Teaching English as an Additional Language (TEAL)

Course Description

This course is a practical introduction to the field of Teaching English as an Additional Language (TEAL). Students gain an understanding of language pedagogy while exploring best practices for teaching English to all levels of students both in the United States and abroad. Students also learn how to (i) design a course, (ii) prepare and lead activities, (iii) develop assessment tools, and (iv) work effectively within an English language program or community. Other topics such as intercultural communication and culture shock are also explored.

Student Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course:

1. Students will be able to understand the various contexts and history of English as an additional language and understand what roles/challenges/opportunities students, instructors, and professional organizations play in these contexts.

2. Students will establish a professional instructor identity and understand how to adapt this identity to the classroom/community instructional setting.

3. Students will be able to explain the importance of identifying learner goals within their specific teaching contexts and adapt instruction and materials to these goals.

4. Students will be able to name the reading, vocabulary, listening, and speaking skills learners at various levels should work to achieve and the best pedagogy associated in reaching these skills.

5. Students will be able to design and lead classroom/community-based activities for student production/assessment of the four skill areas.

6. Students will be able to understand key concepts in intercultural communication as it relates to instructor – student and student-student interactions as well as how intercultural communication plays a role both in the classroom and the local community.

Recommended Materials

- Teaching by Principles: An Interactive Approach to Language Pedagogy (4th ed.) Brown
- Standards of ESL/EFL Teachers of Adults. TESOL press.