TEACHING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

College of Arts and Humanities
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West Chester University
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Teaching English as a Second Language (https://www.wcupa.edu/TESOL)
Dr. Smidt (csmidt@wcupa.edu), Director and Graduate Coordinator

Programs of Study
The master of arts in teaching English as a second language is an interdisciplinary program contributed to by the departments of English, Languages and Cultures, Anthropology and Sociology, Communication Studies, and Philosophy. The program is designed for those preparing to teach English to students whose first language is not English; graduates of this program are also prepared to design ESL/EFL curriculum and to assess the linguistic development of second language students. Also offered is the certificate of preparation in ESL teaching, a graduate program that leads to the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s qualification for teaching ESL PK-12 in the public schools. The certificate courses may be applied toward the M.A. in TESL. Provided that entering students are precertified in a stand-alone area, this certificate qualifies graduates for public school ESL teaching in Pennsylvania. Both the M.A. and certificate programs provide background in linguistics, sociolinguistics and culture, and teaching methodology in TESL.

Programs

Master’s Program in Teaching English as a Second Language
• M.A. in Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/arts-humanities/teaching-english-second-language/teaching-english-second-language-ms)

Certificate in ESL Teaching
• Certificate of Preparation in ESL Teaching (ESL Program Specialist Certificate) (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/arts-humanities/teaching-english-second-language/teaching-english-second-language-cert)
  • Gainful Employment Information: Certificate of Preparation in ESL Teaching (http://wcupa.edu/gainfulEmployment)

Admissions
All applicants to one of West Chester University’s graduate programs will be held to the graduate admissions requirements (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/graduate-admissions). When applicable, additional requirements for admission into specific department program(s) may be listed below.

In addition to meeting the general requirements for admission (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/general-information/admissions-enrollment/graduate-admissions) to a graduate program at West Chester, applicants must document background in the following areas:
1. Introduction to Linguistics (subject to approval by a TESL program advisor)
2. Proficiency in English (one of the following three options): a. TOEFL: 92 for the internet-based exam, 237 for the computer-based exam, 580 for the paper-based exam b. IELTS: An overall score at band 6.5 or above, and minimum scores of 6.5 for speaking, listening, reading, and writing are preferred.

Policies
All graduate students are held to the academic policies and procedures (http://catalog.wcupa.edu/graduate/academic-policies-procedures) outlined in the graduate catalog. Students are encouraged to review departmental handbooks for program tips, suggested course sequences, and explanations of procedures. When applicable, additional policies for specific department program(s) may be listed below.

Faculty
Professor
Andrea Varricchio (avarricchio@wcupa.edu) (1986)
B.A., Chestnut Hill College; M.A., Middlebury College; Ph.D., Temple University

Associate Professors
Mahmoud Amer (mamer@wcupa.edu) (2011)
Chairperson, Languages and Cultures
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Chui Kian Smidt (csmidt@wcupa.edu) (2011)
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