

Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL)

MA, PGDip, PGCert Full-time, part-time

Is this programme for you?

The aims of the TEFL programme are to provide students with knowledge and understanding of current debates relevant to the teaching and learning of English as a foreign and second language, and the skills to support their becoming reflective TEFL practitioners and competent educational researchers.



What does the programme offer?

Core modules

Second Language Learning

This module provides an introduction to different theories of second language learning to help students critically evaluate the role of social and psychological factors in understanding second language acquisition as well as the role of learner and teacher contributions in the language learning process. Topics include social contexts of SLA, task-based interaction, corrective feedback, focus on form, motivation, learning strategies.

Communicative Language Teaching, Syllabus Design and Assessment

The theory and practice of communicative approaches to the learning and teaching of language are explored in this module which assists students to critically evaluate different types of language syllabuses and the type of activities, assessments and syllabuses they incorporate. It encourages critical reflection on students' own learning and teaching contexts.

Language, Discourse and Society

This module provides an introduction to sociolinguistics, the study of the interrelationship between language and society. Specifically, it is concerned with sociolinguistics and its relevance to language learning and teaching. Topics include: multilingualism (code-switching, bilingualism, politics of language); discourses and identities (with specific reference to ethnicity and to gender); literacy in its social context.

Required modules

School Observation, Evaluation and Supervision

This module is based on visits to different schools, with related university-based seminars.

Practitioner Inquiry in Education (PIE)

PIE introduces research approaches and methods in education. Topics include practitioner research, ethics, observation, interviewing, analysing and interpreting data, and writing up language education research.

Optional Modules:

(students choose one – subject to availability)

- Education as an International Issue
- Human Rights, Citizenship and the Environment
- Leadership for School Improvement
- Learning and ICT
- Personal and Professional Skills for Education Management
- Race, Equality, Diversity

Study and Awards

PGCert	3 Modules
PGDip	6 Modules
MA	6 Modules plus dissertation

How do you study?

The programme is offered on campus through interactive lectures, seminars, and tutorials. The classes use a variety of reflective, experiential and enquiry-based activities including journals, peer teaching, language data analysis, collaborative group activities, school visits, webCT tasks and small-scale research projects. Assignments and dissertation topics reflect students' individual teaching interests and contexts.

What are the entry requirements?

A good degree, good English, and evidence of a commitment to teaching. Experience teaching EFL is an advantage, but not a requirement.

How do you apply?

If you require an application form please contact the School of Education on 0121 414 4866 or at education@bham.ac.uk giving your name and address. An early application is advised as places are allocated on a first come first served basis.

Learn more

For further information, please contact:

Dr Sheena Gardner, s.f.gardner@bham.ac.uk

Tel. +44 (0) 121 414 4821

Dr Maggie Kubanyiova, m.kubanyiova@bham.ac.uk

Tel. +44 (0) 121 414 8056 or

Sue Gallagher, s.gallagher@bham.ac.uk

Tel. +44 (0)121 414 3967

www.tefl.education.bham.ac.uk

