Will-Excel TESOL Institute

Will-Excel TESOL Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)

Syllabus
For TESOL Diploma and Certificate applicants

Last updated October 2009
This qualification is issued by
Will-Excel TESOL Institute (Canada) and
accredited by the Heilongjiang Education Bureau (Harbin, China)

"Training Unforgettable Teachers!"

Introduction to TESOL
Syllabus overview, tasks and grading system, defining TESOL, using icebreakers in the classroom

Case Study: Overcoming Culture Shock
Defining culture shock, what to expect of China and your teaching experience, strategies and approaches for dealing with culture shock and Chinese culture

TESOL Teaching Approaches, Methods and Techniques
Eight different approaches, pros and cons of different approaches, specific approaches for particular environments

The Communicative Approach
Characteristics of the communicative approach, making students the center of the classroom, teaching as subordinated to learning

Classroom Management: Content and Conduct
Managing your classroom, properly preparing for class, controlling discipline and pace of learning, student discipline techniques

Teaching Children, Music in the Classroom, Songs and Games
Differences between teaching children and adults, using games and songs in the classroom to promote learning, popular educational games and trends

Lesson Planning I: Writing a Lesson Plan
Determining the 'aim' of a lesson, writing detailed aims to improve lesson quality, stages of a lesson and their aims, practice activities: controlled and less-controlled

Teaching One-to-One
Advantages of a one-to-one environment, needs analyses and why properly executing one is vital to the success of this kind of class, special demands and expectations of a one-to-one class

Grammar I: The Nine Parts of Speech
Introduction to the nine basic parts of speech

Teaching Grammar
Presenting new concepts, the importance of practice activities, the four stages of preparing to teach grammar

Receptive Skills I: Teaching Reading
Preparing students to read a text in class, making reading exercises fun and educational, strategies for introducing texts, follow-up activities

Productive Skills II: Teaching Writing and Spelling
Writing as one of the most important skill sets, student difficulties with writing and spelling, making writing fun and interesting

Receptive Skills II: Teaching Listening
Importance of teaching listening, teaching "Real World" listening, approaches to teaching listening in the classroom

Productive Skills I: Teaching Speaking
Challenges of teaching students how to speak English, setting up and implementing a speaking activity, adapting speaking activities for different levels of learners

Correcting Spoken and Written Errors
Correcting spoken errors without embarrassing students, approaches and methods of correcting errors, timing and appropriateness

Teaching Vocabulary
Teaching vocabulary, idioms, slang and other colloquial language, illustrating meaning and its importance

Grammar II: Tense and Time
Introduction to the twelve tenses of the English language, common grammar points that are often covered in textbooks

Case Study: History of Chinese Education
Chinese students' homework and extra classes, Chinese teachers and TAs focus on rote memorization and exams, events in China's history which have influenced educational reform

Linguistics, Pronunciation, and Phonics
Introduction to linguistics and its role in the classroom, the importance of standard pronunciation, teaching pronunciation, tips for correcting pronunciation (drills and games)

Case Study: Linguistic and Cultural Impact of Chinglish
'Chinglish' and what related errors to expect in the classroom, methods of countering common Chinese errors found in the classroom, an introduction to major differences between Chinese and English grammar

Teaching University
Strategies for planning and teaching university classes, managing large classes, introduction to a variety of classes taught in English at Chinese universities, Chinese university students' motivation level and goals, China's university policies and what will be expected of university instructors

Lesson Planning II: Language Analysis and Anticipating Problems
Producing detailed lesson plans, standard approaches of teaching grammar and vocabulary, the best approaches for Chinese children and adults

Grammar III: Clauses, Conditionals, Modals and Voice
An in-depth look into specific grammar points, relative clauses, the four conditionals, modal verbs, passive and active voice

Learning Styles
An in-depth look at the three main learning styles: visual, auditory and kinesthetic, sub-branches of the main learning styles, creating and organizing activities to cater to all learning styles

Second Language Acquisition
How learners acquire a second language, current theories discussed in academic circles, using this knowledge to benefit your classroom

Working with Teacher Assistants
Sharing responsibility, teaching duties, common communication issues, working closely with Chinese

Evaluating Textbooks
The importance of evaluating a textbook before beginning a new class, general English and topic-specific (ESP) textbooks, appropriating material in a textbook to keep classes interesting

Case Study: Social Interaction (Guānxi 关系)
Guanxi and why it is necessary to do business in China, key differences in attitudes towards relationships in China and the West, foreigners as part of a guanxi network

Teaching Business English and ESP
ESP and the specific fields it encompasses, differences between teaching Business and General English, expectations of Business English teachers, challenges and obstacles that may be encountered during an in-company class

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