

# Information Packet: **ONLINE**

## Educational Specialist (EdS) in TESOL

If you have a master’s degree (or higher) and want to become better prepared for teaching English learners, consider an Educational Specialist degree (EdS) in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). The EdS-TESOL provides advanced preparation in the teaching and learning of English as a Second Language (ESL) and English as a Foreign Language (EFL). At UAB, the EdS-TESOL is for K-12 teachers who have a master's degree in education. If you also have Alabama’s Class A certification in any teaching field, you can earn Class AA certification in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). UAB’s EdS-TESOL is also for educators who have a master's degree in TESOL (or related) and teach ESL to adult learners.

When pursuing this EdS-TESOL, you will learn state-of-the-art instructional strategies for meeting the evolving needs of linguistically and culturally diverse learners, with collaborative skills for serving as reflective practitioners to guide change, and with mentoring techniques for positively influencing student achievement and institutional improvement. Through this advanced TESOL degree, you will become prepared to assume mentorship and leadership roles for guiding others in meeting the English-learning needs of their students in P-12 and adult settings. You will also develop your capacity to serve as an effective change agent in roles such as lead teacher, division head, instructional coach, professional development facilitator, and program specialist.

UAB’s EdS-TESOL is classified by the National Center for Education Statistics with the 13.1401 code, *Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language*. This Classification of Instructional Programs defines programs that "focus on the principles and practice of teaching English to students who are not proficient in English or who do not speak, read or write English, and that may prepare individuals to function as teachers and administrators in such programs." Under this code, UAB’s EdS-TESOL program offers two tracks: Certification Track and Professional Track.

- 1) The EdS-TESOL’s **Certification Track** is for educators who hold a master’s degree and Class A certification issued by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) for any instructional field and any grade span. Upon completing this program, graduates earn an EdS-TESOL and are eligible for the ALSDE’s Class AA certification (grades P-12) in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). In the ALSDE’s current code (updated Fall 2021), Class AA certification in ESOL can be pursued by Alabama educators who hold Class A certification in any instructional field.
- 2) The EdS-TESOL’s **Professional Track** is for educators who hold a master’s degree in education, ESL, or a related area but do **not** have ALSDE-issued Class A certification in an instructional field. Upon completing this program, graduates earn an EdS-TESOL. This track is designed for the following groups of professionals: a) educators in other states or countries who teach ESL to children or adults, and b) Alabama educators who teach ESL to adults or who work in schools but hold ALSDE-issued Class A certification in a non-instructional field.

With its online delivery, the EdS-TESOL is accessible across Alabama, the Southeast, and beyond. Educators from states aligned with the [State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements](#) take UAB's online courses by paying the same graduate tuition and online fees as do their Alabama classmates.

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## Ed.S. TESOL: Certification Track (33-36 credit hours)

This track leads to P-12 Class AA certification in ESOL from the ALSDE.

*Prerequisite: Valid Class A certification from the ALSDE in non-ESOL teaching field.*

Categories and Courses (All categories are required for degree completion.)	Credits
<b>TEACHING FIELD: 15-18 credits</b> <b>EESL 610</b> <i>Second Language Acquisition</i> (3 credits) – unless already taken <b>EESL 612</b> <i>Curriculum, Programs, Policies</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 615</b> <i>Grammar and Linguistics for ESL Teachers</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 625</b> <i>Phonology for Second Language Teachers</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 640</b> <i>Teaching new languages thru reading/writing</i> (3 credits) or, if already taken, EESL 647 <b>EESL 660</b> <i>Effective Teaching and Learning</i> (3 credits)	0-3 3 3 3 3 3
<b>METHODS: 3 credits</b> <b>EESL 630</b> <i>Methods and Materials for Teaching ESL</i> (3 credits) or, if already taken, EESL 637	3
<b>DIVERSITY: 3 credits</b> <b>EESL 613</b> <i>Teaching ESL in a Multicultural Society</i> (3 credits) or, if already taken, EDC 732	3
<b>RESEARCH: 6 credits</b> <b>EPR 594</b> <i>Introduction to Educational Research Design</i> (3 credits) <b>EPR 596</b> <i>Intro to Qualitative Methods in Educ. Research</i> (3 credits)	3 3
<b>INTERNSHIP: 3 credits</b> <b>EESL 690</b> <i>Internship in ESL, P-12</i> (3 credits)	3
<b>CAPSTONE*</b> Manuscript submission (EESL 680) or Specialization	0
<b>RESIDENCY: 0 credits</b> (pass/fail) <b>EESL 600</b> <i>TESOL Residency</i>	0
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION: Survey Course</b> (required if not previously completed) <b>ECY 600</b> <i>Introduction to Exceptional Learners</i> (3 credits)	0-3
*If candidates think they might later be seeking admission to a doctoral program, they should take EPR 608 within the Additional Courses category and EESL 680 within the Teaching Field category.	<b>33-36</b>

# EdS-TESOL's Certification Track

## Projected Course Map #1 (33-36 credit hours)

**for K-12 teachers with Class A certification from the ALSDE in non-ESOL teaching field**

*Candidates should consult with their SOE advisor each semester.  
(This schedule is subject to change.)*

Possible Plan	<u>Starting in Summer 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Fall 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Spring 2024</u> Fully ONLINE
<b>Semester</b>	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid
<b>Summer 2023</b>	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (or 613) (42 internship hours)		
<b>Fall 2023</b>	EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)	
<b>Spring 2024</b>	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom) ESOL Praxis #5362	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)
<b>Summer 2024</b>	EESL 613 Multicultural Society (or 640) EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 690 Internship (40 clock hours)	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (42 internship hours)	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (42 internship hours)
<b>Fall 2024</b>	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom)  <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom)	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)
<b>Spring 2025</b>	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)  GRADUATION	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)  <i>ESOL Praxis #5362</i> <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom)  <i>ESOL Praxis #5362</i>
<b>Summer 2025</b>		EESL 613 Multicultural Society EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 690 Internship (40 clock hours)  GRADUATION	EESL 613 Multicultural Society EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 690 Internship (40 clock hours)  <i>Application for Degree (deadline: July 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>
<b>Fall 2025</b>			EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)  GRADUATION

## Ed.S. TESOL: Certification Track (30-33 credit hours)

This track leads to P-12 Class AA certification in ESOL from the ALSDE.

**Prerequisite:** Valid Class A certification from the ALSDE in ESOL

Categories and Courses (All categories are required for degree completion.)	Credits
<b>TEACHING FIELD: 12 credits</b> <b>EESL 647 Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing</b> (3 credits) 3 <b>EESL 657 Instruction and Assessment: Listening and Speaking</b> (3 credits) 3 <u>6 credits of ESL electives from among the following:</u> <b>EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies</b> (3 credits) 6 <b>EESL 615 Grammar and Linguistics for ESL Teachers</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 617 Teaching English in a Global Context</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 620 Special Topics: Heritage Language Instruction</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 625 Phonology for Second Language Teachers</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 627 Teaching Adult Language Learners</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 637 Methods for Teaching English as an International Language</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 640 Teaching New Languages through Reading and Writing</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 650 Strategies for Teaching Math and Science to English Learners</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 660 Effective Teaching and Learning</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 670 Engaging Families and Communities</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 677 Field Studies</b> (3 credits) <b>EESL 687 English for Specific Purposes</b> (3 credits) Advisor-approved graduate courses in ESL or related to ESL (3-6 credits) National Board Certification in English as New Language: Receive 6 credits by enrolling in EESL 677 <i>Field Studies</i> and EESL 681 <i>National Boards</i>	
<b>DIVERSITY: 3 credits</b> <b>EDC 732 Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction</b> (3 credits) 3	
<b>RESEARCH: 6 credits</b> <b>EPR 594 Introduction to Educational Research Design</b> (3 credits) 3 <b>EPR 596 Intro to Qualitative Methods in Educ. Research</b> (3 credits) 3	
<b>ADDITIONAL COURSES: 9 credits</b> <b>EDC 707 Introduction to Teacher Leadership</b> (3 credits) 3 <b>EDC 711 Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching</b> (3 credits) 3 <b>Elective</b> (select one of the following): <b>**EPR 608 Statistical Methods &amp; Action Research</b> (3 credits) 3 <b>EDC 695 Coaching for Effective Instruction</b> (3 credits) OR another advisor-approved education course at the 600+ level (3 credits)	
<b>CAPSTONE*</b> Manuscript submission (EESL 680) or Specialization 0	
<b>RESIDENCY: 0 credits (pass/fail)</b> <b>EESL 600 TESOL Residency</b> 0	
<b>SPECIAL EDUCATION: Survey Course (required if not previously completed)</b> <b>ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners</b> (3 credits) 0-3	
*If candidates think they might later be seeking admission to a doctoral program, they should take EPR 608 within the Additional Courses category and EESL 680 within the Teaching Field category.	<b>30-33</b>

## EdS-TESOL Certification Track Projected Course Map #2 (30 credit hours)

**for K-12 teachers with Class A certification from the ALSDE in ESOL**

*Candidates should consult with their SOE advisor each semester.  
(This schedule is subject to change.)*

Possible Plan	<u>Starting in Summer 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Fall 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Spring 2024</u> Fully ONLINE
<b>Semester</b>	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid
<b>Summer 2023</b>	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course		
<b>Fall 2023</b>	EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	
<b>Spring 2024</b>	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i>	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i>	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i>
<b>Summer 2024</b>	EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i> EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i> <i>Application for Degree (deadline: July 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i>	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course
<b>Fall 2024</b>	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i> <i>App. for Certification (deadline: Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i> GRADUATION	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</i>
<b>Spring 2025</b>		EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i> EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i> <i>App. for Certification (deadline: Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i> GRADUATION	EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>
<b>Summer 2025</b>			EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i> EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i> <i>App. for Certification (deadline: Aug. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i> GRADUATION

\*Candidates who did not take a special education course in their Class B or Class A certification programs must now take ECY 600 as an elective in order to qualify for Class AA certification.

## Ed.S. TESOL: Professional Track/non-cert (30-36 credits)

This track does **not** lead to ESOL teacher certification issued by the ALSDE.

*Prerequisite: Master's degree in Education, TESOL, or a related area*

Categories and Courses (All categories are required for degree completion.)	Credits
<b>PRE-REQUISITE: 0-3 credits</b> (required if not previously taken) <b>EESL 610</b> <i>Second Language Acquisition</i> (3 credits)	0-3
<b>TEACHING FIELD (ESL): 12 credits</b> (select 4 courses from the following) <b>EESL 612</b> <i>Curriculum, Programs and Policies</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 615</b> <i>Grammar and Linguistics for ESL Teachers</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 620</b> <i>Special Topics: Heritage Language Instruction</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 625</b> <i>Phonology for Second Language Teachers</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 627</b> <i>Teaching Adult Language Learners</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 630</b> <i>Methods and Materials for Teaching ESL, P-12</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 637</b> <i>Methods Teaching English as an International Language</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 640</b> <i>Teaching New Languages through Reading or Writing</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 641</b> <i>Teaching Emergent Bilinguals in Early Childhood</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 647</b> <i>Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 657</b> <i>Instruction and Assessment: Listening and Speaking</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 660</b> <i>Effective Teaching and Learning</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 670</b> <i>Engaging Families and Communities</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 687</b> <i>English for Specific Purposes</i> (3 credits) Advisor-approved graduate courses in ESL or related to ESL (3-6 credits) National Board Certification in English as New Language: Receive (6 credits) by enrolling in <b>EESL 677</b> <i>Field Studies</i> and <b>EESL 681</b> <i>National Boards</i>	12
<b>DIVERSITY: 3 credits</b> (Select 1 course from the following) <b>EESL 613</b> <i>Teaching ESL in a Multicultural Society</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 617</b> <i>Teaching English in a Global Context</i> (3 credits) <b>EDC 732</b> <i>Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction</i> (3 credits)	3
<b>RESEARCH: 6 credits</b> <b>EPR 594</b> <i>Introduction to Educational Research Design</i> (3 credits) either EPR 596 or EPR 608: * <b>EESL 680</b> <i>Research in ESL/EFL</i> (3 credits) ** <b>EPR 596</b> <i>Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Education Research</i> (3 credits) ** <b>EPR 608</b> <i>Statistical Methods and Action Research</i> (3 credits)	6
<b>ADDITIONAL COURSES: 9 credits</b> (select 3 courses from the following) <b>EDC 695</b> <i>Coaching for Effective Instruction</i> (3 credits) <b>EDC 707</b> <i>Introduction to Teacher Leadership</i> (3 credits) <b>EDC 711</b> <i>Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching</i> (3 credits) <b>EESL 677</b> <i>Field Studies</i> (3 credits) Advisor-approved ESL or education course(s) at the 600+ level (3-9 credits)	9
* <b>CAPSTONE: 0-6 credits</b> Manuscript submission (EESL 680) or Specialization (6 additional credits)	0-6
<b>RESIDENCY: 0 credits</b> (pass/fail) <b>EESL 600</b> <i>TESOL Residency</i> Examples: TBD	0
<b>PRACTICUM: 0-3 credits</b> If students have not yet completed an ESL internship, practicum, or equivalent as determined by the ESL advisor/program director, they must take the following course: <b>EESL 697</b> <i>ESL Practicum</i> (3 credits)	0-3
**If candidates think that they might seek admission to a doctoral program, they should take EPR 596 in the Research category plus EPR 608 and EESL 680 in the Additional Courses category.	<b>30-36</b>



# EdS-TESOL's Professional Track (non-certification)

## Projected Course Map #3 (36 credit hours)

For K-12 teachers with Class A certification from the ALSDE in non-instructional field

*Candidates should consult with their SOE advisor each semester.*

*(This schedule is subject to change.)*

Possible Plan	<u>Starting in Summer 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Fall 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Spring 2024</u> Fully ONLINE
<b>Semester</b>	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid
<b>Summer 2023</b>	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (or 613) (42 internship hours)		
<b>Fall 2023</b>	EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)	
<b>Spring 2024</b>	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom) ESOL Praxis #5362	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)	EPR 594 Intro to Research Design EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)
<b>Summer 2024</b>	EESL 613 Multicultural Society (or 640) EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 697 Practicum (40 clock hours)	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (42 internship hours)	EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies EESL 640 Reading/Writing (42 internship hours)
<b>Fall 2024</b>	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom) <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom)	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)
<b>Spring 2025</b>	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)  GRADUATION	EESL 625 Phonology EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE) ESOL Praxis #5362 <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EPR 596 Qualitative Research EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom) ESOL Praxis #5362
<b>Summer 2025</b>		EESL 613 Multicultural Society EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 697 Practicum (40 clock hours)  GRADUATION	EESL 613 Multicultural Society EESL 600 Residency (0 hs) EESL 697 Practicum (40 clock hours)  <i>Application for Degree (deadline: July 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>
<b>Fall 2025</b>			EESL 615 Grammar & Linguistics EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)  GRADUATION

## EdS-TESOL’s Professional Track (non-certification)

### Projected Course Map #4 (30 credit hours)

**For teachers who have an MA-TESOL and who teach adult learners**

*Candidates should consult with their SOE advisor each semester  
(This schedule is subject to change.)*

Possible Plan	<u>Starting in Summer 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Fall 2023</u> Fully ONLINE	<u>Starting in Spring 2024</u> Fully ONLINE
<b>Semester</b>	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid	2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid
<b>Summer 2023</b>	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course		
<b>Fall 2023</b>	EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg</i> OR advisor-approved education course Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg</i> OR advisor-approved education course Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	
<b>Spring 2024</b>	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> OR advisor-approved education course EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> OR advisor-approved education course EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	EDC 707 <i>Intro to Teacher Leadership</i> OR advisor-approved education course EESL 657 <i>Instr./Assess: Listng/Speaking</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course
<b>Summer 2024</b>	EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i> <i>Application for Degree (deadline: July 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course	EPR 594 <i>Intro to Research Design</i> EESL 647 <i>Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</i> OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course
<b>Fall 2024</b>	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> <i>OR another diversity course</i> EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i>  GRADUATION	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> <i>OR another diversity course</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>	EDC 732 <i>Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</i> <i>OR another diversity course</i> EDC 711 <i>Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg</i> OR advisor-approved education course
<b>Spring 2025</b>		EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i> EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i>  GRADUATION	EPR 596 <i>Qualitative Research</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course <i>Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1<sup>st</sup>)</i>
<b>Summer 2025</b>			EESL 680 <i>ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</i> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course EESL 600 <i>Residency (0 hs)</i>  GRADUATION



# TESOL Faculty

Dr. Susan Spezzini, <a href="mailto:spezzini@uab.edu">spezzini@uab.edu</a>	Professor & Program Director
Dr. Josephine Prado, <a href="mailto:jprado@uab.edu">jprado@uab.edu</a>	Assistant Professor
Dr. Lori Edmonds, <a href="mailto:lmedmond@uab.edu">lmedmond@uab.edu</a>	Visiting Assistant Professor

Adjunct Instructors: <http://www.uab.edu/education/esl/faculty-a-staff>

## Admission Requirements

### 1) Becoming Informed

- Arrange to meet with the Program Director by emailing: [spezzini@uab.edu](mailto:spezzini@uab.edu).
- All educators are encouraged to visit UAB's website for ESL education programs [www.uab.edu/esl](http://www.uab.edu/esl).
- For information purposes, educators should access the Program Checklists: <https://www.uab.edu/education/home/graduate/esl>  
→ Scroll to Education Specialist (EdS) and click on Certification Track or Non-Certification Track (i.e., professional).

### 2) Official Transcripts

- 3.0 cumulative GPA on degree-issuing master's transcript from a regionally accredited college
- Request official transcripts from all colleges attended, even if you took just one course and it appears on another transcript.
- Have official transcripts from each college attended (except for UAB) emailed to [SOEtranscripts@uab.edu](mailto:SOEtranscripts@uab.edu)  
OR mailed to SOE Office of Student Services (OSS), 1720 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue South—EEC 311; Birmingham, AL 35294-4460

### 3) Admission Exams

The SOE is no longer requiring the GRE or MAT as a prerequisite for admission to the EdS-TESOL.

International students: TOEFL 90 (minimum of 20 on each subscore) or IELTS 7.0 (minimum of 6.5 on each subscore)

### 4) Certification Track (online): leads to Class AA certification in ESOL issued by the ALSDE

*Prerequisite: Master's degree with valid Class A certification from the ALSDE in an instructional field.*

The Certification Track is for teachers who hold master's-level certification (i.e., Class A) issued by the ALSDE in ESOL or another instructional field. This track leads to the ALSDE's EdS-level teacher certification (i.e., Class AA) in ESOL. If not already used, teachers may use already-earned National Board Certification in English as a New Language for elective credits in the EdS-TESOL by enrolling in one or two designated courses. The ALSDE code was revised in Fall 2021 to allow Alabama educators with master's level certification (Class A) in any instructional field to pursue entry-level ESOL certification at the EdS level and earn the ALSDE's Class AA certification in ESOL.

### 5) Professional Track (online): does not lead to certification from the ALSDE

*Prerequisite: Master's degree in education or TESOL or in an area related to TESOL*

The Professional Track is for K-12 teachers who have a master's degree in education and perhaps certification from the ALSDE in a non-instructional field or an ESOL endorsement from another state. This track is also for educators who teach ESL/EFL to adult learners and/or coordinate ESL/EFL programs in one or more of this profession's diverse array of settings. Such settings could include intensive English programs on college campuses, workplace-situated English classes, English for Specific Purposes, community programs, refugee centres, and online instruction. When pursuing the EdS-TESOL, most graduate students focus their coursework on their own professional interests and/or the needs of their respective institutions. This student-centered focus can range from P-12 schools, parent clinics, and rural community outreach to intensive English programs, academic support, and post-doctoral writing.

## Additional Information

SOE homepage ([www.uab.edu/education](http://www.uab.edu/education)): Go to top right corner and look under **GO**.

### **SOE Quicklinks**

Class Schedule  
Faculty Directory  
Financial Aid (*loans*)  
Graduate School (*apply for admission*)  
Scholarships  
Student Teaching

### **UAB Quicklinks**

Academic Calendar  
Ask IT (*technology support*)  
BlazerNET (*registering and paying*)  
Campus Map  
Email (*accessing your email account*)  
Emergency/B-Alert (*bad weather*)

# Applying for Degree-Seeking Admission

- Create Application Account/Portal with the Graduate School at:** [www.uab.edu/graduate](http://www.uab.edu/graduate) (click Apply Now at the far left)
  - Click on “Sign up” which is at the bottom of the screen below the “Sign in” button (*if first graduate application since 2017*)
  - Enter first name, last name, and email address on the sign-up page, and click submit.
  - After you receive an email from the Graduate School, follow instructions and create your Application Portal password.
  - After this, go to the online application dashboard where you will now begin your application (and all future applications).
  - If you need help, please contact the Graduate School at 205-934-8227 or by emailing [gradschool@uab.edu](mailto:gradschool@uab.edu).
- Select Education Specialist degree.** After that, select TESOL and then your track/concentration. After that, then the rest of the application:
 

Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, **Concentration:** Certification track or Non-certification (professional) track

**Term:** Summer 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025, Summer 2025, Fall 2025 (*TERM will appear after you select a concentration.*)

**Admission Exams:** Admission exams are no longer required (starting with admission to Summer 2023).

**Education Background:** Identify all community colleges, colleges, and universities that you have attended.

**Transcripts:** Expedite your application by uploading a PDF of your unofficial transcripts from all colleges attended (except for UAB)

**Personal Essay** (statement of purpose, academic interests, career goals, relevant background experience): Upload essay as a PDF.

**Resume/CV:** Update your resume or Curriculum Vitae (CV), save as a PDF, and upload.

**References** (*waive right*): Include names and emails of three recommenders. UAB will automatically email them the reference form.  
NOTE: Reference forms should **NOT** be completed by parents or close relatives, even if they have a different last name.

**In-state Residency:** If you believe you are a resident of Alabama, respond “yes” to **Do you claim to be a resident of Alabama?** Provide the following information: birth state, high school graduation state, dates resided in Alabama, address, and reason for relocating to Alabama. If you are classified as a non-resident, you can submit a residency reclassification form.

**Disciplinary and Criminal History:** Respond to all questions and provide explanations if needed.

**Application Fee:** \$50 (\$60 for int'l applicants). Pay online using a credit card or debit card. If you need help, contact the Graduate School.
- 100% Complete** Once payment is submitted, you must go back to the application, sign electronically, and click SUBMIT button to send your application to the Graduate School. After your application is successfully submitted, you will receive a confirmation email.
- Be sure to submit your application by the deadline for when you want to start. (NOTE: Official test scores can arrive a few days later.)  
**November 15** (admission to spring)      **April 15** (admission to summer)      **July 15** (admission to fall)
- International applicants:** Pass the TOEFL, the IELTS, or the Level 5 classes at INTO UAB’s English Language Programs.  
Meet requirements for international students: <http://www.uab.edu/global/international-students-and-scholars>
- Interview:** When called for a Zoom interview, applicants should come professionally dressed (such as when doing a job interview).
- Application Status:** Check your application account periodically and/or contact the Graduate School, 205-934-8227, [gradschool@uab.edu](mailto:gradschool@uab.edu).
- Program Review:** After ALL materials arrive at the Graduate School, the application is reviewed by the targeted program in the SOE.  
After all materials have arrived, it usually takes from 2 to 10 weeks for an application to be fully processed (goal = ASAP).
- Admission email:** After your application has been processed, you will receive an email from the Graduate School with the subject line: “UAB Graduate School Admission Decision”. This email will prompt you to go to your application account and retrieve your letter:  
Your student number (letter “B” followed by 8 digits) NOTE: *You will need this number for identification purposes.*  
Your program (i.e., TESOL) and your concentration (i.e., certification or non-certification)  
Your status as an Alabama resident (with in-state tuition) or as a non-resident (with out-of-state tuition for F2F classes)
- BlazerID:** Follow the instructions in your admission letter with respect to processing a BlazerID (or reactivating your inactive BlazerID).  
Go to BlazerNet Central: [www.uab.edu/blazerid](http://www.uab.edu/blazerid) and immediately process your BlazerID (or reactivate a former BlazerID).  
Your BlazerID serves as your UAB email. (*Alias emails are available.*)  
You should check your UAB email regularly and must always use it in official communication with UAB.
- Faculty Advisor:** After being admitted, you should contact a faculty advisor: Dr. Spezzini, [spezzini@uab.edu](mailto:spezzini@uab.edu).
- Financial Aid** (if needed): To be eligible for a student loan, graduate students must enroll in at least 5 graduate credit hours in a given semester.
- HEALTH:** All non-online students (degree-seeking and non-degree seeking) must obtain medical clearance. After you are admitted, you will receive an email about obtaining medical clearance. It will have links to UAB’s Student Health and Wellness (SHW) website and to the Patient Portal: <http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth/medical-clearance>. Links to these SHW webpages are also available on your BlazerNET account.  
You must meet the medical clearance deadline. If not, you will be blocked from registering for class.  
**Which immunizations do you need?** To find out, go to [Medical Clearance](#) and answer these questions:
 

-When did/will you matriculate (begin classes) at UAB?	<a href="#">Summer term 2016 or later</a>	<a href="#">Prior to summer term 2016</a>
-Are you a clinical or non-clinical student?	<a href="#">Non-clinical (no patient contact)</a>	<a href="#">Clinical (patient contact)</a>
-Are all of your courses completely online? (Select)	<a href="#">Yes, all courses are completely online.</a>	<a href="#">No, at least one class will be on campus.</a>
-Are you a United States citizen?	<a href="#">Yes, I am a U.S. citizen.</a>	<a href="#">No, I am not a U.S. citizen</a>

**Level 1 Immunization.** Most AMP students are classified as Level 1 immunization: **MMR** (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), **Tdap** (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Acellular Pertussis), **Varicella** (Chickenpox/Shingles); and **TB** (Tuberculosis) screening. Immunizations and TB screening are available at SHW (1714 Ninth Avenue South) for a fee. Make an appointment by calling 205-934-3581 or by accessing the Patient Portal at <http://www.uab.edu/studenthealth/services/immunizations-and-tb-tests>. If you have questions, contact [medclearance@uab.edu](mailto:medclearance@uab.edu)

**Submitting health records.** Click “Forms” on Patient Portal. Then click “Immunizations entry form” and “Add immunization record.” Upload scanned documents as JPEG, JPG, PNG, or GIF. Or, fax forms to 205-996-7468.

## APPLICATION DEADLINES

**Application(s) for Admission Graduate School (LHL G03)** [www.uab.edu/graduate](http://www.uab.edu/graduate) click on **APPLY NOW**

Projected Term for Admission	Degree-Seeking Admission*
Spring (starts first week of January)	November 15
Summer (terms starts May and June)	April 15
Fall (starts last week in August)	July 15

\*Subject to change: Updates will be posted at [Graduate School Deadlines](#)

### Application for Degree.

SOE graduate students must submit their Application for Degree online about **six months before they intend to graduate**. Failure to do so will delay their graduation by at least one semester.

Anticipated Graduation	SOE Deadlines
Summer	April 1
Fall	July 1
Spring	November 1

Visit the Graduate School  
[Website and select “Forms Used to Complete Graduate Study”](#)  
 for detailed instructions on how to submit your application for degree.  
 UAB’s SOE recommends candidates to the Graduate School.

### Application for P-12 Class AA Certification in ESOL (Only for students in the Certification Track)

Certification-seekers must submit applications to the SOE’s Office of Student Services halfway through their final semester. Detailed information is provided at this website: <http://www.uab.edu/education/student-services/home/teacher-certification>

## TUITION AND FEES (2022-23)

Go to [www.uab.edu](http://www.uab.edu) and type “tuition” in Search: <https://www.uab.edu/students-paying-for-college/detailed-tuition-and-fees>

Face-to-Face classes	Each semester hour of coursework	Each 3-hour course
In-state residents	\$468	\$1,404
Out-of-state residents	\$1,109	\$3,327

Online courses	Each semester hour of coursework	Each 3-hour course
In-state & out-of-state	\$555	\$1,665

**Fees (2022-23):** field supervision \$100, internship \$75, laboratory \$50; payment plan \$25, late payment \$50, reinstatement \$50 - \$150; international \$100

## NON-DEGREE SEEKING STATUS

UAB Graduate School, 205-934-8227 [gradschool@uab.edu](mailto:gradschool@uab.edu)

1. Non-degree seeking status is for applicants who do not meet the degree-seeking application deadline and wish to start taking courses.
2. **Instructions:** Read the instructions for non-degree seeking students at <http://www.uab.edu/graduate/nondegreestudents>
3. **Non-degree application:** Go to the graduate admission application account that you created on UAB’s Graduate School website (page 5, item 1) and submit a non-degree seeking application by the deadline: about five days before the start of the targeted term.
4. **Degree choice:** After clicking “Start new application”, respond to the four key questions as follows:
  - a. For which of the following are you applying? [Non-Degree Seeking](#)
  - b. Intended Program of Study [Education Non-Degree](#)
  - c. Concentration *Not Applicable: selected program does not offer concentration options*
  - d. Term: Select the term that you are interested in registering for as a non-degree seeking student.
5. **Payment:** Pay \$40 online (debit card or credit card) and click SUBMIT.
6. **Transcripts:** Non-Degree students must submit a copy of their transcript from a regionally accredited university showing that a bachelor’s degree or higher has been awarded. This transcript may be unofficial and can be uploaded within the application prior to submission. If you would like to submit an unofficial copy of your transcript after submission, please send it via email to [gradschool@uab.edu](mailto:gradschool@uab.edu). Your application cannot be processed until the Graduate School has received a copy of your transcript. If you submit an official transcript for non-degree seeking admission, you can use this same transcript later for degree seeking.
7. **Admissions:** Once you have completed your application by paying the fee and submitting a copy of your unofficial transcript showing a bachelor’s degree or higher has been awarded from a regionally accredited university, the Graduate School will process your application within 1-3 business days. Once an admissions decision has been rendered, you will be notified via email and will need to log back into the application dashboard to view your decision. You will find crucial information within your decision letter, such as a link to complete the Acknowledgement of Non-Degree Policies form, how to process your BlazerID, and information regarding required overrides that must be issued to non-degree seeking students.
8. **No financial aid:** During the terms in which you take courses as non-degree seeking, you are NOT eligible for student loans.
9. [Change Non-Degree Seeking Credit to Degree-Seeking Credit:](#) Submit this form after you earn degree-seeking status.

## **I am interested in learning more about the EdS-TESOL**

**Names:** First & Middle \_\_\_\_\_ (preferred \_\_\_\_\_); Last \_\_\_\_\_ (former \_\_\_\_\_)

Do you hold Class A certification issued by the ALSDE? YES NO If so, please indicate the teaching field: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you hold master's level certification issued by another state? YES NO If so, please indicate the state and field: \_\_\_\_\_

**Targeted Track in the EdS-TESOL program** (check or circle):

\_\_\_ Certification Track      \_\_\_ Professional Track (non-certification track)

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Home email \_\_\_\_\_ Work email \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ zip \_\_\_\_\_

BA/BS degree: major \_\_\_\_\_ minor \_\_\_\_\_ college/univ. \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Master's degree: major \_\_\_\_\_ minor \_\_\_\_\_ college/univ \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Other degree: \_\_\_ major \_\_\_\_\_ minor \_\_\_\_\_ college/univ \_\_\_\_\_ year graduated \_\_\_\_\_

Certification/Endorsement (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

Former Employments: \_\_\_\_\_

Total years working in ESL/EFL/TESOL: \_\_\_\_\_

**Prerequisites for both tracks**

Minimum GPA of 3.0 on degree-issuing master's transcript from a regionally-accredited college  
*International students:* TOEFL= 80 (with 20+ for each subscore) or IELTS=7.0 (with 6.5+ for each subscore)

**Prerequisite for the Certification Track**

Valid Class A Certification in a teaching field issued by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)

**Prerequisite for the Professional Track (non-certification)**

Master's degree in education or TESOL or an area related to TESOL

**I am aware of the following:**

- 1) Applicants should read and follow the stipulations in this information packet and keep themselves informed regarding any changes.
- 2) All regulations described in this information packet are valid only up until the date on this packet.
- 3) Policies for the Certification Track are established by the ALSDE, these policies are subject to change, and all candidates must abide by all such changes.
- 4) Candidates must submit their admission [applications](#) to UAB's Graduate School by the deadline. However, it is usually OK for the exam score report to arrive a few days after the deadline.
- 5) When communicating with UAB faculty and staff by email, candidates should always use professional email etiquette, should fully identify themselves, and should also provide some background information.
- 6) After candidates have obtained a UAB email, they must check it frequently and always use it in official communication.
- 7) Candidates must maintain a 3.5 GPA in UAB's EdS program in order to continue from semester to semester and also to be eligible for earning an EdS degree. Certification Track candidates must have a 3.5 GPA upon graduating.
- 8) Candidates must take all courses on their program checklists and follow all procedures to earn an EdS degree from UAB and, if in the Certification Track, to also earn Class AA certification from the ALSDE.
- 9) If recommended by a course instructor or the program director, candidates must take GRD 727 Academic Writing.
- 10) Candidates must always demonstrate a high level of professional dispositions worthy of the teaching profession.
- 11) Candidates must confer with their SOE faculty advisor or with their program director whenever they have questions concerning their program. Advisors and program directors give advice but that they are not responsible for a candidate's program or degree.
- 12) Candidates must submit an Application for Degree online about 7 months before their anticipated graduation. Failure to do so may delay their graduation by a full semester.
- 13) Candidates in the Certification Track must submit an Application for Certification to the SOE Office of Student Services during their final semester. Eligibility for certification expires if application is not submitted within 60 months of graduation.
- 14) After conferral of their EdS degree, Alabama teachers should submit a request to UAB for an official transcript to be sent to their school district's HR office to begin the process of being categorized in a new salary bracket.
- 15) Upon discontinuing studies for more than a year, even with leave of absence, candidates must qualify for and follow the program in effect upon seeking re-entry.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_