



SIT TESOL Certificate Course Syllabus

The SIT TESOL Certificate Course consists of 8 modules. The first two, Learning and Teaching, explore the principles of adult learning and ways teachers can set up a classroom to facilitate the learning process.

Participants then go on to explore what are known as the “4 Skills” in TESOL: speaking, listening, reading, and writing. Although the “Grammar” module falls in the middle of the 4 skills, the focus on language awareness is a thread that runs through the entire course.

Finally, participants reflect back on all of the modules through the lens of cultural awareness, though, here again, attention is paid to inter-cultural dynamics throughout the course.

Module	Key Questions
<i>Learning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What factors affect adult learning? • What tends to help people learn? • What conditions often hinder learning? • What helps and hinders your own learning?
<i>Teaching</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What can a teacher do to be more effective in facilitating the learning process? • How can learning objectives affect teachers and students? • What are critical factors in managing a classroom? • How can teachers create a more learning-centered classroom? • What is the role of a group or community in an individual's learning process? How can learning in community affect individuals? • What does it mean to 'reflect rigorously' on teaching and learning? How can reflection help both learners and teachers be more effective?
<i>Speaking</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For language learners what does speaking involve? • How can we define speaking in the ESOL context? • What are ways of communicating effectively while speaking? • What types of activities can help students be more accurate and fluent in their speaking?
<i>Listening</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What do learners do as they listen in a foreign language? • How can we define listening in the ESOL context? • What skills and strategies can help students be more effective when listening to a foreign language? • What activities and strategies can teachers and learners do before, while, and after listening to more effectively understand and think about what they have heard?

<p>***** <i>Grammar & Language Awareness</i> *****</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is grammar? What does it mean to know a word? ● How can I research and prepare notes on the target language before I teach? ● What is the difference between the form, meaning, and use of grammar and vocabulary? ● What is the role of grammar terminology in the teaching/learning process? ● How can teachers help motivate students to learn and use grammar effectively to communicate? ● What types of activities and strategies can help learners become more confident and effective with grammar and vocabulary? ● How can teachers sequence activities to promote learning? ● What are different ways of responding to student errors and ways of providing positive feedback in the learning process?
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<p><i>Reading</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What skills are involved in reading effectively in a foreign language? ● What is your definition of reading? ● What skills and strategies can help students be more effective when reading in a foreign language? ● What activities and strategies can teachers and learners do before, while, and after reading to more effectively understand and think about what they have read? ● How are the two receptive skills, reading and listening, similar and different from each other? ● How do these similarities and differences affect the way we teach?
<p><i>Writing</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What does writing effectively in a foreign language involve? ● What do students need to know and be able to do? ● What activities and strategies can teachers and learners do at various points in the Writer's Process to make writing more effective? ● How are the two productive skills, writing and speaking, similar and different from each other? ● How do these similarities and differences affect the way we teach?
<p><i>Culture</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● What is culture in the context of teaching ESOL? ● How can the culture of the learners and the teacher affect the learning process? ● What strategies can help learners and teachers be more effective in situations involving intercultural communication? ● What activities and approaches to culture can help foster respect and learning in the classroom?