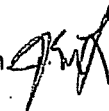


# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of English  
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To: The Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee

From: John Levis, Director of the Linguistics Program, Department of English



Date: October 30, 2013

The attached proposal for a new minor in Teaching English as a Second Language is a prescribed set of five courses; students are required to earn a C or better in each course in order to have the course apply to their major.

We have set this requirement because this credential will be used for students who will be teaching English to non-native speakers in a wide variety of settings and their mastery of the material is essential to their success in this work. In addition, the C or better requirement is consistent with existing requirements for the Linguistics and Secondary Education Majors and for all of the Curriculum and Instruction, Human Development and Family Studies and Special Education courses that are required for teacher licensure. The C or better requirement is consistent with these other teacher preparation programs.

Date: November 14, 2013

To: Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee

From: Amy Slagell, LAS Associate Dean

Rob Wallace, LAS Curriculum Committee Chair

Subject: TESL Minor

Attached please find for your consideration:

- 1) The program proposal for Minor in Teaching English as a Second Language.

It was approved by the LAS Curriculum Committee on October 18, 2013 with a vote of 6-0-0.

It was approved by the LAS Representative Assembly on November 6, 2013 with a vote of 17-0.

- 2) A copy of the memo to the Faculty Senate Academic Standards Committee explaining the requirement of a C or better in each course.

## Program Proposal for a Minor

1. Name of the proposed minor. Minor in Teaching English as a Second Language
2. Name of the department(s) involved. English, Linguistics
3. Name of contact person(s). John Levis, Linguistics CDS Chair ([jlevis@iastate.edu](mailto:jlevis@iastate.edu)), Greta Muller Levis, Linguistics Adviser ([gmlevis@iastate.edu](mailto:gmlevis@iastate.edu))
4. General description of the minor.

The Minor in TESL provides concentrated coursework that will help prepare students who wish to teach English to nonnative speakers of English, either in community programs in the United States or in an overseas location. All classes listed are requirements for the Minor in TESL (15 credits). A C or better is required in each course used to satisfy the minor, as is the case for majors (Linguistics and Secondary Education) that are likely to provide many students for the minors. Contact the Linguistics advising office for more information.

ENGL/LING 219	Introduction to Linguistics	3 cr.
ENGL/LING 322X	Language and Society	3 cr.
ENGL/LING 324X	Introduction to Teaching ESL Literacy	3 cr.
ENGL/LING 325X	Teaching Methods for ESL Learners: Oral Communication Skills	3 cr.
ENGL/LING 425X	Second Language Learning and Teaching	3 cr.

The Minor will provide understanding of how English works (ENGL/LING 219) and practical and theoretical applications in how English is taught to those who do not speak English natively (through ENGL/LING 324x, ENGL/LING 325x, ENGL/LING 425, and ENGL/LING 322x).

5. Need for the proposed minor.

Undergraduate students from a variety of majors ask regularly where they can get training to teach English. Most have a desire to travel overseas after graduating or to work for organizations like the Peace Corps or in connections with religious organizations. While we have a Master's degree in TESL, the coursework, intended for MA and PhD level students, is far too intense for all but the most exemplary linguistics majors at the end of their programs. As a result, there is a strong need for undergraduate courses that fill the practical needs of teaching ESL.

The proposed minor can fill several needs at the same time. For linguistics majors who are interested in language teaching, it can provide a focused set of courses at a level that

is appropriate. For students in other education majors, such as elementary education, the courses can be used for the ESL add-on endorsement for K-12 teachers. Currently, their needs are being met by courses at the graduate level, and often, the existing courses do not meet their needs well. Finally, the TESL minor will be attractive to students in other majors across campus who plan to go overseas and see teaching English as a way to help them do so.

6. Objectives of the proposed minor including the student learning outcomes and how the learning outcomes will be assessed.

In the TESL Minor, students will

-describe and analyze linguistic patterns in well-formed and ill-formed English sentences (ENGL/LING 219, 324X, 325X)

- evaluate linguistic variation from the perspective of linguistic and sociolinguistic approached to language (ENGL/LING 219, 322X)

-will understand second language teaching methods and describe how methods are used to help second language learners develop proficiency (ENGL/LING 324X, 325X, 425)

-be familiar with techniques that can be used to support teaching written English to ELLs and be able to consider how these can be adapted to different age and proficiency levels (ENGL/LING 324X)

-create and adapt activities to effectively teach listening, speaking, and pronunciation skills (ENGL/LING 325X)

-gain experience preparing lessons and materials for tutoring English in written and oral modes. (ENGL/LING 324X, 325X, 425)

The learning outcomes will be assessed through assignments, projects and teaching practice within the required courses for the Minor. The courses that are designed to address each general outcome are listed above after the outcomes.

7. Relationship of the minor to other programs at Iowa State University.

The TESL minor is most closely connected to the cross-disciplinary program in Linguistics, and its courses would become electives for that program. It will also be closely connected to the K-12 ESL add-on endorsement program, as its courses will be used to meet requirements that are currently being met by graduate courses. Finally, the program is also related to the MA in TESL and the Graduate Certificate in TESL/TEFL. The new courses proposed for the minor (322x, 324x, 325x) all have related graduate courses (514, 524, 525) whose theoretical and research content is much greater and which are therefore less appropriate for undergraduate students.

8. Relationship of the minor to the strategic plans of the university, of the college, and of department or program.

The TESL Minor prepares students to cross cultural boundaries to learn about, interact with, and assist speakers of other languages in learning English, the undisputed global lingua franca at this point in history. The University strategic plan calls for students who are “dedicated to making a difference in the world” and who will “learn, grow and succeed as resilient global citizens”. The LAS college strategic plan calls for preparing students “to live and work in an emerging, constantly evolving world” and to expand engagement with communities beyond the campus – locally, regionally, and globally”. Finally, the English department’s strategic plan calls for “outstanding preparation of educators in... Teaching English as a Second Language” and “fostering among our students, among Iowans and among the broader public deeper understanding of the power of language...in how we act in and see the world.” A TESL Minor will serve to strengthen all of these elements by offering students ways to become global citizens both through interacting and teaching those from around the world who come to the United States and by giving them skills that will allow them to live and work in other countries. Becoming global citizens does not mean just reading about other citizens of the world, it means communicating and interacting with them. Similarly, those who truly make a difference in the world do it by connections they make with others in the world. A minor in TESL can be part of how some of our students can begin to make those connections.

9. Comparison of the proposed minor with similar programs at other universities, including the Regent’s universities.

TESL Minors do not exist at the other Regent’s universities. The University of Iowa has a joint BA/MA in TESL which is connected to their Linguistics program, as well as a BA in Linguistics with a TESL emphasis (3 courses). They also offer a minor in Linguistics with no TESL emphasis. The University of Northern Iowa provides distance courses for K12 ESL Endorsement, an add-on endorsement to a regular teaching license in the state of Iowa.

10. Program requirements and procedures, including:

- a. prerequisites for prospective students;

Students in the TESL Minor will be majoring in other degree programs. The only prerequisite course to other courses in the Minor will be ENGL/LING 219 (introduction to Linguistics) to prepare students to understand how languages are structured and used.

- b. application and selection process;

Students can declare the minor after taking ENGL/LING 219, the prerequisite course for the rest of the minor.. Students in all academic majors in good standing will be eligible for the minor.

- c. language requirements;  
One year of college level foreign language in a single language is required for the Minor in TESL. This can be satisfied by the normal LAS General Education requirements.
- d. courses and seminars presently available for credit toward the program;  
Two courses in the minor are currently available: ENGL/LING 219 and ENGL/LING 425.
- e. proposed new courses or modifications of existing courses;  
The three new courses required for the minor: ENGL/LING 322X, Language and Society, ENGL/LING 324, Introduction to Teaching ESL Literacy, and ENGL/LING 325X, Teaching Methods for ESL Learners: Oral Communication Skills, have already been approved by the LAS Curriculum Committee as Experimental Courses. No additional new courses are planned for this minor.
- f. advising of students;  
TESL Minor students will be advised by the Linguistics Adviser and the Chair of the cross-disciplinary program in linguistics.
- g. implications for related areas within the university.  
The key impact of this minor and its courses will be on the students pursuing the K12 ESL Endorsement. We have been in contact with the Teacher Education coordinators in the School of Education, who support the new courses because of the limited spaces and competition from other degree programs for the graduate level courses.

11. General description of the resources currently available and future resource needs, in terms of:

- a. faculty members;  
Existing tenure-line faculty members, lecturers in linguistics and qualified PhD candidates in Applied Linguistics and Technology will be sufficient to staff the new courses. A dedicated linguistics adviser is available within the English department to handle advising for the minor. The new courses can be financially managed within current English department resources.
- b. computers, laboratories, and other facilities;  
The TESL Minor will be most closely associated with the cross-disciplinary program in linguistics and to the English department and will have access to computer-lab space in Ross Hall.
- c. library facilities (journals, documents, etc.) in the proposed area;  
The books and journals relevant to the TESL MA degree and the PhD in Applied Linguistics and Technology provide the scholarly support for the new Minor.
- d. supplies, field work, student recruitment, etc.

These expenses will be supported out of the budget of the cross-disciplinary program in Linguistics.

12. Describe the needs for new resources and/or reallocated resources. Attach to the program proposal memos from the department chair(s), the college dean(s), and other appropriate persons, agreeing to the allocation of new resources and/or the reallocation of resources.

The TESL minor requires no new resources. In reality, it solves problems we have had in using graduate courses to serve too many diverse populations while providing valuable courses for students at the undergraduate level. Besides serving the needs of students in linguistics and the K12 ESL endorsement programs, the new minor is likely to attract students in other majors who are interested in internationalizing their degrees.

13. Attach to the program proposal, letters of support, recommendations, and statements when appropriate, from programs and departments at ISU which are associated with the proposed program or have an interest in the proposed program.

See Attached Memos from the School of Education and Chair of the Department of English

14. If the new program is interdisciplinary, a governance document should be created and submitted to the Associate Provost for Academic Programs. Indicate here that it has been completed.

April 19, 2013

The Cross-disciplinary program in Linguistics strongly supports the proposed TESL Minor in conjunction with colleagues in the English Department. The minor will be attractive to students from a wide variety of majors, but especially to those in World Languages and Cultures and the School of Education. The coursework also has a natural fit with students in Linguistics and the study and teaching of English. In addition, the courses in the minor will be applicable to those seeking K-12 teaching licenses in any area. Additional licensure in ESL is an attractive qualification for jobs in many school districts.

Sincerely,



John M. Levis, Associate Professor  
Chair, Cross-disciplinary Program in Linguistics  
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John Levis, Ph.D.  
Department of English  
337 Ross

The School of Education at Iowa State University is in strong support of the creation of coursework at the undergraduate level (as opposed to graduate level) for students who are pursuing the K-12 English as a Second Language endorsement. The students who pursue this endorsement range from Early Childhood Education majors, Elementary Education majors, and students pursuing teacher licensure for grades 5-12 or K-12 (Music Education and Physical Education).

We are in strong support of the following:

ENGL 514 (Sociolinguistics) will be replaced with ENGL 322 (Sociolinguistics)

ENGL 524 (Literacy Methods in ESL) will be replaced with ENGL 324

ENGL 525 (Teaching Oral Skills in ESL) will be replaced with ENGL 325 (for the Oral Skills)

Thank you,

Hina Patel, Ph.D.  
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IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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From: Barbara Ching, Chair, English  
Date: October 18, 2013  
To: LAS Curriculum Committee  
Re: Resources for Proposed TESL Minor

The TESL Minor will require no significant new resources. Our current tenure-line faculty members, lecturers in linguistics and qualified PhD candidates in Applied Linguistics and Technology will be able to staff the new courses for the TESL Minor. The new courses for the TESL Minor (already approved) will be financially managed with current English department resources.