

### Course Description

The Texas A&M University Online ESL Certification Test Prep Course consists of ten lessons which are organized around the domains and competencies tested on the TExES (Texas Examinations of Educator Standards) ESL Supplemental #154 certification exam. Each of the ten lessons consists of a lecture, several readings and internet resources, short assignments to be posted within the course management system, and a short quiz.

The Texas A&M University Online ESL Certification Test Prep Course is delivered to participants using the internet. Participants may access all course components from their homes or schools. Thus, no travel to College Station is necessary. Participants communicate with the instructor via electronic discussion boards, e-mail, and telephone. Furthermore, participants are not required to purchase any additional software to access the course.

The course is designed to be self-paced within a period of about 15 weeks (1 week of introduction and prep for the course, 10 weeks of instruction, and approximately a month to complete all assignments). Participants may complete the lessons independently at their convenience. However, the instructor guides the overall pace of the course by releasing lessons as indicated by the schedule on the syllabus. Participants are encouraged to keep up with weekly lessons so that they can participate fully the online discussion boards. Upon completion of the course, participants receive a certificate documenting 120 clock hours of professional development.

#### Comparison of TESOL and TExES ESL Teacher Competency Standards with Texas A&M Online ESL Course Lesson Alignment

Area	TESOL	TExES	Course Lesson Number
Language	<b>Standard 1.a. Describing language.</b> Candidates demonstrate understanding of language as a system and demonstrate a high level of competence in helping ESOL students acquire and use English in listening, speaking, reading, and writing for social and academic purposes.	<b>Competency 1:</b> The ESL teacher understands fundamental language concepts and knows the structure and conventions of the English language.	Lesson 3
	<b>Standard 1.b. Language acquisition and development.</b> Candidates understand and apply concepts, theories, research, and practice to facilitate the acquisition of a primary and a new language in and out of classroom settings.	<b>Competency 2:</b> The ESL teacher understands the processes of first-language (L1) and second language (L2) acquisition and the interrelatedness of L1 and L2 development.	Lesson 4

Area	TESOL	TE <del>x</del> ES	Course Lesson Number
<b>Culture</b>	<b>Standard 2.a. Nature and Role of Culture.</b> Candidates know, understand, and use the major concepts, principles, theories, and research related to the nature and role of culture in language development and academic achievement that support individual students' learning.	<b>Competency 8 &amp; 9: (8)</b> The ESL teacher understands the foundations of ESL education and types of ESL programs. <b>(9)</b> The ESL teacher understands factors that affect ESL students' learning and implements strategies for creating an effective multicultural and multilingual learning environment.	Lesson 1, Lesson 2
	<b>Standard 2.b. Cultural Groups and Identity.</b> Candidates know, understand, and use knowledge of how cultural groups and students' cultural identities affect language learning and school achievement.	<b>Competency 8 &amp; 9: (8)</b> The ESL teacher understands the foundations of ESL education and types of ESL programs. <b>(9)</b> The ESL teacher understands factors that affect ESL students' learning and implements strategies for creating an effective multicultural and multilingual learning environment.	Lesson 1, Lesson 2
<b>Instruction</b>	<b>Standard 3.a. Planning for Standards-Based ESL and Content Instruction.</b> Candidates know, understand, and apply concepts, research, and best practices to plan classroom instruction in a supportive learning environment for ESOL students. Candidates serve as effective English language models, as they plan for multilevel classrooms with learners from diverse backgrounds using standards-based ESL and content curriculum.	<b>Competency 3:</b> The ESL teacher understands ESL teaching methods and uses this knowledge to plan and implement effective, developmentally appropriate instruction.	Lesson 5
	<b>Standard 3.b. Managing and Implementing Standards-Based ESL and Content Instruction.</b> Candidates know, manage, and implement a variety of standards-based teaching strategies and techniques for developing and integrating English listening, speaking, reading, and writing, and for accessing the core curriculum. Candidates support ESOL students in accessing the core curriculum as they learn language and academic content together.	<b>Competency 3 &amp; 6: (3)</b> The ESL teacher understands ESL teaching methods and uses this knowledge to plan and implement effective, developmentally appropriate instruction. <b>(6)</b> The ESL teacher understands how to promote students' content area learning, academic language development, and achievement across the curriculum.	Lesson 5, Lesson 8
	<b>Standard 3.c. Using Resources Effectively in ESL and Content Instruction.</b> Candidates are familiar with a wide range of standards-based materials, resources, and technologies, and choose, adapt, and use them in effective ESL and content teaching.	<b>Competency 3 &amp; 5: (3)</b> The ESL teacher understands ESL teaching methods and uses this knowledge to plan and implement effective, developmentally appropriate instruction. <b>(5)</b> The ESL teacher understands how to promote students' literacy development in English.	Lesson 5, Lesson 7

Area	TESOL	TExES	Course Lesson Number
<b>Assessment</b>	<b>Standard 4.a. Issues of Assessment for ESL.</b> Candidates understand various issues of assessment (e.g., cultural and linguistic bias; political, social, and psychological factors) in assessment, IQ, and special education testing (including gifted and talented); the importance of standards; and the difference between language proficiency and other types of assessment (e.g., standardized achievement tests of overall mastery), as they affect ESOL student learning.	<b>Competency 7 &amp; 9: (7)</b> The ESL teacher understands formal and informal assessment procedures and instruments used in ESL programs and uses assessment results to plan and adapt instruction. <b>(9)</b> The ESL teacher understands factors that affect ESL students' learning and implements strategies for creating an effective multicultural and multilingual learning environment.	Lesson 2, Lesson 9
	<b>Standard 4.b. Language Proficiency Assessment.</b> Candidates know and use a variety of standards-based language proficiency instruments to inform their instruction and understand their uses for identification, placement, and demonstration of language growth of ESOL students.	<b>Competency 4 &amp; 7: (4)</b> The ESL teacher understands how to promote students' communicative language development in English. <b>(7)</b> The ESL teacher understands formal and informal assessment procedures and instruments used in ESL programs and uses assessment results to plan and adapt instruction.	Lesson 6, Lesson 9
	<b>Standard 4.c. Classroom-Based Assessment for ESL.</b> Candidates know and use a variety of performance-based assessment tools and techniques to inform instruction.	<b>Competency 7:</b> The ESL teacher understands formal and informal assessment procedures and instruments used in ESL programs and uses assessment results to plan and adapt instruction.	Lesson 9
<b>Professionalism</b>	<b>Standard 5.a. ESL Research and History.</b> Candidates demonstrate knowledge of history, research, and current practice in the field of ESL teaching and apply this knowledge to improve teaching and learning.	<b>Competency 8:</b> The ESL teacher understands the foundations of ESL education and types of ESL programs.	Lesson 1
	<b>Standard 5.b. Partnerships and Advocacy.</b> Candidates serve as professional resources, advocate for ESOL students, and build partnerships with students' families.	<b>Competency 8 &amp; 10: (8)</b> The ESL teacher understands the foundations of ESL education and types of ESL programs. <b>(10)</b> The ESL teacher knows how to serve as an advocate for ESL students and facilitate family and community involvement in their education.	Lesson 1, Lesson 10
	<b>Standard 5.c. Professional Development and Collaboration.</b> Candidates collaborate with and are prepared to serve as a resource to all staff, including paraprofessionals, to improve learning for all ESOL students.	<b>Competency 8 &amp; 10: (8)</b> The ESL teacher understands the foundations of ESL education and types of ESL programs. <b>(10)</b> The ESL teacher knows how to serve as an advocate for ESL students and facilitate family and community involvement in their education.	Lesson 1, Lesson 10

For more information please visit the Language Diversity Network at <http://ldn.tamu.edu>.

Bilingual Education Programs  
4225 TAMU, College Station, TX 77843-4225  
Tel: 979.845.2599 Email: [lingualed@tamu.edu](mailto:lingualed@tamu.edu)