Information Packet
Educational Specialist (EdS) in TESOL

UAB’s Educational Specialist (EdS) degree program in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) is housed in the School of Education (SOE) and its Department of Curriculum & Instruction (C&I). This fully online program provides advanced training in the teaching and learning of English as a Second Language (ESL) and English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Targeted for educators who already hold a master’s degree in TESOL, education, or a related area, this program prepares teachers to assume mentorship and leadership roles for guiding other educators in meeting the English-learning needs of their students in K-12 and/or adult settings. It equips TESOL educators with 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. The EdS-TESOL prepares teachers to become dynamic leaders and effective change agents by developing their capacity as lead teachers, division heads, instructional coaches, professional development facilitators, and program specialists.

At UAB, the EdS-TESOL degree is classified by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) with code 13.1401 Teaching English as a Second or Foreign Language. In the NCES Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP), this code 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." Within this code, UAB’s EdS-TESOL program is unique in how it offers two distinct tracks—the certification track and the non-certification track.

New Location. In Summer 2020, the SOE moved from its original home in the Education Building to the Education-Engineering Complex (EEC) which was renovated to meet the needs of SOE faculty and students. From its new home at 1150 Tenth Avenue South, the SOE is now located close to two public schools (Glen Iris and EPIC) and also within easy walking distance of street parking (free and metered).

Before the SOE’s move to the EEC, parking was a big challenge. It would often take 30 minutes to find a parking space, even with a UAB parking decal. After the move and also due to the COVID pandemic, parking has not been an issue. Nonetheless, whenever coming to campus, it is best to come with time to look for a parking space and also with quarters to use in the parking meters.

Candidate/Student. The words candidate and student are used interchangeably in this packet. The word candidate refers to current and prospective students in the SOE. The word student usually refers to learners in instructional settings who are being taught by SOE candidates.

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

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

**Prerequisite:** Valid Class A certification in ESOL from the Alabama State Dept. of Education (ALSDE).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories and Courses (All categories are required for degree completion.)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>TEACHING FIELD: 12 credits</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>EESL 647 Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing (3 credits)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EESL 657 Instruction and Assessment: Listening and Speaking (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6 credits of ESL electives from among the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 615 Grammar and Linguistics for ESL Teachers (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 617 Teaching English in a Global Context (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 620 Special Topics: Heritage Language Instruction (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 625 Phonology for Second Language Teachers (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 627 Teaching Adult Language Learners (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 637 Methods for Teaching English as an International Language (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 640 Teaching New Languages through Reading and Writing (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 650 Strategies for Teaching Math and Science to English Learners (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 660 Effective Teaching and Learning (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 670 Engaging Families and Communities (3 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>EESL 677 Field Studies (3 credits)</td>
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<td>EESL 687 English for Specific Purposes (3 credits)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advisor-approved graduate courses in ESL or related to ESL (3-6 credits)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Board Certification in English as New Language: Receive 6 credits by enrolling in EESL 677 Field Studies and EESL 681 National Boards</td>
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</table>

| DIVERSITY: 3 credits | |
| EDC 732 Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction (3 credits) | 3 |

| RESEARCH: 6 credits | |
| EPR 594 Introduction to Educational Research Design (3 credits) | 3 |
| EPR 596 Intro to Qualitative Methods in Educ. Research (3 credits) | 3 |

| ADDITIONAL COURSES: 9 credits | |
| EDC 707 Introduction to Teacher Leadership (3 credits) | 3 |
| EDC 711 Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching (3 credits) | 3 |
| Elective (select one of the following): | |
| *EESL 680 Research in ESL/EFL (3 credits) | 3 |
| **EPR 608 Statistical Methods & Action Research (3 credits) | |
| EDC 695 Coaching for Effective Instruction (3 credits) | |
| OR another advisor-approved education course at the 600+ level (3 credits) | |

| *CAPSTONE: 0 credits | |
| Manuscript for submission (it is recommended to do this by enrolling in EESL 680) | 0 |

| RESIDENCY: 0 credits (pass/fail) | |
| EESL 600 TESOL Residency | 0 |
| Examples: 1 term as cooperating teacher and/or overseeing/supervising MA students teaching 2 weeks at UAB—summer TESOL institute on campus & site visits off-campus | |

| SPECIAL EDUCATION: Survey Course (required if not previously completed) | 0-3 |
| ECY 600 Introduction to Exceptional Learners (3 credits) | |

**If candidates think that 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.**

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UAB: EdS-TESOL  [www.uab.edu/esl](http://www.uab.edu/esl)  January 4, 2021 - page 2

spezzini@uab.edu  205-934-8357  •  jprado@uab.edu  205-975-5045
School of Education (SOE) • University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB)
1150 10th Ave. So., Birmingham, AL • Education-Engineering Complex
EdS-TESOL Certification Track
Course Map for Earning ESOL Class AA Certification
30 credit hours*

For K-12 Teachers with valid ESOL Class A certification issued by the ALSDE

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible Plan</th>
<th>Starting in Summer 2021 Fully ONLINE</th>
<th>Starting in Fall 2021 Fully ONLINE</th>
<th>Starting in Spring 2022 Fully ONLINE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester</td>
<td>2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid</td>
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<td>2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course</td>
<td><strong>EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2022</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership</strong> <strong>EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership</strong> <strong>EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership</strong> <strong>EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Summer 2022</strong></td>
<td><strong>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</strong> <strong>EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</strong> <strong>EESL 600 Residency</strong> (0 hs) Application for Degree (deadline: July 1st)</td>
<td><strong>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</strong> <strong>EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</strong></td>
<td><strong>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2022</strong></td>
<td><strong>EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</strong> <strong>EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</strong> App. for Certification (deadline: Nov. 1st) GRADUATION</td>
<td><strong>EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1st)</td>
<td><strong>EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.</strong> <strong>EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Teaching</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spring 2023</strong></td>
<td><strong>EPR 596 Qualitative Research</strong> <strong>EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</strong> <strong>EESL 600 Residency</strong> (0 hs) App. for Certification (deadline: Apr. 1st) GRADUATION</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>EPR 596 Qualitative Research</strong> Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1st)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Summer 2023</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td><strong>EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</strong> <strong>EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing</strong> <strong>EESL 600 Residency</strong> (0 hs) App. for Certification (deadline: Aug. 1st) GRADUATION</td>
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*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: Non-Certification Track (30-36 credits) = ONLINE
This track does **not** lead to ESOL teacher certification issued by the ALSDE.

**Prerequisite:** Master’s degree in Education or TESOL or an area related to TESOL

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories and Courses (All categories are required for degree completion.)</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **PRE-REQUISITE:** **0-3 credits** (required if not previously taken)  
EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (3 credits) | 0-3 |
| **TEACHING FIELD (ESL): 12 credits** (select 4 courses from the following)  
EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs and Policies (3 credits)  
EESL 615 Grammar and Linguistics for ESL Teachers (3 credits)  
EESL 620 Special Topics: Heritage Language Instruction (3 credits)  
EESL 625 Phonology for Second Language Teachers (3 credits)  
EESL 627 Teaching Adult Language Learners (3 credits)  
EESL 630 Methods and Materials for Teaching ESL, P-12 (3 credits)  
EESL 637 Methods Teaching English as an International Language (3 credits)  
EESL 640 Teaching New Languages through Reading or Writing (3 credits)  
EESL 641 Teaching Emergent Bilinguals in Early Childhood (3 credits)  
EESL 647 Instruction and Assessment: Reading and Writing (3 credits)  
EESL 657 Instruction and Assessment: Listening and Speaking (3 credits)  
EESL 660 Effective Teaching and Learning (3 credits)  
EESL 670 Engaging Families and Communities (3 credits)  
EESL 687 English for Specific Purposes (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 Field Studies and EESL 681 National Boards | 12 |
| **DIVERSITY:** **3 credits** (Select 1 course from the following)  
EESL 613 Teaching ESL in a Multicultural Society (3 credits)  
EESL 617 Teaching English in a Global Context (3 credits)  
EDC 732 Culturally and Linguistically Responsive Instruction (3 credits) | 3 |
| **RESEARCH:** **6 credits**  
EPR 594 Introduction to Educational Research Design (3 credits)  
either EESL 680, EPR 596, or EPR 608:  
*EESL 680 Research in ESL/EFL (3 credits)  
**EPR 596 Introduction to Qualitative Methods in Education Research (3 credits)  
**EPR 608 Statistical Methods and Action Research (3 credits) | 6 |
| **ADDITIONAL COURSES:** **9 credits** (select 3 courses from the following)  
EDC 695 Coaching for Effective Instruction (3 credits)  
EDC 707 Introduction to Teacher Leadership (3 credits)  
EDC 711 Analysis and Evaluation of Teaching (3 credits)  
EESL 677 Field Studies (3 credits)  
Advisor-approved ESL or education course(s) at the 600+ level (3-9 credits) | 9 |
| ***CAPSTONE:** **0-6 credits**  
Manuscript submission (it is recommended to do this by enrolling in EESL 680)  
or Specialization (6 additional credits) | 0-6 |
| **RESIDENCY:** **0 credits** (pass/fail)  
EESL 600 TESOL Residency  
Examples: 1 term as cooperating teacher and/or overseeing/supervising MA students teaching  
2 weeks at UAB—summer TESOL institute on campus & site visits off-campus | 0 |
| **PRACTICUM:** **0-3 credits**  
If students have not yet completed an ESL internship, practicum, or equivalent as determined by the ESL advisor/program director, they must take one of the following:  
EESL 690 Internship in ESL, P-12 (3 credits)  
EESL 697 ESL Practicum (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. | 30-36 |
EdS-TESOL’s Non-Certification Track
Projected Course Map #1 (36 credit hours)

For K-12 teachers with Class A certification in a field other than ESOL

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

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<tr>
<th>Possible Plan</th>
<th>Starting in Summer 2021</th>
<th>Starting in Fall 2021</th>
<th>Starting in Spring 2022</th>
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<td>2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid</td>
<td>2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid</td>
<td>2 courses per term in order to be eligible for financial aid</td>
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<td>EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies (42 internship hours)</td>
<td>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fall 2021</strong></td>
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<tr>
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<td>EESL 615 Grammar &amp; Linguistics</td>
<td>EPR 596 Qualitative Research</td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
<td>EPR 596 Qualitative Research</td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
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<td><strong>Spring 2022</strong></td>
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<td>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</td>
<td>EPR 596 Qualitative Research</td>
<td>EPR 594 Intro to Research Design</td>
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<td>EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)</td>
<td>EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)</td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
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<td>ESOL Praxis #5362</td>
<td>EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)</td>
<td>EESL 610 Second Language Acquisition (84 internship hours in own classroom and 6 internship hours in other schools)</td>
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<td><strong>Summer 2022</strong></td>
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<td>EESL 613 Multicultural Society (or 640)</td>
<td>EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies (42 internship hours)</td>
<td>EESL 612 Curriculum, Programs, Policies (42 internship hours)</td>
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<td>EESL 600 Residency (0 hs)</td>
<td>EESL 640 Reading/Writing (42 internship hours)</td>
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<td>EESL 690 Internship (40 internship hours)</td>
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<td>EESL 625 Phonology</td>
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<td>EESL 630 Methods (90+ internship hours in own classroom)</td>
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<td>Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1st)</td>
<td>Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1st)</td>
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<td>EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)</td>
<td>EESL 660 Effective Teaching/Learning (90+ internship hours in own classroom)</td>
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<td>GRADUATION</td>
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# EdS-TESOL’s Non-Certification Track

**Projected Course Map #2 (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.)_

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Possible Plan</th>
<th>Starting in Summer 2021</th>
<th>Starting in Fall 2021</th>
<th>Starting in Spring 2022</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Semester</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully ONLINE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully ONLINE</strong></td>
<td><strong>Fully ONLINE</strong></td>
</tr>
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</table>
| **Summer 2021** | **EPR 594 Intro to Research Design**  
Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | | |
| **Fall 2021** | **EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg**  
OR advisor-approved education course  
Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | **EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg**  
OR advisor-approved education course  
Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | |
| **Spring 2022** | **EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership**  
OR advisor-approved education course  
**EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | **EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership**  
OR advisor-approved education course  
**EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | **EDC 707 Intro to Teacher Leadership**  
OR advisor-approved education course  
**EESL 657 Instr./Assess: Listing/Speaking**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course |
| **Summer 2022** | **EPR 596 Qualitative Research**  
**EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course  
**EESL 600 Residency (0 hs)**  
Application for Degree (deadline: July 1st) | **EPR 594 Intro to Research Design**  
**EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course | **EPR 594 Intro to Research Design**  
**EESL 647 Instr./Assess: Reading/Writing**  
OR advisor-approved EESL-prefix course |
| **Fall 2022** | **EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.**  
OR another diversity course  
**EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)**  
GRADUATION | **EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.**  
OR another diversity course  
**Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course**  
Application for Degree (deadline: Nov. 1st) | **EDC 711 Analysis/Evaluation of Tchg**  
OR advisor-approve education course |
| **Spring 2023** | | | **EDC 732 Cult/Ling. Responsive Instr.**  
OR another diversity course  
**EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)**  
**EESL 600 Residency (0 hs)**  
GRADUATION | **EPR 596 Qualitative Research**  
**Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course**  
Application for Degree (deadline: Apr. 1st) |
| **Summer 2023** | | | **EESL 680 ESL Research (CAPSTONE)**  
**Advisor-approved EESL-prefix course**  
**EESL 600 Residency (0 hs)**  
GRADUATION | |
TESOL Faculty

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Phone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Susan Spezzini</td>
<td>Professor &amp; Program Director (sabbatical: Spring 2021)</td>
<td><a href="mailto:spezzini@uab.edu">spezzini@uab.edu</a></td>
<td>205-934-8357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Josephine Prado</td>
<td>Assistant Professor &amp; Program Coordinator</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jprado@uab.edu">jprado@uab.edu</a></td>
<td>205-975-5045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kelly Hill</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kltb@uab.edu">kltb@uab.edu</a></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Adjunct Instructors: [http://www.uab.edu/education/esl/faculty-a-staff](http://www.uab.edu/education/esl/faculty-a-staff)

Admission Requirements

1) Becoming Informed
   a) Arrange to meet with Program Director/Coordinator by emailing: spezzini@uab.edu and/or jprado@uab.edu.
   b) All educators are encouraged to visit UAB’s website for ESL education programs [www.uab.edu/esl](http://www.uab.edu/esl).
   c) For information purposes, educators should access the Program Checklists: [https://www.uab.edu/education/home/graduate/esl](https://www.uab.edu/education/home/graduate/esl) ➔ Scroll down to Education Specialist (EdS) and click on Certification Track or Non-Certification Track.

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

3) Admission Exams
   You can request a waiver of the 5-year limit by emailing an earlier score report to spezzini@uab.edu or jprado@uab.edu.
   UAB testing center: [http://www.uab.edu/testing/institutional-tests/mat](http://www.uab.edu/testing/institutional-tests/mat)
   or Graduate Record Exam /GRE (score of 290 current or 850 former): [http://www.ets.org/gre](http://www.ets.org/gre)
   International students: TOEFL 90 (minimum of 20 on each subscore) or IELTS 7.0 (minimum of 6.5 on each subscore)

4) Certification Track
   **Prerequisite: Master’s degree in ESL and valid Class A certification in ESOL issued by the ALSDE.**
   The certification track is for teachers who hold master’s-level certification (i.e., Class A) in English to Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) issued by the ALSDE. This track leads to the ALSDE’s advanced teacher certification (i.e., Class AA). Teachers may use their National Board Certification in English as a New Language for elective credits in the EdS-TESOL by enrolling in two courses. By following a blended approach, this track includes both on-ground and online courses. Because this certification track is exclusively for teachers who hold the ALSDE’s Class A certification in ESOL, all other educators will pursue the EdS-TESOL degree through its non-certification track.

5) Non-Certification Track
   **Prerequisite: Master’s degree in Education or TESOL or an area related to TESOL**
   The non-certification track is for K-12 teachers who have an MA in education and also teacher certification in a field other than ESL or perhaps ESOL endorsement from another state or even the ALSDE’s Class B ESOL certification. 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, English for Specific Purposes, workplace-situated English classes, community programs, refugee centers, and online instruction. When pursuing the EdS-TESOL, most graduate students focus their coursework on their own professional interests and/or on 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. EdS students can pursue this non-certification track by following a blended approach and taking both on-ground and online courses. Or, they can pursue it by taking only online courses and doing a two-week residency at UAB. Built around each graduate student’s interests and needs, this summer residency usually consists of an ESL teacher institute on campus and also visits to several ESL sites in the greater Birmingham area.
Applying for Degree-Seeking Admission

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

2. 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 Track
   - Term: Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022, Fall 2022 (TERM will appear after you select a concentration.)
   - Admission Exams: Select the exams that you have taken or plan to take (e.g., MAT or GRE).

   If you have already received your unofficial exam score reports, expedite your application by uploading a PDF.

   - 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.

3. 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.

4. 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)

5. 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

6. Interview: When called for an interview, applicants should come professionally dressed (such as when doing a job interview).

7. Application Status: Check your application account periodically and/or contact the Graduate School, 205-934-8227, gradschool@uab.edu.

8. 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).

9. 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 (in-state tuition) or as a non-resident (out-of-state tuition)

10. 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 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.

    If you have linked your new UAB email to your home email, check frequently to make sure this connection is working properly.

11. Faculty Advisor: After being admitted, you should contact a faculty advisor: Dr. Spezzini, spezzini@uab.edu or Dr. Prado jprado@uab.edu.

12. 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.

13. 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? Summer term 2016 or later
   - Are you a clinical or non-clinical student? Non-clinical (no patient contact)
   - Are all of your courses completely online? (Select) Yes, all courses are completely online.
   - Do you claim to be a resident of Alabama (with in-state tuition) or as a non-resident (with out-of-state tuition)? No, I am not a U.S. citizen.

   Level 1 Immunization: Must AMP students be 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

   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.
Non-Degree Seeking Status
UAB Graduate School, 205-934-8227 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](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. 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.

### Test-Taking Tips

1) **Miller Analogies Test:** Students can access a limited amount of test preparation materials online at the MAT website. They can also purchase a test preparation book at major bookstores. When doing so, students should be sure the materials say MAT (and not GMAT).

2) **Study Techniques:** An excellent way to prepare for the MAT is by taking several practice tests (included in the online and purchased test preparation materials) in a secluded area and by setting a timer for the allotted time.

3) **Disability Support:** If students have a disability, they should register with UAB’s Disability Support Services (205) 934-4205. This takes time. So, if students plan to seek a disability designation at UAB, they must start this process at least 3 months before the test date. Once students have been designated by UAB's Student Disability Services as having a disability, they will be allowed to stake the MAT with accommodations. The exact accommodation depends on the type of disability.

4) **Arriving on Time:** Test takers should arrive at the test center at least 30 minutes before the test is scheduled to start. Test-takers must be inside of the designated testing room before the time indicated on the instructions. For example, if test-takers are told to arrive by 10:30, this means that the door of the testing room closes at 10:30 and no one else is permitted to enter.

5) **Default Response:** If test takers do not know the answer to a question, they should mark their default response rather than leaving it blank. “C” is often recommended. Test takers should not worry about marking “C” numerous times. Using a default response works well since the passing score on the MAT 35 questions being correct out of 100. Of an individual’s default responses, about 25% are often correct. For example, of 20 "simply mark C" responses, about 5 will be correct. For some test takers, this is the difference between passing and not passing. Instead of “C,” test takers may wish to use “B” or another letter. **NOTE: This approach will not work as well when a higher cut score is required. It also does not work on other types of exams, e.g., Advanced Placement; it depends on the test design.**

6) **Keeping track of time:** One minute before the test ends, test takers should “simply mark C” on the remaining questions. That way, if they run out of time, they will have responded to all questions. For computer-based tests, the time appears on the screen. For paper-based tests, the test takers could wear a simple watch with clear numbers. They cannot rely on their cell phone for telling time because they are not allowed to bring cell phones into the testing room. They also cannot rely on the wall clock because sometimes it is not easily visible. When taking paper-based tests, the test takers may wish to write down the time when they start the test and the time when the test is supposed to end.
**Tuition (2020-21)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Face-to-Face classes</th>
<th>Each semester hour of coursework</th>
<th>Each 3-hour course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-state residents</td>
<td>$450</td>
<td>$1,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Out-of-state residents</td>
<td>$1,066</td>
<td>$3,198</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Online courses</th>
<th>Each semester hour of coursework</th>
<th>Each 3-hour course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>In-state &amp; out-of-state</td>
<td>$534</td>
<td>$1,602</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees (2020-21):** The most common fees are as follows:
- field supervision $100, internship $75, laboratory $50;
- payment plan $25, late payment $50, reinstatement $50 - $150; international $100

**QuickLinks**

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)*

**Application Deadlines**

1) **Application(s) for Admission**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Projected Term for Admission</th>
<th>Degree-Seeking Admission*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring (starts first week of January)</td>
<td>November 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer (terms starts May and June)</td>
<td>April 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall (starts last week in August)</td>
<td>July 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Subject to change: Updates will be posted at [Graduate School Deadlines](http://www.uab.edu/education/studentservices/home/teacher-certification)

2) **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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anticipated Graduation</th>
<th>SOE Deadlines</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>July 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>November 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Visit the Graduate School Website and select “Forms Used to Complete Graduate Study” for detailed instructions on how to submit your application for degree.

The School of Education (SOE) recommends students to UAB’s Graduate School for graduating with a master’s degree. After approving the recommendation, the Graduate School awards the master’s degree.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Anticipated Graduation</th>
<th>Due Date for Submitting to the OSS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>April 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>August 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>November 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Basic information is provided at this website: [http://www.uab.edu/education/studentservices/home/teacher-certification](http://www.uab.edu/education/studentservices/home/teacher-certification)
I am interested in learning more about the EdS-TESOL

Names: First & Middle _________________________ (preferred_________); Last____________________ (former________)

Do you hold Class A certification in ESOL issued by the Alabama State Department of Education?  YES NO

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

___Certification 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

Passing score on the MAT (388+) or GRE (290+ current or 850+ former)

International students: TOEFL= 90 (with 20+ for each subscore) or IELTS=7.0 (with 6.5+ for each subscore)

Prerequisite for the Certification Track

Valid Class A Teacher Certification in ESOL issued by the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE)

Prerequisite for the Non-Certification Track

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 to be eligible for Class AA certification.

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 quality for and follow the program in effect upon seeking re-entry.

Signature: ____________________________________________________ Date: ______________________________