

# GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

## Graduate TESOL Certificate (12 credits)

### A Complement to Your Degree

The graduate TESOL certificate will make an excellent addition to your graduate degree and will help you stand out among your peers.

#### What is it?

The graduate TESOL certificate is an intensive study of language theory, language acquisition, and principles of classroom instruction for language learners.

#### How long does it take?

If you already have some background in linguistics, it is possible to complete the certificate by taking just four courses. Students who have not taken Introduction to Linguistics may be admitted provisionally.

#### What kinds of students complete the TESOL certificate?

Most are MA students in English, Foreign Languages, and Teacher Education. But we welcome students from all majors and we also invite nondegree students to complete the certificate without completing a degree.

#### How will a graduate certificate help me?

It demonstrates that you have a particular interest in a specialized area and that you are willing to go the extra mile to make sure you're prepared for what you want to do. Our graduates often report that the TESOL certificate makes them more competitive in the job market, too.

**"With every TESOL course I took, my mind was opened to a broad diversity of languages, cultures, and world views. When I started work as an EFL/ESL instructor, that diversity became an explosion of new experiences that expanded my knowledge, confidence, and ability to travel, and now I have numerous friends from around the world."**

**Carole Quaas, Instructor**  
Oglala Lakota College

### Certificate Requirements

This is a 12-hour/4-course certificate. Any student who has already completed an undergraduate degree may apply to the program

#### Prerequisite

**ENGL 3615/8615** *Introduction to Linguistics*

This can be fulfilled at either the undergraduate or graduate level. Equivalent courses from other institutions will be considered.

#### Required Courses

1. **ENGL 8656** *Structure of English*
2. One course from the following list:
  - **FLNG 8030** *SLA Theory*
  - **ENGL 8740** *Seminar: Discourse, Culture and Power*
3. One course from the following list:
  - **ENGL 8770** *Seminar: L2 Composition Pedagogy*
  - **TED 8006** *Methods in Teaching FL and ESL*
4. One course from the following list:
  - **ENGL 8020** *Seminar: College Writing Instruction (fall, GTAs only)\**
  - **ENGL 8756** *Composition Theory and Pedagogy\**
  - **ENGL 8775** *Writing Center Theory, Pedagogy, and Research\**
  - **ENGL 8780** *Pedagogic Field Experience\**
  - **ENGL 8806** *English Internship\**

\*Projects must be TESOL-based.

# Graduate TESOL Certificate Requirements (12 credits)

## Additional Requirement

### Bachelor's Degree\*\*

A bachelor's degree is required. All courses in this program are taken at the 8000 level.

## Additional Resources for TESOL

Educators take great pride in continuing their education and in the professionalization of their fields. There are many resources on the internet for TESOL, but here are just a few of the really important ones.

### MIDTESOL [midtesol.org](http://midtesol.org)

MidAmerica Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages. An association for teachers in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, and Iowa.

### TESOL International Assoc. [www.tesol.org](http://www.tesol.org)

This is the largest association in the U.S. and Canada for teachers of English to speakers of other languages.

### American Association for Applied Linguistics [www.aal.org](http://www.aal.org)

This is a professional association of scholars who research language teaching very broadly.

### How to apply

If you would like to complete the Graduate TESOL Certificate, you can enroll by applying to Graduate Studies. <https://www.unomaha.edu/graduate-studies/>

\*\*Please note that the TESOL certificate is not certification for teaching in public schools. To be licensed in the state of Nebraska, contact the UNO College of Education.

## A Message from the Director



In the United States, the need for well-prepared language teachers is constant. Teachers are much more likely than ever to have the opportunity to teach students who come from a variety of cultural, linguistic, and educational backgrounds.

The Graduate Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages is a rigorous academic credential that includes a focus on the structure of the English language, theories of second language learning, and approaches to classroom pedagogy. All teachers will eventually work with nonnative speakers, so all teaching concentrations—like math, history, science, and social studies—are welcome.

But the certificate is also helpful for people even if they do not plan to be classroom teachers. Many of our graduates have gone on to work with nonnative speakers in other capacities, like helping immigrants acclimatize to the U.S. or working with refugees who are escaping from war-torn countries or natural disasters.

Although most of our graduates remain in the U.S., some of them travel abroad to teach English in other countries, like the Democratic Republic of Congo, or Chile, or Japan. Our TESOL graduates are able to see connections and similarities across a broad diversity of cultures and languages, using their knowledge and skills to build bridges for the benefit of all.

**Dr. Frank Bramlett**

*Graduate TESOL Program Director*

## Learn More

Advance your career with a Graduate Certificate in TESOL from UNO.

**Contact Dr. Frank Bramlett**  
TESOL Program Director

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