



Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education

SIT* TESOL Certificate

USA World Learning - *School for International Training



INSTITUTE OF CONTINUING & TESOL EDUCATION, THE UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

The Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education (ICTE-UQ) is located on the main campus of The University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. The University of Queensland is one of Australia's leading universities, with an international reputation for high quality teaching and research. Founded in 1909, the University is the state of Queensland's premier institution of higher education.

ICTE-UQ has been involved in English language training since 1981 and offers a broad range of programs including English language, study tours, English teacher training and professional development, continuing professional education and English & internship programs. ICTE-UQ is accredited by the National ELT Accreditation Scheme (NEAS), is a member of the national ELICOS association and government registered.

In the field of English language teacher training and professional development ICTE-UQ has had extensive experience in the design, development and delivery of programs catering for both practising overseas English language teachers at primary and secondary levels, and for people requiring a pre-service qualification in teaching English to adults and secondary students. Such programs have been undertaken in collaboration with government instrumentalities, institutions and educational corporations in Chile, Japan, South Korea, China, Thailand and Australia.

SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING

The School for International Training (SIT), located in Brattleboro, Vermont USA, was established in 1964 as an outgrowth of their role in providing language training and curriculum materials for the USA Peace Corps. SIT is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges and by the Vermont State Department of Education.

SIT offers master level degrees in international and intercultural management and language teaching as well as study abroad programs for students from universities throughout the USA. In addition to training English language teachers through the Master of Arts programs and the SIT TESOL Certificate course, the School's Center for Teacher Education, Training and Research carries out projects worldwide that help institutions and teachers reexamine their values and practices, investigate the classroom experience to improve student learning, and increase access to second language learning.

The School has been especially active in refugee resettlement projects and has provided ESL instruction and USA cultural orientation to tens of thousands of refugees since the 1970s. Through the work of its faculty and alumni, SIT enjoys a reputation as a premier center of teacher education.

The SIT-TESOL course was a challenging but wonderful experience for me. Our trainers, sure kept us on our toes - there was never a dull moment. But they really supported us and worked hard to facilitate our successful completion of training. Now I'm in Japan and having a wonderful time. I'm teaching mostly 19 year olds who are training to be dolphin trainers and pet trimmers. The classes are large, which provides a challenge, but for the most part, its very rewarding. The students are great, and life in Japan is such a unique and wonderful adventure.

Ana Gerard

SIT-TC Graduate Nov-Dec 2005 (second from left)





SCHOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAINING TESOL CERTIFICATE (SIT-TC) COURSE

The SIT-TC is a four week course delivered by ICTE-UQ under licence. The course provides participants with professional knowledge and skills in teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) as well as tools for their own reflection and growth as teachers. It is an introductory program suitable for experienced English language teachers who are looking for a formal qualification as well as for those wishing to become English language teachers.

This experiential course provides practical training through teaching demonstrations, lesson planning and analysis, and practice teaching and feedback. Participants develop skills in teaching speaking, listening, reading, writing, grammar and culture. The course begins with a brief look at second language acquisition through the experience of being a learner. Participants then learn about specific teaching areas each day, which they apply in their daily practice teaching of adult ESOL learners. Participants gain skills in self-reflection and analysis through examining those lessons with the teacher trainers.

The SIT-TC addresses three main areas:

- Focus on learning: Participants engage in a language-learning experience in order to explore the relationship between language learning and teaching, and aspects of second language acquisition from the point of view of the learner. This experience provides the foundation for examining teaching.
- Focus on teaching: Participants examine the theory and practice of planning, teaching and assessing lessons in the four skills (speaking, listening, reading and writing), grammar and culture through experiential activities, teaching demonstrations, discussions, lesson planning, materials development, and readings.
- Focus on classroom practices: Participants put their new knowledge and skills into practice through daily practice teaching sessions. Trainers observe and facilitate feedback sessions after these lessons. From them participants learn to reflect on and assess their own teaching as well as to examine the teaching of their peers.

The sessions are highly interactive and experiential. The course includes planning lessons and practice teaching with a minimum of 6 hours assessed teaching to 'real' ESOL students. Trainers observe your teaching and offer practical advice after each session.

Attendance

The SIT-TC Certificate is highly intensive and candidates need to be totally committed for the full duration of the course. Attendance and punctuality are a mandatory part of the certification requirements. The course normally runs from 8.30am to 6.30pm daily and requires additional preparation outside class times. It is not possible to fulfil the obligations of this course if you have any other commitments during this period such as a part-time job or other time consuming activities. Participants whose attendance and punctuality do not meet the course requirements may be asked to leave the course.

Course Details

Location

The Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education
The University of Queensland
Brisbane, Australia

Dates*

ICTE-UQ typically offers the four week SIT-TC course in the months of February, May, September and November each year. Please refer to the Teacher Training section of the website for exact dates.

www.ictc.uq.edu.au

Cost*

AUD\$2,600

* Please note that dates and fees are subject to change

“Be prepared to work hard, think deeply and be greatly rewarded.”

Roxanne Brock SIT-TC Graduate Nov-Dec 2004

Training Staff

The SIT-TC program is taught by two full-time trainers working in tandem. Trainers are experienced ESOL teachers who have worked with adult learners and have previous training experience. The trainers teach the course content, process discussions, coach participants in developing lesson plans and in planning and teaching. They also observe participants' teaching and provide feedback to participants after each teaching session.

Entrance Requirements

Applicants should be at least 18 years old.

All applicants must have:

- completed high school and show a capacity for tertiary-level education
- a high standard of competence on both written and spoken English that enables them to undertake the course and prepare for teaching a range of levels
- an interest in, and understanding of the grammar and structure of English language
- a willingness to plan and teach cooperatively, and to give and receive feedback
- the potential to develop the necessary skills to become an effective teacher
- an interview (may be telephone) and complete a written task at interview.

Non-native speakers need a minimum TOEFL score of 550 with TWE 5 or 213 (computer-based test) or IELTS 6.5 with a minimum score of 6.0 in speaking and writing.

Certification Requirements

To complete the certificate successfully applicants must meet all of the following program requirements:

1. attend all program sessions (allowances may be made for absence due to emergency situations);
2. communicate effectively in written and oral English;
3. successfully meet all goals and objectives of the program;
4. successfully complete all student teaching requirements and all program assignments.

Trainers in the course will meet with you to offer feedback on all aspects of your work in the program. You will also undertake on-going self-assessment as part of your program.

Portfolio

By the end of the course participants will have developed a professional portfolio containing lesson plans, professional reading extracts and other teaching materials and resources.

Suggested Resources

Swan, Michael (1995) Practical English Usage. Oxford: OUP 3rd Edition.

Harmer, Jeremy (2001) The Practice of English Language Teaching. Longman

Credit/Advanced Standing

SIT-TC graduates may apply for advanced standing when enrolling in postgraduate courses at UQ. Other colleges or universities in Australia will need to be approached on an individual basis for recognition of the course hours spent in the program. The School for International Training grants five undergraduate credits for the course when it is taken at SIT in Vermont, USA.

Application Process

Please complete the Application Form and send it together with a signed copy of the Conditions of Enrolment and your CV to:

SIT-TC Administrator
Institute of Continuing & TESOL Education
The University of Queensland
St Lucia
Brisbane QLD 4072
AUSTRALIA
Fax: +61 7 3365 6599
Email: tesol.enrol@uq.edu.au
Web: www.icte.uq.edu.au

All applicants are selected on the basis of an interview and written application task designed to assess language awareness, literacy skills and aptitude. Specific results from the written task and interview will not be provided to applicants.

For further information please contact the SIT-TC Administrator at the address listed above.

Making friends was a wonderful bonus of the course - feeling now that I have a network of ideas people when I need information or when I have some to offer them!

Bronwyn Macfie SIT-TC Graduate Nov-Dec 2004