



Postgraduate Institute of English
Open University of Sri Lanka

The MA(TESL), M(TESL), and PGD(TESL) in more detail

Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching English as a Second Language [PGD(TESL)]

The Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching English as a Second Language [PGD(TESL)] is available as a flexible exit option within the larger Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language [MA(TESL)] program. The PGD(TESL) is geared towards practitioners who require the skills and theoretical knowledge for practice-oriented professional growth and is an initial postgraduate qualification that can lead to further professional certification. The program aims to develop teachers' critical awareness of the current issues and trends in teaching and learning a second language so they are able to apply this knowledge creatively to plan and implement tasks in a professional manner to make teaching and learning more effective. The diploma is designed to equip teachers to become reflective practitioners who can deal with complex teaching and learning situations.

The full program requires coursework aggregating to a total of twenty (20) credits and a teaching practicum consisting of five (5) credits, adding up to twenty-five (25) credits in total to be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Teaching English as a Second Language. This program can be completed in 10 months.

Master of Teaching English as a Second Language (MTESL)

The Master of Teaching English as a Second Language [M(TESL)] is available as a flexible exit option within the larger Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language [MA(TESL)] program. This taught masters degree is designed for the professional development of educators. Though not confined to classroom based ELT practitioners, this degree can be beneficial for teacher educators and administrators working in a range of state, private and informal settings. The M(TESL) aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills and the exposure to adapt to

changing curricula and the competencies to foster a generation of socio-culturally sensitive, empathetic, life-long learners who are well equipped to meet the demands of the workplace.

The full program requires coursework totaling twenty-five (25) credits and a teaching practicum consisting of five (5) credits, adding up to thirty (30) credits in total to be awarded the Master of Teaching English as a Second Language. The MTESL can be completed in one year.

Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language [MA(TESL)]

This two-year research Masters degree is designed to offer a balanced emphasis on theory, research and practice in second language education. It has a solid emphasis on the disciplinary knowledge in the larger field of second language teaching and learning, and provides students with the space to critically engage with the theories of language learning and teaching, critically evaluate teaching methodologies and their application to their own teaching contexts so they could develop the confidence to review and analyze issues related to teaching English as a second language, and implement these teaching methodologies critically to a range of classroom scenarios in a meaningful manner. The MA(TESL) aims to introduce students to a range of qualitative, quantitative and mixed approaches to conducting research so they can better understand and find informed solutions for existing pedagogical challenges while contributing to the existing TESL knowledge base. Moreover, this research degree aims to provide students with the knowledge, skills and the confidence to proceed to a higher degree.

The full program requires coursework aggregating to a total of forty (40) credits and a dissertation of twenty (20) credits to be awarded the Master of Arts in Teaching English as a Second Language. This program can be completed in 2 years.

Those who exit the program with either the PGD(TESL) or the M(TESL) can return to complete the MA TESL within 05 years of exiting with the intermediate qualification.