

To: Faculty Assembly

Date: April 6, 2015

Re: ITI TESOL Graduate Certificate Program

This graduate certificate program is funded through a partnership of the New York State Education Department, the Syracuse City School District, SUNY Oswego, and the participating candidates, who are all certified teachers in Syracuse. The intensive program runs across one calendar year with a cohort of participants taking two courses in the fall and spring, and one course in the summer, and completing a 60 clock hour practicum each session. The courses focus on developing the knowledge, skills, and dispositions needed for teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL). This graduate certificate program is based on our nationally recognized (NCATE) undergraduate clinically rich TESOL program.

The demographics across New York State include a growing number of English language learners (ELLs). In the Syracuse City School District, the percent of ELLs has grown from approximately 5% of the nearly 20,000 students to more than 14% in the past eight years; and it continues to grow. Recognizing this exciting change, the New York State Education Department has launched several initiatives aimed at increasing the ability for all teachers, Pre-Kindergarten through grade 12, to effectively teach ELLs. One initiative is to support teacher preparation programs in developing TESOL graduate certificate programs (like this one). Other initiatives include supporting clinically rich undergraduate and graduate clinically rich TESOL programs; supporting on-going TESOL professional development activities in school districts; and modifying policy to focus attention on this growing need.

SUNY Oswego
School of Education, Curriculum & Instruction Department
Catalog Copy
TESOL (ITI)
Graduate Certificate Program

General Information. This Intensive Teaching Institute, TESOL program is appropriate for certified teachers who are currently teaching in a school district that has a partnership with SUNY Oswego. Candidates who complete this program, and pass the Content Specialty Test in ESOL, will be eligible to apply to the New York State Education Department for an Additional Certificate in ESOL K-12.

The Program. This TESOL clinically rich graduate program includes five required courses and three 60 clock-hour practicum experiences, to offer candidates key knowledge, skills, and to strengthen dispositions for teaching English language learners in their regular and content area classrooms. Working with a school-based mentor teacher, while undertaking program coursework, TESOL candidates will learn about cultural and linguistic perspectives that inform teaching strategies to support English language learners.

Prerequisite Requirements

- Hold a valid NYS Teaching Certification (non-ESOL)
- Currently teaching in a NYS school district that has an ITI partnership with SUNY Oswego

- 12 semester hours of a language other than English (ASL is acceptable)
- Methods of Literacy Instruction (3 cr)
- At least two clock hours of training in detecting and reporting suspected child abuse
- At least two clock hours of training in school violence prevention and intervention (DASA)

Admission. The following materials must be submitted online to the Graduate Studies Office, www.oswego.edu/gradstudies. Applicants will be notified of the review committee's decision within six weeks from the date the application package is complete.

Application must include the following materials:

- Application for Admission to the ITI TESOL Graduate Certificate program
- Official transcripts for all undergraduate and graduate course work
- Copy of NYS Teacher Certificate(s).
- Professional Resume

Program Requirements. Participation in monthly professional development sessions and completion of the following courses:

EDU 583, Teaching English Language Learners across the Curriculum (3 credits)

LIN 510 Introduction to Linguistics (3 credits)

TSL 512 Perspectives on Schools, Homes, and Communities (3 credits)

TSL 530 TESOL Practicum I (0 credits)

TSL 531 TESOL Summer Practicum (0 credits)

TSL 532 TESOL Practicum II (0 credits)

TSL 535 Linguistics and English Language Teaching (3 credits)

TSL 570 Methods of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (3 credits)

A grade of B- or better is required for all courses; and a Satisfactory (S) grade is required for all practica.