# Teaching English as a Second Language

## Degree Requirements

### Master of Arts (M.A.)

Requirements listed here are in addition to Graduate Council policies listed under GCAC-600 Research Degree Policies. ([http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/](http://gradschool.psu.edu/graduate-education-policies/))

The department offers two paths to the MA/TESL. Students may complete the entire program in residence at University Park, or they may pursue a hybrid path to the degree, including 12 credits of 800-level online courses, followed by 24 credits (plus M.A. paper and teaching e-portfolio) in residence at University Park. Students pursuing the residential path to the degree may also take the department’s 800-level online offerings, and these count as electives in their program of study.

The M.A. in TESL requires 36 credits, of which 18 credits must consist of 500-level courses. In lieu of a thesis, students must prepare a M.A. paper and compile a teaching e-portfolio.

### Code | Title | Credits
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**Required Courses**
**Foundations**
APLNG 484 | Discourse-Functional Grammar | 3
APLNG 491 | Theory: Second Language Acquisition | 3
APLNG 493 | Teaching English as a Second Language | 3
**Professional Core**
6 credits from among the following: | 6
- APLNG 410 | Teaching American English Pronunciation |
- APLNG 412 | Teaching Second Language Writing |
- APLNG 482Y | Introduction to Applied Linguistics |
- APLNG 583 | Methods of Language Assessment (required in the Hybrid Path) |
**Field Experience**
APLNG 500 | Practice Teaching in ESL | 3
APLNG 595 | Internship | 3
**Research Methods**
3 credits from among the following: | 3
- APLNG 577 | Language Analysis |
- APLNG 581 | Discourse Analysis |
- APLNG 582 | Seminar in Approaches to Language Use |
- APLNG 586 | Analyzing Classroom Discourse |
- APLNG 592 | Qualitative Research in Applied Linguistics |
- APLNG 593 | Experimental Research on Language |
**Electives**
12 credits from among the following: | 12
- APLNG 510 | Health and Aging in Multilingual Contexts |
- APLNG 512 | Language and Adult Lifespan Development |
- APLNG 570 | Second Language Reading |
- APLNG 572 | Communication in Second Language Classrooms |
- APLNG 575 | Language Ideology |
- APLNG 576 | Language Socialization across Home, School, and Community Contexts |

**Culminating Experience**

All students must also complete an M.A. paper and teaching e-portfolio.

### Total Credits

36

### Residential Path

With guidance from their advisers, students who are enrolled in the Residential Path take 12 credits in electives. Any 500-level 3-credit course not taken as a requirement of Research Methods can be counted as an elective in the resident MA/TESL program.

Resident Path students are allowed to take any or all of the APLNG 800-level courses as electives in any sequence during the MA/TESL program. If 12 credits of APLNG 800-level courses are taken, resident path students are required to take APLNG 583 and, in consultation with their academic adviser, substitute two 500-level electives (6 credits) for appropriate courses listed under Foundations and/or Professional Core.

### Hybrid Path

Students who choose to take the hybrid path to the degree will have already taken APLNG 802, APLNG 804, APLNG 806, and APLNG 808 online, and these online courses take the place of the 12 credits of elective courses. Hybrid path students are required to take APLNG 583 and, in consultation with their academic advisers, substitute two 500-level electives (6 credits) for appropriate courses listed under Foundations and/or Professional Core.