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) undergraduate and graduate certificate programs. English teaching overseas is in high demand. This career requires, at minimum, a certificate attesting to the qualifications of the job candidate.

### Careers with a TEFL/TESL Certificate

TEFL and TESL are both certifications for teaching English to non-native English speakers. There are hundreds of jobs listed every day for TESL/TEFL instructors internationally. If you are looking for an opportunity to live overseas and learn a new culture, a TESL/TESL credential qualifies you for jobs that allow you to live and support yourself in many countries by teaching English to children and adults. Jobs are located all over the world. There is a tremendous demand for qualified English as a Foreign Language instructor in Asia, the Middle East, Oceania, Eastern Europe and Latin America. There are online opportunities as well. A TEFL/TESL Certificate also opens up job possibilities in teaching English in adult English programs in the U.S.

### Admission Requirements:

1. A bachelor's degree from an accredited institution of higher education. Official transcripts\* can be sent by mail or electronically. [Instructions can be found under "Help" on the application.](#)

\*USA students applying to a USA graduate program in the College of Education and Professional Studies should complete a [transcript request form \(PDF\)](#) found on the University Registrar's Office website. In the Name/Organization field for the transcript recipient write, "USA Graduate School". There is no charge associated with this request. This option applies only to USA transcripts for students applying to USA graduate programs.

2. GPA Requirement: A minimum overall grade-point-average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale based on the GPA used as the basis for granting the degree and posted on the official transcript from a regionally accredited institution at the time the degree was earned OR a 2.5 GPA on the last 60 semester hours of undergraduate course work posted on the official transcript from a regionally accredited institution at the time the degree was earned.

GPA Exception: Individuals who have earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution at the time the degree was earned and who do not have a qualifying GPA for admission may seek admission based on a qualifying score of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT). For the GRE, this standard is defined as having a score at the 50th percentile on all of the following subtests: Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing. For the Miller Analogies Test, students must have a score at or above the 50th percentile based on the total group percentile rank score. For Alternative Class A programs, applicants must submit a qualifying alternate score on the Alabama-prescribed Praxis subject-area test.

3. Official GRE or MAT exam score.
4. Two letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic and/or professional abilities (submitted through online WebAdmit portal).
5. Personal statement on applicant's career goals and purpose for graduate study. (Upload document within application through WebAdmit portal).
6. A professional curriculum vitae or resume (submitted through the WebAdmit online portal).