

What is the WKU TESL Minor? Teaching English as a Second Language



WKU ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

Cherry Hall
1906 College Heights Blvd.

What can you do with a TESL minor? Education Majors Can Turn Their Minor into a TESOL Endorsement



Content area teachers with an ESL background are in high demand!
Many states require TESL training.

Any Major Can Use the Minor to Access International Job Opportunities



Do you want to live abroad and earn money?
Positions may earn tax-free salaries with health care and paid airfare!

Many Fields Support Communication across Languages



Healthcare

- Physicians
- Nurses
- Medical translators

Social Work
Business

What is required for TESL minor?

You need to declare the TESL minor.

You can start classes AFTER finishing ENG 104, 204, or 302.

Fall I—ENG 407, ENG 469*

Spring I—ENG 408, ENG 470*

Spring II—ENG 471

*Online course

The TESL minor requires nineteen (19) semester hours of core coursework and (6) hours of foreign language or fulfillment of the Colonnade language requirement.

What our students say

The coursework helped frame my understanding of what was happening at any stage of the language acquisition process and gave me the cultural competencies essential to teach English as a foreign language. I would say that the hands-on experience of my TESL practicum helped me more easily adapt to the sudden, ever-changing demands of teaching in a foreign country. I think anyone interested in teaching English abroad, even if it's just for a year or two to "find themselves" and not as part of a career path, should complete TESL coursework to better themselves and to better the experience of their students.—Teresa Witcher, International Student Advisor at Iowa State University (WKU MA, 2014)

My Fulbright experience offered me the unique opportunity of teaching English where it is not commonly used. When asked specific questions about grammar or, simply, why phrases are put together in a certain way, I had to rely heavily on my studies in linguistics [ENG 104, ENG 304] to make the language more relatable to my students. Language can be such a challenge, but when that "click" happens, the result is worth all of the effort.—Jessica Brumley, (WKU BA, 2015; Fulbright, China, 2016-17)

Who are we

Dr. Alex Poole



Oklahoma State University, Professor of English, TESL Program Director
-Area of Specialization: TESL
Office: Cherry Hall 6A
Phone: 270-745-5780
Email: alex.poole@wku.edu

Dr. Elizabeth Winkler



Indiana University, Professor of English
-Area of Specialization: Linguistics
Office: Cherry Hall 113
Phone: 270-745-8720
Email: elizabeth.winkler@wku.edu

Dr. Alison Youngblood



University of Central Florida, Assistant Professor of English
-Area of Specialization: TESL
Office: Cherry Hall 6B
Phone: 270-745-2257
Email: alison.youngblood@wku.edu

Dr. Trini Stickle



University of Wisconsin-Madison, Assistant Professor of English
-Area of Specialization: Linguistics
Office: Cherry Hall 128
Phone: 270-745-5726
Email: trini.stickle@wku.edu