



# TESOL\* Certificate Program

## Learn to Teach English to Adults at Westchester Community College

### Admission Requirements:

- An undergraduate degree or equivalent is generally required.
- Advanced level of English proficiency. Assessment may be required. for non-native speakers.
- I-20 available to international students.

### Certification Requirements:

- Satisfactory completion of all course work and supervised teaching.
- Satisfactory completion of program portfolio.
- Students are allowed a maximum of 3 absences in the program for certificate eligibility.

### Tuition:

\$2025 (residency NOT required; FSA & registration fees not included)

Books: approx. \$100  
(not included in tuition)

### Contact:

Lesley Painter –Farrell  
TESOL Certificate Program  
Coordinator  
Office: 914-606-7743  
Email: [TESOL@sunywcc.edu](mailto:TESOL@sunywcc.edu)



### The Program at a Glance

- 12-week noncredit program, offered 3 times a year: spring, summer & fall.
- Classes meet virtually or in person on Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm or 9 am -12:30 pm
- 126 hours of in-person or online classroom instruction + 30 hours of in-person or online class observations and mentored practice teaching.
- The program consists of **three** required modules and a **Teaching Practicum**, which includes an additional 12 hours of classroom observations and 18 hours of supervised teaching practice.
  - Module 1: **English Language: Sounds and Structure**
  - Module 2: **The Classroom Experience**
  - Module 3: **Principles of Language Learning and Teaching**
- Participants will learn to:
  - Lead student-centered classes
  - Use a variety of materials and techniques
  - Effectively manage classes for adult learners
  - Plan dynamic lessons in areas of grammar, conversation, reading, and writing

### Spring 2025 - Two Schedule Options

1. **Morning in-person or remote classes**  
January 15th-April 9th  
Mondays/Wednesdays/Thursdays, 9:00 am -12:30 pm
2. **Evening in-person or remote classes**  
January 15th-April 9th  
Mondays, Wednesdays/Thursdays, 6 pm—9:30 pm



**SUNY WESTCHESTER**  
**ENGLISH LANGUAGE**  
**INSTITUTE**

\*Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages (Adult learners)

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*“Educator, ambassador, cultural guide: this is the job description of an ESL instructor who has experienced the exceptional teacher training in the WCC SUNY TESOL Program. With my TESOL Certification in hand, I’ve found myself at the forefront of helping improve the lives of immigrants from around the world. The online intensive was a marvelous experience, one of community and creativity. These qualities still inform my teaching practice now, as I guide my own ESL adult classes.”*

*Julia Sinclair  
Summer 2022 grad*

*“I have never experienced greater value in education both in terms of time and cost than I experienced at Westchester Community College in the TESOL program.”*

*Anne Holmes 2024 grad*

*“The WCC TESOL program is such a wonderful learning experience! I had amazing teachers and mentors, highly stimulating lessons, wonderful classmates, and I was able to gain invaluable practical experience in actual ESL classrooms. It is the kind of training that opens opportunities for career growth and expansion and I am so thankful I signed up for it!”*

*Dina Delias  
Spring 2022 grad*

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### How to Apply for the TESOL Certificate Program

- ◆ Apply online at <http://www.sunywcc.edu/continuing-ed/esl/tesol-certificate-program>
- ◆ Submit a current CV or resume
- ◆ Submit copies of college transcripts/degrees
- ◆ Submit a 500-word essay on: *Your Interest in Teaching English as a Second Language*

### Frequently Asked Questions

- **Do I need a college degree to enroll in the TESOL Certificate Program at WCC?** Most applicants have undergraduate degrees; however, our admittance decisions are made on a case by case basis.
- **Who is the program for?** For those wishing to teach **adults** in college programs, in not-for-profit institutions, or in private language schools in the USA or abroad. The program is suitable for those with some teaching experience, no teaching experience, or for teachers who wish to advance their knowledge of ESOL methodologies and technology. Numerous experienced teachers with K-12 certification have taken the program also but this does **not** program does not State certify teachers for the K-12 context.
- **How long is the program?** The program is 12 weeks long. We run three semesters a year: spring (Jan-Apr), summer (May-Aug) and fall (Sept-Dec).
- **When and where will the observations and teaching practicum take place?** All fieldwork will be done in WCC ELI classes either in person or online. There are different scheduling options: weekday mornings and afternoons, Tuesday evenings, and Saturday or Sunday mornings or afternoons. Participants can also experience teaching in the Extra English classes, a free supplemental class for WCC students.
- **Where can I teach with a TESOL Certificate?** In most adult ESOL programs in two or four-year colleges, community-based organizations, libraries, or private language schools in the US and abroad. Many of our graduates have been hired by WCC’s English Language Institute which annually serves over 4,000 English language learners.
- **Can I teach in public schools in the US?** No, this program does not satisfy K-12 certification requirements.
- **Why is this program better than others?** The program’s unique model combines theory and practice and provides students with hands on, authentic classroom practice by having them teach in the ELI’s ESL program. The ELI was established in 1988 and is the largest in the SUNY system. Other program strengths include the program’s mentored teaching practice, its affordability and length, and the student support throughout the semester and beyond.



\*Teaching of English to Speakers of Other Languages