



What can I do with a major in...English as a Second Language (ESL) Education

The English as a Second Language Education major is designed to prepare students to teach English as a second language in grades K-12 in private and public schools. As an education major, you'll be mentored by professors who will guide and encourage you during your journey toward a degree and teacher licensure...and a classroom of your own! We have a wide range of P-12 school partnerships that will give you extensive interaction with current teachers in real classrooms as early as your sophomore year. You'll observe and assist in classrooms before you become a student teacher your senior year.

What types of work are related to this degree?

- Teaching in your area of specialty
- Private tutoring or nannying
- Creating/directing educational programs
- Curriculum development
- Instructional design (may require additional training in technology)
- Textbook editing
- Online education
- Student life/student affairs
- Corporate or business training and development or English teaching
- Children's ministry
- English teachers overseas
- Teacher for US citizenship classes

Who employs people with this degree?

- Schools of all kinds-public, private, charter, international, government, residential
- Day care and nursery school
- Parks and Recreation departments
- Educational testing companies
- Curriculum/educational publishers
- School district offices
- Educational research firms
- Industries related to your subject area (e.g., PE majors could work in the areas of fitness, health, or wellness)
- Non-profit organizations
- Universities and colleges
- Employee training programs

More information online at ONETonline.org

Strategies for Success:

- Requirements for certification/licensure vary by state; multiple certifications will increase employability. A master's degree will increase earning potential.
- Be willing to work hard at finding a job and to go where the jobs are.
- Obtain part-time, summer, internship, or volunteer experience with the age group you intend to work with in various settings: pre-schools, daycares, camps, community agencies, adult centers, YMCA's, etc.
- Participate in co-curricular activities and related organizations to broaden skills, interests, and opportunities.
- Identify transferable skills learned in teaching applicable to other careers: written and verbal communication, teaching and instruction, program planning, organization and record keeping, working under pressure and meeting deadlines, motivational skills, creativity, working autonomously, decision-making, problem solving.

Professional Associations:

- Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)
- Minnesota TESOL (MinneTESOL)
- American Educational Research Association
- American Federation of Teachers
- Association for Experiential Education

- National Education Association
- US Department of Education
- Computer Assisted Language Instruction Consortium
- National Association for Bilingual Education (NABE)
- International Reading Association

This information represents possible occupations and strategies for careers with this major. As with any job or career, there may be additional qualifications or experience needed. For more information and options, make an appointment with Career Development or check out our online resources on our website or on theROCK, Career Development tab.