

Summer Master of Arts in TESOL

The Summer Master of Arts in TESOL program is designed to meet the needs of the working teacher of English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). Participants earn their MA in TESOL degree by completing the following components:

1. two consecutive summers of coursework;
2. the Interim-Year Teaching Practicum, which takes place at the student's place of employment during the academic year between the two summers; and
3. the Independent Professional Project.

To be eligible for the summer MA in TESOL, students must have a minimum of two years of second-language teaching experience, and they must have a job teaching ESOL for the September to June period between the two summers of coursework.

Each summer of coursework consists of eight weeks of intensive study. After the first summer, students return to their regular teaching positions to carry out the Interim-Year Teaching Practicum, which they develop before they leave the Brattleboro campus. Regular progress reports are submitted to the students' practicum advisors during the interim year. After completing the coursework in the second summer of the program, students begin work on the Independent Professional Project.

Please note that program offerings are subject to change.

The Interim-Year Teaching Practicum

The Interim-Year Teaching Practicum, between the two summers of coursework at SIT, is an integral part of the summer program. It is intended to be a time of significant professional growth, when students can reflect on the learning experiences of the first summer and experiment with new skills, attitudes, knowledge, and awareness in their classrooms. It also provides a way for students to evaluate their teaching competencies, for their practicum advisors to assess strengths and weaknesses, and for both to determine future directions for improvement and growth.

The goal of the Interim-Year Teaching Practicum is for each student to be able to formulate and act on his or her teaching philosophy. To this end, the program aims for students to be able to: 1) describe what they do in each of their classes; 2) discuss how they teach—their overall system; 3) articulate why they teach the way they do—their overall assumptions and the approach used to present and practice material; 4) connect their teaching approach to the techniques used and the order in which they present and practice material; 5) recognize and assess the successes and shortcomings of each course and each semester; and 6) improve through self-assessment and the input of their teaching practicum advisor.

Requirements: The Interim-Year Teaching Practicum site is the student's usual place or places of employment. The teaching load must consist of a minimum of 12 hours of classroom teaching per week for a minimum of eight months. The summer MA in TESOL student must be the primary teacher. Minimum class size is five students. Any deviation from these requirements must be approved in advance by the program chair. In addition, any change in teaching situation must have the prior approval of the teaching practicum advisor and

program chair. All students are observed in the classroom by their practicum advisor. The observation, reports, and assigned projects are a tutorial on teaching, directed by the practicum advisor.

Evaluation: The Interim-Year Teaching Practicum is in many ways the culmination of the first summer's academic work, reflection, and planning. If it is decided that the student needs more time to complete the practicum, the student receives a mark of In Progress (IP) for the practicum. Additional teaching or other work, supervised by the practicum advisor, must be accomplished according to the conditions set by the practicum advisor. This additional work must take place by the end of the following academic year.

If the student's performance during the teaching practicum is deemed unsatisfactory by the supervisor, the student receives a mark of Fail for the practicum. The entire practicum must be repeated, with supervision provided by MA in TESOL faculty, according to conditions set by the practicum advisor and program chair. This repeat teaching practicum must be completed by the end of the spring semester of the following year. The student is responsible for per-credit tuition costs and the advisor's expenses

The MA in TESOL program will have no obligation to place the student in another internship without a full review of the reasons for failure.

The Independent Professional Project (IPP)

The Independent Professional Project, or thesis, completes the summer program. In addition to being a significant personal experience, it should be of interest and value to others in the profession and of publishable quality. The project requirement may be met in one of three ways: a professional paper, a materials development project, or a classroom research project.

SUMMER MA in TESOL IPP Approval Dates

APPROVAL DEADLINE	DEGREE CONFERRAL
August 1	September 2
September 1	December 15
November 1	December 15
April 1	Late May– Early June

Language Study Requirement

During the first summer of study, all students are required to enroll in a beginning language course. The purpose of this course is to allow students to have the experience of being beginning language learners and explore their own learning processes. The MA in TESOL program selects the language of study for each student.

Time Limits for Completion of the Degree

The Summer MA in TESOL student has until September 1, three years from the date of matriculation, to complete all requirements for the degree, including the Independent Professional Project. If this deadline is missed, the student has two years to request a one-year extension. This request must define the beginning and ending dates of the extension and must be submitted in writing along with a completed Independent Professional Project proposal form. A \$950 extension fee (subject to change) is charged if the extension is granted. All coursework must be completed within the 12-month period of the approved extension request.

For example, a student who begins the program in June 2011 must complete all degree requirements by September 1, 2014. If this deadline is missed, the student has until September 1, 2016, to request an extension. If all work has not been completed by September 1, 2017, the student is no longer eligible to receive the degree.

Required Courses	Credits
First summer	
EDLG5504 Approaches to Teaching Second Languages	3
EDLG5520 Teaching the Four Skills	3
EDLG5810 Language Analysis for Lesson Planning	3
ICHR5800 Intercultural Communication for Language Teachers*	2
Beginning Language Study	(1 undergraduate)
Interim year	
EDLG5690 Fall Interim-Year Teaching Practicum	3
EDLG5691 Spring Interim-Year Teaching Practicum	3
Second summer	
ICHR5810 Intercultural Communication for Language Teachers	1
EDLG5830 Curriculum Design and Assessment*	3
EDLG5532 English Applied Linguistics	3
EDLG5805 Second-Language Acquisition	3
EDLG5612 Sandanona Conference Presentation	1
Post summer	
EDLG5699 Independent Professional Project	6
Total graduate credits: 34	
<i>Elective:</i>	
EDLG5680 Independent Study	1-3

Students who take additional credits will be charged on a per-credit basis.

** Includes contextualized work during the interim year*