



Wits Language School
Expert Language Solutions

2012

**Teaching English
to Young Learners**



Teaching English to Young Learners

2012



English plays an important role in South Africa and abroad. As English becomes more and more accepted as an international language around the world, it is increasingly included in primary curricula and the number of private language schools offering English language tuition to young learners has increased. The Teaching English to Young Learners (TEYL) course aims to provide teachers with the skills and knowledge required to teach English to young learners from the ages of 3 to 16 years. Teaching young learners is an enjoyable and rewarding career and opportunities exist in South Africa and abroad to teach language to young learners. Although this course focuses on the teaching of English to Young Learners, it is also suitable for teacher of other languages who would like to develop their language teaching skills and practice.

Who is the course suitable for?

- Individuals interested in a career in teaching English to young learners who have no experience
- Teachers who are interested in developing themselves professionally in the area of teaching English to young learners

What are the entry requirements?

To be registered as a trainee on the Wits TEYL course you need to fulfil all the requirements below:

- Minimum of 18 years of age
- First language proficiency in English
- Minimum of a National Senior Certificate (Grade 12)
- A professional teaching qualification (TESOL, TEFL, CELTA or PGCE)
- A degree is highly recommended

What are the aims and objectives of the course?

On completion of the course, candidates will:

- Be familiar with the characteristics and needs of young learners
- Have an awareness of the context and process of language learning by young learners
- Have developed an awareness of language and skills and be able to apply these in their professional practice
- Understand and be able to apply the principles and practice of effective teaching of language to young learners
- Possess basic skills, techniques and strategies required to effectively teach language to young learners
- Be able to assess and evaluate young learners language
- Be familiar with appropriate resources and materials for use with young language learners
- Be familiar with professional development opportunities

How is the course structured?

In the input sessions, our trained and experienced teacher trainers will cover theoretical aspects of the course, such as: characteristics and needs of young learners, teaching methodology and the basic principles of young learner teaching and learning. The practical component provides trainees with the opportunity to plan and present activities, lessons and projects on teaching English to young learners. These practical sessions are observed by an experienced trainer



who provides constructive feedback and helps you to develop your young learner teaching skills. .

What approach is used?

The TEYL course approach involves participatory learning, where trainees are very much involved in the learning and teaching process. Most input sessions will focus on trainees discovering new concepts and information about teaching English to Young Learners through discussions, research, projects, activities and presentations. Trainees will also be involved in several tasks either in groups or pairs. Trainees are required to contribute to their groups by sharing and completing duties, since tasks will be assessed. Trainees will be provided with a textbook and will be expected to prepare for the next day's sessions by reading the chapters assigned for homework. The textbook should be used for revision and to assist with the completion of projects and assignments.

What will the course include?

1. Learning & development of Young Learners
 - Theories of Young Learner learning and development
 - Characteristics of Young Learners
 - Learning styles
2. Language Acquisition
3. The Young Learner Classroom
 - Young Learner lessons
 - Lesson approaches
 - Lesson structure and planning
 - Classroom management
 - Error and error correction
 - Adapting EFL techniques
4. Teaching Language to Young Learners
 - Teaching Vocabulary
 - Teaching Grammar
 - Teaching Listening
 - Teaching Speaking
 - Teaching Reading
 - Teaching Writing
5. Young Learner Teacher's Toolbox
 - Visual and teaching aids
 - Games and activities
 - Songs, music, chants and rhymes
6. Resources and Materials
 - Using course books
 - Adapting course books
 - Designing materials
7. Assessing Young Learners
 - Purpose of assessment
 - Assessing young learners
 - Assessment tools and techniques
8. Professional Development for teachers
 - Classroom research
 - Further study
 - Professional development opportunities
9. Teaching Practice

How long is the course?

The TEYL course is a 40 hour contact course which includes observed and assessed teaching practice. The classes are held three evenings per week, running over a period of four weeks.

What are the methods of assessment?

Assessment is continuous and there is no final exam. Trainees are assessed on their practical teaching as well as a portfolio of written assignments. Participation and attendance is also considered as a major part of assessment since you will be required to participate in several tasks, activities and presentations either in groups or individually throughout the course.

What certification is issued?

On successful completion of the course, trainees will receive a Wits Language School certificate of competence in Teaching English to Young Learners.

INTESOL was founded in 1993 in Bristol, England by Lynda Hazelwood. INTESOL is established in the UK as an accredited centre by NCFE, a national awarding body in the United Kingdom. The INTESOL course is currently offered by schools in over 11 countries and is recognised by language schools internationally. The INTESOL course fulfils the British Council's requirements for a recognised TESOL certificate.