

## eckersleyoxford

### Trinity College London Certificate in TESOL at Eckersley Oxford

Trinity College London Certificate in Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages (Cert. TESOL) is one of the most widely recognised, international, entry-level qualifications for this rewarding profession.

Our four-week course is challenging and intensive with much to cover from brain function in learning to linguistic theory and, of course, practical teaching techniques. The non-prescriptive nature of the Eckersley Oxford Cert. TESOL means that participants are able to discover for themselves what 'works' for them rather than trying to emulate other teachers' approaches and techniques. This can bring huge satisfaction when, having searched and found answers, one can then put them into action.

Contact us for an information pack with more details on all aspects of the course.

#### one course, two sites

The Eckersley Oxford Cert. TESOL runs in Oxford and also in Mönchengladbach (North West Germany) twice a year. For information on the Oxford course email: [tesol-uk@eckersley.co.uk](mailto:tesol-uk@eckersley.co.uk) For information on the German course email: [tesol-de@eckersley.co.uk](mailto:tesol-de@eckersley.co.uk)

#### enhanced learning credit scheme

Eckersley Oxford is an approved learning provider under the ELCAS scheme for the British Armed Forces. Our provider number is: 2834

#### our course could be your passport to the world

<b>Oxford</b>	875* GBP	22 March- 17 April; 07 June - 3 July; 01 - 27 November
<b>Rheinhadlen (Germany)</b>	1,395 GBP	26 April – 22 May; 13 September – 09 October

\* plus Value Added Tax at the current UK rate

## a concise guide to Eckersley Oxford, Trinity College London Cert TESOL

There are two entry-level English Language Teaching (ELT) qualifications which are recognised as 'efficient' by the British Council, one is the CELTA (Certificate of English Language Teaching to Adults) run under the auspices of the University of Cambridge exam Board (though not directly connected with the University of Cambridge) and the other under the Trinity College London (TCL) exam board. The Cert TESOL is accredited in England by the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) at Level 4 of the National Qualifications Framework.

There are shorter, perhaps cheaper courses available but to be valid as an initial professional qualification, courses must be minimum 130 hrs of input, 6 hrs observed teaching practice and contain assignments on a range of TESOL related topics.

Potential providers must write a 'proposal' laying out in full detail how their particular course will operate in terms of content, staffing, time frame and participants. (Our proposal, for example, is around 12,000 words)

TCL inspects the premises and facilities of all providers of Cert TESOL before granting validation.

### entry requirements

Course participants (CPs) must:

- be over 18
- normally have qualifications which would permit entry into UK Higher Education
- be competent in English Language but not necessarily a native speaker
- be aware of some formal aspects of English grammar and function
- be able to work as part of a team
- demonstrate an understanding of the demands of the course

All of these points are checked through a combination of a Pre interview task and interview.

### the course structure

TCL validates both full time and part time courses. In general courses can be from 4 weeks (intensive) to 9 months (part time) and all stages in between. Eckersley Oxford currently offers the 4 week (9-5) option but may in the future offer part-time courses too.

Week 1: an introduction to major aspects of teaching and learning.

Week 2, 3 and 4: mornings as above but in ever more depth, afternoons Teaching Practice (TP) and Feedback.

During the course there are assignments which are required by Trinity College London.

These are:

Unknown Natural Language: 4 hours of tuition in a language none of the CPs is familiar with – to be written up into a journal.

Language Learner Profile: an in depth study of a learner and their strengths and weaknesses in EL.

Teaching Practice Journal: a reflective document compiled after each teaching practice to build into a log.

## the course structure

Materials Assignment: design, create and use materials in the classroom and write a description and critical analysis of them.

All these assignments are presented to the TCL 'moderator' at the end of the course, all are marked and assessed and all must be passed in order to qualify for the Cert TESOL award.

TP is also an assignment in the sense that it must be undertaken and passed. TP is followed by a feedback in which CPs and tutors discuss and critically analyse the afternoon's teaching.

The course is very hard work indeed and although we always warn potential CPs, sometimes we still discover someone who is trying to hold down and evening bar job while undertaking the course! This inevitably ends in disaster as CPs need all their energy and focus to complete the course successfully. Although TCL created the base syllabus, each provider is responsible for creating their own version. Ours has been described as 'innovative' and we have received consistently excellent feedback from CPs and moderators.

## moderation

At the end of every course TCL sends a Moderator to read CPs' assignments, review the grades they have been assigned, interview them in groups to discuss the course itself and to interview each individually to talk about their materials assignment. TCL assesses the materials while all the other assignments are assessed by the course tutors.

## conclusion

We think that initial teacher training is very important – the way you are trained may well stay with you for the whole of your career. That's why we take so much trouble with our course – we want to inspire you as we have been inspired.

We look forward to seeing you either here in Oxford or at our centre in Germany.

**Steve Hirschhorn (Principal and Course Director) MA., PGCE., FHEA**