

# Request to Establish New Academic Minor Program

**University: University of Arizona** 

Name of Proposed Academic Minor Program:
--

**English Applied Linguistics** 

### **Academic Department:**

English, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences

### **Geographic Site:**

Tucson- Main

### **Instructional Modality:**

in person, online

### **Total Credit Hours:**

18

## **Proposed Inception Term:**

Fall 2025

## **Brief Program Description:**

Applied linguistics is a field of study that applies theories of language, learning, and linguistics to solve real-world problems related to language use in various contexts. The Minor in English Applied Linguistics (EAL) develops skills applicable to any career that requires the critical and analytical use of English.

Complementing training in teaching English Language Learners, the Minor includes the study of second language acquisition and English language teaching methodologies.

Studying EAL encourages critical thinking about how English works and can enhance the ability to solve complex problems and written and spoken communication skills, both personal and professional. The Minor complements degrees in English and Creative Writing as well as in Education, Advertising, Communications, Information Science, Journalism, Linguistics, Marketing, Policy Development, and Speech, Language, and Hearing Science.

Studying EAL can also help deepen intercultural communication skills and understanding of the impact of language on global interactions, fostering a greater appreciation for the diversity of human languages and cultures. In this way, the Minor complements degrees in Global Studies, Foreign Languages, and other fields with a global emphasis.

#### **Learning Outcomes and Assessment Plan:**

**Learning Outcome #1**: Describe the basic practices of teaching English to speakers of other languages

Concepts: TESOL Theories, TESOL Methods, Curriculum Design, and English Grammar

Competencies: teaching, lesson planning, assessing, editing/writing

**Learning Outcome #2**: Explain the social and cultural nature of English language use around the globe



Concepts: English as a Global Language, Social Variation, Multilingualism

Competencies: intercultural competence, communication skills

	ENGL 255	ENGL 455	*ENGL 347, 355	*ENGL 217, 406
LO #1: Learning about TESOL: Theories, Methods, Curriculum, and Grammar	I	I, R, M		I, R, M
LO #2: Understanding the Social and Cultural nature of English as a global language	I, R, M		I, R, M	

<sup>\*</sup> any 3 of the 6 asterisked courses are required. I= Introduced, R= Reinforced, M=Mastery

# **Projected Enrollment for the First Three Years:**

2025	2026	2027
10	20	35

#### **Evidence of Market Demand:**

Applied linguistics can provide a foundation for professional careers in teaching English as a second language in the US (TESL) and as a foreign language around the world, and can provide a foundation for graduate degrees in the social sciences, humanities, and education. The knowledge and skills developed by studying applied linguistics also support work and study in advertising, copywriting, journalism, libraries, marketing, policy development, public relations, publishing, and speech and language therapy. Finally, when combined with technology degrees, applied linguistics can also complement careers in the tech industry on speech recognition, text-to-speech synthesis, artificial intelligence, and educational technology.

The most immediate job a Minor in EAL prepares for is teaching English to speakers of other languages, domestically and internationally. There is significant demand for TESOL professionals at all levels: in the US to children and public and private schools, at US colleges and universities in intensive English programs and foundations writing courses, in community and refugee centers in the US, and around the world in public and private schools and universities. In the US, the ELL (English Language Learner) population is growing so rapidly and instructors are in such high demand(1) in places like Arizona that Rep. Raul Grijalva, the US Congressional Representative for the U of Arizona, was a sponsor of the SPELL Act of 2023 that provides loan forgiveness for new ELL instructors(2).

Nearly 12 times more positions teaching English are available outside the US than in them. Globally, an estimated 12 million EFL teachers around the world work with over 2 billion learners of English, and with the growth of English as the global language, these numbers and the demand will only increase. The field is very healthy; anecdotally, the job placement rate of our MATESL over the past 25 years is 100%, with many graduates moving overseas and others finding positions in Arizona schools immediately.



NAO Y OA						
(1) https://www.edweek.org/teaching-learning/the-english-learner-population-is-growing-is-teacher-training-keeping-pace/2023/02						
(2) https://grijalva.house.gov/reps-grijalva-espaillat-introduce-spell-act-to-address-dramatic-shortage-of-teachers-of-english-learners/						
Similar Programs Offered at Arizona Public Universities:						
Arizona State University: Accelerated Master's BA English (Linguistics) + MTESOL						
NAU: BA English (Linguistics)						
University of Arizona: Master of Arts and Graduate Minor in Teaching English as a Second Language. PhD and Graduate Minor in Second Language Acquisition and Teaching.						
New Resources Required? (i.e., faculty and administrative positions; infrastructure, etc.):  No new resources will be required; all new teaching can be covered by the current English faculty.						
Plan to Request Program/College Fee? YES NO						
Estimated Amount: n/a						
Fee Justification: n/a						
Specialized Accreditation? YES NO						
Accreditor: n/a						

Executive Director Signature:	
Date:	