

# TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

MASTER OF ARTS  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

[www.sru.edu/tesol](http://www.sru.edu/tesol)



## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The globalization of English and a national and regional increase in non-native English-speaking populations create a need for highly-trained practitioners who can address the specialized educational needs of adult English language learners at home and abroad. While the number of immigrants is increasing, evidence suggests that the English language barrier is becoming more common. According to the Pew Research Center, the proportion of U.S. immigrants who speak English "less than very well" (i.e. they are not proficient in English) increased from 43% in 1980 to 50% in 2013.

Labor markets project that the language school industry in Pennsylvania is set to grow by 22% between 2015 and 2025, much faster than the average growth of 7.4% in Pennsylvania alone. Accordingly, the region is seeing an exploding need for language school services and, by extension, for a well-trained language educator workforce. The MA TESOL will help the region meet this urgent need.

Slippery Rock University's MA TESOL prepares graduates for the challenges of an increasingly interconnected world, aiming to educate world citizens who acquire linguistic skills through intellectual acculturation. Through challenging, quality, and interdisciplinary training, SRU graduates will be prepared to work in dynamic and pivotal roles by providing adult ELL instruction in higher education, community literacy, and multicultural global settings, as well as instructional media and materials development in the TESOL publishing industry, thus facilitating their lifelong skill development in the increasingly vital area of TESOL.

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Slippery Rock University's Master of Arts in TESOL is 30 to 33 credits, depending on which track you select, and offers:

- Flexibility to fit your busy schedule - online, blended, and once-weekly evening courses
- Two tracks, experiential and general, that can be completed in 16-24 months
- Interdisciplinary instruction from five academic departments
- Curriculum includes a 13-credit graduate certificate ([www.sru.edu/tesol](http://www.sru.edu/tesol)) and click on link of your choice at the bottom of the page for certificate programs
- TESOL practicum may be completed locally or abroad
- Expert faculty with earned doctorates

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All applicants must submit the following materials along with a completed online graduate application and non-refundable application fee:

1. Bachelor's degree with a minimum cumulative grade point average of a 2.75 in English, modern languages, theoretical linguistics, applied linguistics, education, or a related field. Other areas of study, including minors in the above disciplines, will be considered (prior coursework in linguistics will be strongly recommended but not required). Conditional admission with a 2.5 GPA will be considered.
2. Official undergraduate transcripts from the applicant's baccalaureate granting institution and any graduate transcripts (if applicable)
3. Two letters of recommendation
4. Statement of Intent (including personal and professional goals)
5. GRE not required

International students should check with the Office for Global Engagement to review all international documents and visa status. Please visit the Graduate Admissions website at [www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate) for more information.

**SlipperyRock**  
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System  
of Higher Education

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[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)

## CURRICULUM (30-33 CREDITS)

Core Courses - offered once yearly (24 credits)

FALL TERM (9 CREDITS)	SPRING TERM (9 CREDITS)	SUMMER TERM (6 CREDITS)
MODL 602: Principles of Language Learning and Teaching	MODL 604: Methods of TESOL	COMM 617: Intercultural Communication
MODL 612: Sociolinguistics	MODL 606: Second Language Acquisition	ENGL 620: Linguistics and Writing
MODL 699: Practicum in TESOL	MODL 608: Grammar for TESOL	

### Electives

ELEC 608:	Historical, Psychological, and Linguistic Foundations of Literacy	3
ELEC 614:	Foundations of Instructional Coaching	3
ENGL 602:	Rhetorical Theory	3
ENGL 642:	Digital Writing and Publishing	3
MODL 590/690:	Experimental/Advanced Experimental	1-6
MODL 595/695:	Workshop/Advanced Workshop	1-6
MODL 598/698:	Selected Topics/Advanced Selected Topics	3
MODL 614:	Computer-Assisted Language Learning	3
MODL 616:	Language Testing and Assessment	3
MODL 700:	Independent Study	1-3
SEFE 607:	The Theories and Teaching of English Language Learners	3
SEFE 679:	Psychology of Learning and Instruction for Diverse Learners	3

### End Projects for Experiential Track:

MODL 750:	Internship	1-3
MODL 799:	Capstone TESOL Project	1-3
MODL 800:	Thesis	1-3

## TUITION AND ASSISTANTSHIPS

Information on current tuition and assistantships can be found on the main Graduate Admissions website at [www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate). Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office [www.sru.edu/FinAid](http://www.sru.edu/FinAid) or in the Office of Graduate Admissions.

## TESTIMONIALS

*"Having a Master's degree in TESOL will set you apart from many other job applicants in the field. As a student at SRU, I was able to complete my internship while teaching English in Ukraine, which gave me an additional leg up on other candidates for my current position. Your advanced degree, combined with the experiences you will gain during your internship/practicum will allow you to find a job teaching English almost anywhere in the world, even in places where the economy is struggling and the job market is tight." Dr. Vanessa MacKinnon, MA TESOL graduate Dec 2017, Teaching ESL for Study Abroad Canada*

*"Due to some family commitments, I recently had to move back home after many years of living abroad. Fortunately, English teachers with Master's degrees in TESOL are highly sought-after all over the world, which enabled me to find meaningful work teaching at an English language school in my home town. I interact on a daily basis with interesting and enthusiastic young people from around the world who are eager to improve their English for university, travel, and their current and future careers." Anonymous, MA TESOL graduate, 2018*

*The TESOL Graduate program has helped me gain a better understanding for not only myself, but the world around me. I am very fortunate to be able to work with professors and advisors in the TESOL program who genuinely care about their students and their future plans. They were always there without hesitation to support me through the diverse courses offered. This program has been very rewarding for my future career plans because I am able to utilize the passion for teaching people in a way I never expected. There are so many students, all different ages, who need help learning English all over the world and now I have the knowledge and experience to help these students strive. I am very thankful for the TESOL program and all the amazing opportunities. It has helped me grow as a person and as a future educator. Jimmy Bustillos, MA TESOL, May 2019*

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Dr. Marnie Jo Petray-Covey  
Graduate Coordinator  
218 G Spotts World Culture  
724.738.4577  
[marnie.petray-covey@sru.edu](mailto:marnie.petray-covey@sru.edu)

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions  
104 North Hall, Welcome Center  
Slippery Rock, PA 16057  
[www.sru.edu/graduate](http://www.sru.edu/graduate)  
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD  
[graduate.admissions@sru.edu](mailto:graduate.admissions@sru.edu)

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.