

Trinity College (London) Certificate in TESOL

Application pack.

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General Information:

About the qualification

Trinity's TESOL qualifications meet the specifications set by the British Association of TESOL Qualifying Institutions (BATQI), The British Institute of English Language Teaching (BIELT) and the Qualifications Curriculum Authority (QCA). The TCL Certificate is accepted as an initial qualification for teachers in institutions accredited under the British Council's Accreditation in Britain scheme, and is accepted as relevant for work in ELT by employers from the private and state sectors, including British Council teaching centres, world wide. The demand for English language teachers across the world continues to be strong, and the prospects for a long term career are good for the teacher prepared to travel and take on new challenges in a wide range of cultural contexts.

Note for those intending to teach in the UK. Our part time course embeds an optional PTLLS qualification which, with the QCA level 5 Trinity College Certificate in TESOL, will give you entry into teaching in the Lifelong Learning Sector. If you intend to teach on the Skills for Life programmes in colleges of Further Education, it may be that, at some point, you will be required to undertake further in-service training in order to enhance your specialist knowledge of the National Curriculum. Those taking their qualification on a full time course can opt to join us for the next available PTLLS training.

About the course

The Certificate in TESOL is an initial teacher training qualification, allowing you to teach English to speakers of other languages in this country or abroad. At the end of a Trinity College Certificate in TESOL, new teachers are equipped to enter the classroom confident that they are following the basic principles of good teaching.

During the course, you will have your own awareness of the English Language improved, you will be introduced to aspects of English which may be quite new to you (e.g. phonetics and phonology), and will consider some of the theories and practicalities behind classroom teaching methodologies. You will be trained in practical teaching, in various aspects of classroom management and will discover a number of teaching techniques. To achieve all of this, you will take part in input sessions, seminars and workshops, including a short course in an 'unknown language'. You will also be required to complete a number of pieces of coursework, observation of experienced teachers in 'live' classes, and practical teaching.

Practical Teaching

We'll provide classes of genuine adult learners for you to teach, in multilingual/multinational groups of 6 - 14. You will be given full information at the beginning of the course. Note that teaching practice will usually be held in the mornings, so those on the part time course will need to arrange time off work, if applicable, on the days when they are teaching or observing classes (approximately 8 - 10 occasions of 2 - 3 hours throughout the course).

Lesson Observation

You will be given opportunities to observe experienced teachers working. You MUST observe at least 4 hours of classroom teaching.

Internet

Please note that we expect you to have a reasonable working knowledge of IT. We shall be contacting you by email, the pre-course task will be delivered on-line, and you will find the internet and word-processing invaluable in lesson preparation. While there will be PCs available for your use at A+, you will find it much more convenient also to have your own for home access.

Your application for the A+ Certificate in TESOL, leading to the award of the Trinity College Certificate in TESOL

Step 1. Complete the application form and send it, with a **photocopy** of your highest academic qualification, to the Admissions Tutor. Note that you need to do this **at least** three weeks before the commencement of the course you wish to attend.

Step 2. Your application form will be considered and, if you meet the entry requirements, you will be invited for interview.

Step 3. The interview. This will be in three parts.

- i. You will complete a short at-interview test.
- ii. You will take part in a group interview, with other applicants.
- iii. You will have an individual interview with one of the course tutors.

The whole process will take between 90 and 120 minutes.

This is what will happen at the interview:

1. You will be given a short language awareness task, which will let us see how proficient you are in the areas of spelling, punctuation and basic use of English.
2. You will meet with us and with other candidates, and will be given information about the course, the level of commitment required, schedules and deadlines, and also about Trinity College, *London*, and the Certificate in TESOL. This will be your opportunity to ask general questions about the course and about the qualification.
3. We'll ask you to speak to another applicant, to share information with them, and then to make a short presentation to rest of the group, telling us about your partner. In the event of your attending an individual interview *only*, you will be asked to make a short presentation to us about one of your interests.
4. At the individual interview, we will ask you about your past study, work experience, personal qualities and motivations, and will ask you to confirm that you will be able to bring to the course the level of commitment necessary for its successful completion.
5. You will be asked to show the **original** documentation confirming your qualifications.

Aims of the interview for you:

- to give you an idea of what is involved in teaching English to speakers of other languages.
- to find out the sort of things which will be expected of you on the course and in your future careers
- to help you to decide whether or not this is right for you
- to encourage you to try out your presentation skills in a non-threatening way
- to encourage you to think about your own language skills and competence

- to meet other people who may be your colleagues on the course you attend
- to help you find out more about A+ English, Trinity College, *London*, and the Certificate TESOL qualification.

Aims of the interview for us:

- to find out more about you
- to enable us to make an informed assessment of your suitability for the course and for a career in English Language Teaching
- to enable you to make an informed assessment of your own suitability for the course
- to give you the information you need to be able to make a decision about whether or not to accept a place, if one is offered.
- to assess your basic language awareness
- to assess your level of motivation and to ensure that you are aware of the considerable demands of this course.

After the interview.

After the interview process is finished, the course tutors will consider your application and you will be contacted by email and letter within three working days with the following results:

- a) Unconditional offer
- b) Conditional offer – in which case you will be asked to fulfil certain conditions before you are accepted. This could be additional language training for example, or we may need to discuss further your personal commitments before offering an unconditional place.
- c) You will be told that, on this occasion, your application has been unsuccessful. We will give a broad indication of the reason for this – e.g. not meeting entrance requirements, level of language not sufficient – but under normal circumstances will not enter into discussion on the decision. You will be able to apply again later if you feel that you have taken steps to meet the requirements of the course.

On being offered a place, please confirm your acceptance within two days.

Please note that although we aim to equip *all* candidates with the necessary skills to gain the qualification, and will offer considerable support to trainees, acceptance onto the course does not *guarantee* a pass. Therefore, you should consider the *possibility* of an unsuccessful outcome before accepting your place and making the consequent financial commitment. You will be asked to sign a short declaration to this effect when you confirm your acceptance of our offer of a place.

When you have confirmed your intention to take part in the course, you will be sent a pre-course reading list, a list of required texts to be acquired, and a password to enable you to access on line a set of pre-course tasks, which must be completed before the commencement of the course.

The *minimum* period between offer of a place and commencement of a course will be two weeks. If your confirmation of acceptance of a place is less than two weeks before the course, you will be asked to transfer to a later course. Similarly, if you fail to complete satisfactorily the pre-course tasks on time, you will be transferred to a subsequent course.