

Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) MA/ Postgraduate Diploma/ Postgraduate Certificate (School of Education)

This **Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)** programme based in the School of Education, offers a unique opportunity to study for a qualification which links teaching English to wider issues of school-based education. It is aimed at individuals with knowledge and understanding of current debates relevant to the teaching and learning of English as a Foreign Language. The aim is to support you in becoming a reflective TEFL practitioner, a competent educational researcher and an active member of the international academic and professional TEFL community.

 [Download a summary of the Teaching English as a Foreign Language programme \(PDF, 197KB\) \(/Documents/college-social-sciences/education/courses/CPD/tefl.pdf\)](#)

[Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx\)](#)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Continuing professional development, taught

Study Options: Full time, part time

Duration: MA - 1 year full-time, 3 years part-time; PGDip - 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time; PGCert - 1 year full-time/part-time

Start date: September

Contact

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[The School of Education \(/schools/education/index.aspx\)](#)

Details

This programme is aimed at individuals with knowledge and understanding of current debates relevant to the teaching and learning of English as a Foreign Language. Some teaching experience is an advantage but not essential. The aim is to support you in becoming a reflective TEFL practitioner, a competent educational researcher and an active member of the international academic and professional TEFL community.

Two of our international students talk about their experiences of the TEFL programme.

Adobe Flash Player or QuickTime is required for video playback. [Get the latest Flash Player](#) [Get the latest version of QuickTime](#)

Ai from Japan (speaking in Japanese) Xiao Xiao from China (speaking in Mandarin)

Programme content

The programme is designed both to be practical and to provide an introduction to key research tools. There are three core modules for the Teaching English as a Foreign Language programme:

- Communicative Language Teaching, Syllabus Design and Assessment
- Language, Discourse and Society
- Second Language Learning

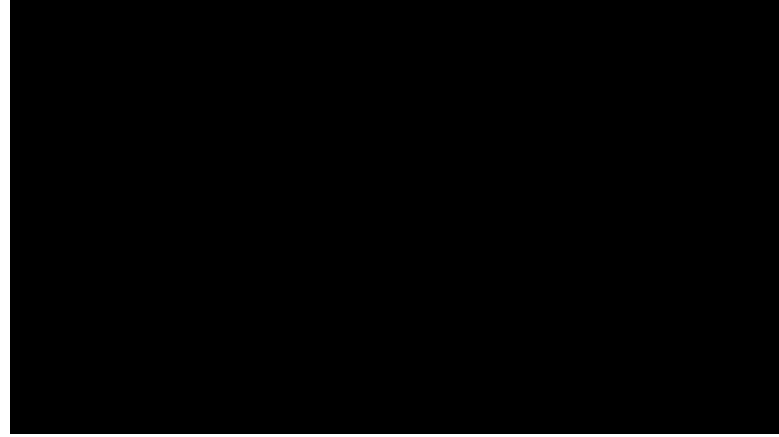
These modules give you a strong grounding in appropriate classroom methodology, and course design with the opportunity to create your own teaching and learning materials. Other modules provide opportunities to visit British primary, secondary and language schools, and prepare you for your dissertation. We also offer a wide range of options to choose from, including Curriculum Design in Global Contexts, Leadership for School Improvement, Personal and Professional Skills for Education Management, Online Learning, ICT in Education, Education as an International Issue, and Special Educational Needs of Children with Autism.

You will have the chance to participate in events organised by our research centre [MOSAIC \(/research/activity/education/mosaic/index.aspx\)](#), such as conferences and popular seminar series with renowned international TEFL researchers.

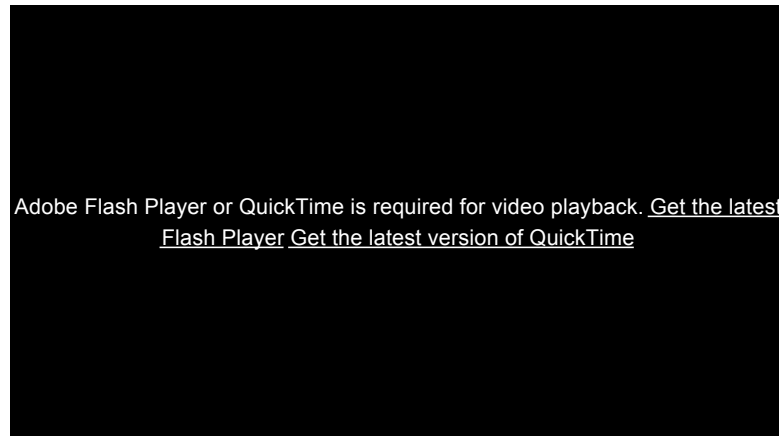
For an alternative qualification in a different College in the University of Birmingham, please view the [Teaching English as a Foreign/Second Language MA \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/english/english-foreign-second-lang.aspx\)](#) within the Centre for English Language Studies.

Why study this course

Zohra from Pakistan talks about why she decided to join the TEFL programme



A number of students talk about the TEFL programme on 'Student Voices'



Adobe Flash Player or QuickTime is required for video playback. [Get the latest Flash Player](#) [Get the latest version of QuickTime](#)

The School of Education has a vibrant community of research students;(MPhil/EdD/PhD), researching a range of topics, including as bilingual education, second language motivation, second language learning in virtual environments, intercultural communication, complementary schools, and many others.

All tutors teaching on the core modules of the MA Education TEFL programme are involved in research projects concerning classroom interaction, second language learning and teaching, teacher collaboration, teacher development, bilingualism and multilingualism, literacy, academic discourse, gender and identity, digital literacies and learning through IT amongst many others.

All of this will make studying TEFL at the School of Education at the University of Birmingham, England, UK an exciting and rewarding experience.

Modules

Foreign Languages in Education: Communicative Language Teaching, Syllabus Design and Assessment

Language Discourse and Society

Second Language Learning

There are 2 core **Education Modules**.

School Observation, Evaluation and Supervision

Practitioner Inquiry in Education

There are also several **optional modules**.

Optional Modules

Dissertation

Fees and funding

Fees Home/EU 2015-2016

- Code 6146 PGCert full time £2,070
- Code 6150 PGDip full time £4,140
- Code 4399 MA full time £6,210
- Code 6374 MA part time £2,070

Fees for part-time programmes are based on students studying 60 credits per year.

The fees shown above are the **annual** fees for students starting their courses September in 2015. Please note that where courses last more than one year, the annual fees for subsequent years on the course may increase due to inflation.

Fees overseas 2015-2016

- Code 6146 PGCert full time £4,714
- Code 6150 PGDip full time £9,427
- Code 4399 MA full time £14,140
- Code 6374 MA part time £4,714

Fees are based on students studying 60 credits per year on part-time programmes.

The fees shown above are the **annual** fees for students starting their courses September in 2015. Please note that where courses last more than one year, the annual fees for subsequent years on the course may increase due to inflation.

Please view our [Fees for International Students \(/International/students/finance/fees.aspx\)](/International/students/finance/fees.aspx) page for further details

Learn more about [fees and funding \(/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx\)](/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx)

Scholarships and studentships

Scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government. More details may be found on the [international scholarships \(/International/students/finance/index.aspx\)](/International/students/finance/index.aspx) page

For further information contact the School directly or the Student Funding Office via [online enquiries \(http://www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk\)](http://www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk).

Entry requirements

Please refer directly to the [School of Education entry requirements \(/postgraduate/courses/cpd/edu/progression-admission-requirements.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/cpd/edu/progression-admission-requirements.aspx) web page.

International students

We accept a range of qualifications, our [country pages \(/International/students/country/index.aspx\)](/International/students/country/index.aspx) show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

VISA Requirements

Obtaining a visa can be a lengthy process. Please allow sufficient time to obtain your visa. [Find out more about the visa requirements and process \(/International/students/visas/index.aspx\)](/International/students/visas/index.aspx)

English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an [English language qualification \(/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/international/index.aspx\)](/postgraduate/requirements-pgt/international/index.aspx) to the right level
- by taking and successfully completing one of our [English courses for international students \(/postgraduate/courses/preessional/index.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/preessional/index.aspx)

How to apply

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the [How to apply pages \(http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx\)](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)

[Apply now \(https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COSo64.htm\)](https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COSo64.htm)

Related links

[Scholarships and bursaries \(/schools/education/scholarships/index.aspx\)](/schools/education/scholarships/index.aspx)

[كلية التربية \(/schools/education/about/arabic.aspx\)](/schools/education/about/arabic.aspx)

[中文繁體 \(/schools/education/about/cantonese.aspx\)](/schools/education/about/cantonese.aspx)

[中文简体 \(/schools/education/about/mandarin.aspx\)](/schools/education/about/mandarin.aspx)

Learning and teaching

The course participants will experience a range of teaching and learning styles, including lectures and group discussions, practical demonstrations and microteaching, group presentations, school observations, journals and group projects.

The MA Education TEFL Dissertation Prize

The MA Education TEFL Dissertation Prize is annually awarded to best TEFL dissertations in the School of Education whose work demonstrates significance, originality and methodological rigour.

Prize winners 2012-2013

- [Wesam Alshammari \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/wesam-alshammari.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/wesam-alshammari.aspx)
- [Peng Zhuo \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/peng-zhuo.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/peng-zhuo.aspx)
- [Qianyun Yu \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/qianyun-yu.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/qianyun-yu.aspx)

Prize winners 2011-2012

- [Daryl Johnson \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/daryl-johnson.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/daryl-johnson.aspx)
- [Tojiniso Olimnazarova \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/tojiniso-olimnazarova.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/tojiniso-olimnazarova.aspx)
- [Tra Mi Thi Do \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/tra-mi-thi-do.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/tra-mi-thi-do.aspx)

Prize winners 2010-2011

- [Chisato Danjo \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/chisato-danjo.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/chisato-danjo.aspx)
- [Lina Hu \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/lina-hu.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/lina-hu.aspx)
- [Louise Wheeler \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/louise-wheeler.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/louise-wheeler.aspx)
- [Meng Han Lee \(/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/meng-han-lee.aspx\)](/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/tefl-prizewinners/meng-han-lee.aspx)

Assessment methods

Modules are typically assessed with a 4,000 word written assignments in which students are asked to explore a topic of their choice, review relevant literature and collect and analyse some data in a small-scale research project. This will help you gain a deeper understanding of an aspect of the teaching and learning process and suggest practical implications. For some modules, assessment will take the form of a design and evaluation of curriculum or teaching materials. There will be an early opportunity to submit a short piece of written work and receive constructive feedback from the tutor.

The dissertation is 15,000 words in length, and encourages students to explore an aspect of TEFL which is personally relevant to them and their teaching contexts. It usually includes a description of the context, a literature review, a methodology chapter and the discussion of findings. Students will have an individual supervisor to offer advice and support. The MA Education TEFL Dissertation prize is annually awarded to the best TEFL dissertations in the School of Education whose work demonstrates significance, originality and methodological rigour

Related staff

• [Professor Adrian Blackledge \(/staff/profiles/education/blackledge-adrian.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/education/blackledge-adrian.aspx)

• [Professor Angela Creese \(/staff/profiles/education/creese-angela.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/education/creese-angela.aspx)

• [Dr Maggie Kubanyiova \(/staff/profiles/education/kubanyiova-maggie.aspx\)](/staff/profiles/education/kubanyiova-maggie.aspx)

Employability

Our graduates typically find work as EFL teachers in schools and universities in countries around the world, return to their English teaching jobs in their home countries, are promoted to more senior roles within their teaching contexts, or pursue a research qualification (usually a PhD degree). Graduates from the MA Education TEFL are consistently successful in winning prestigious PhD scholarships and awards and present their MA TEFL work at international conferences and in publications.

