

## Trinity College London CertTESOL

Based on Trinity College London, information.

Trinity CertTESOL certificate is designed for those with little or no experience of teaching English. It equips candidates with the basic skills and knowledge needed to take up a first post as an ESOL teacher. It gives an introduction to the theory and practice of contemporary English teaching and an insight into the challenges facing the learner and the role of the teacher.

It is accepted by the British Council as an initial TESOL or TEFL qualification for teachers in its accredited teaching organisations in the UK and in its own teaching operations overseas. Credits are also awarded towards degree programmes offered by the Open University in the UK.

### Course Organisation

This involves a minimum number of course hours (100 hours of input over a minimum of a 130 hour programme). There is a minimum amount of teaching practice with genuine learners of English and a range of written and practical assignments. All course providers (training organisations) are rigorously assessed and externally validated by Trinity. They are monitored carefully over all their courses.

### Entry Requirements

- Minimum age is 18. Some course providers specify 20 or 21
- Trainees should have an educational background and qualifications to allow them to enter higher education in their own countries
- The trainee's spoken and written English should be excellent and appropriate to a teacher who needs to offer a model of English language skills. Second language speakers of English are welcome to apply for training places; all applicants will be assessed equally at interview
- Trainees should be able to explain the relevant features of English to learners and teach these in a communicative context
- Trainees should be able to work as a member of the training group and respond constructively to feedback on personal performance
- Trainees should have the potential for combined study including language description and analysis, and also rigorous practical training

### **What content should be covered in an introductory TEFL course?**

A good course should equip you with the basic skills and knowledge needed to take up your first post as an ESOL teacher.

A good course should include:

- teaching practice - with real learners of English, including evaluation and feedback
- observation of ESOL teaching by experienced teachers - with the CertTESOL you get 4 hours of observation
- lesson plan practice - with self-and tutor-evaluation and feedback
- spoken and written language practice - study of grammar and phonology and how to build them into your teaching
- needs analysis for learner – including preparation of a simple linguistic profile of an individual learner
- experience of learning an unknown language - to help you to reflect on the beginner English language learner's point of view

### **Coursework**

The main course content is delivered and assessed through five units. The work for Units 1, 2, 3 and 5 is marked by your internal course tutors and moderated or sampled and checked by a member of the Trinity moderators panel at the end of every course. The moderator externally assesses the work for Unit 4.

The Units are:

#### **Unit 1 : Teaching skills, assessed through:**

- Tutors' evaluation of six hours of teaching with real learners
- A journal including trainees' own lesson plans, with self- and tutor-evaluation
- A journal covering trainees' reflective comments following observation of four hours of ESOL teaching by experienced teachers

#### **Unit 2 : Language awareness including grammar and phonology, assessed through:**

- A test or practical project
- On-going use of spoken and written English

#### **Unit 3 : Learner profile, assessed through:**

- The preparation of a simple linguistic profile and needs analysis, including some basic phonemic transcription, of a single learner
- The planning of, and reflection on, a one-to-one lesson
- The preparation of recommendations for the learner's future language development

#### **Unit 4 : Materials assignment, assessed through:**

- Written rationale for the development of two pieces of teaching material
- Written evaluation of use of these in classroom teaching
- Interview with a Trinity moderator to discuss the above and the ways in which materials development is beneficial to the development of teaching skills

#### **Unit 5 : Unknown language, assessed through:**

- A journal covering trainees' reflective comments on four hours' tuition in an unknown language from the point of view of the beginner, including an analysis of the key aspects of methods and classroom management that affect the learner positively and negatively

## **Recognition for Trinity CertTESOL**

### **Where is The CertTESOL recognised?**

The CertTESOL is accepted and recognised by most English language schools in most countries around the world. It also gives you a good basis to train to teach English in the Lifelong Learning Sector in the UK (further and adult education and other programmes funded through the government.)

### **Is the TEFL qualification accepted by the British Council?**

The British Council is an international organisation that works to build learning opportunities and lasting cultural relationships between the UK and countries around the world. The British Council runs accredited English language schools in over 100 countries, employing English language teachers in a respectable working environment with good pay.

The CertTESOL is one of only two TEFL qualifications that is listed by the British Council as an acceptable introductory teaching qualification that meets their standards and requirements.

In partnership with English UK, the British Council also runs a scheme in the UK to accredit English language teaching programmes in independent schools as well as state colleges and universities. The Trinity CertTESOL is also among the qualifications accepted for teachers of English working in these accredited organisations.

### **Why is it important that the British Council accept your TEFL qualification?**

By obtaining a TEFL/TESOL certificate that is accepted by the British Council, you will be able to apply to all of the British Council language schools. Hence, a British Council recognised qualification will lead to greater job opportunities in well established schools with good reputations abroad.

### **Is the TEFL qualification accredited by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) in the UK?**

The QCA is the regulatory body for examinations and qualifications in the UK. Accreditation by the QCA means that the qualification is assigned a level in the National Qualifications Framework and that it is a formally recognised qualification in the UK.

The CertTESOL is accredited in the UK at Level 5 on the National Qualifications Framework.