

BYU-HAWAII TESL MAJOR REVISION

by **Eric B. Shumway**

This article was written by Dr. Eric Shumway, Chairman of the Communications and Language Arts Division, in response to numerous requests about the new BATESL Major program at Brigham Young University - Hawaii Campus.

In 1967, when a bachelor's degree program in TESL (BATESL) was first conceived and implemented at Church College of Hawaii (becoming Brigham Young University - Hawaii Campus in 1974), it was met with cautious enthusiasm among those of longer established disciplines. Those in favor of the new undergraduate major felt it filled an unhappy void for students who wanted to learn the skills of the English language and to teach those skills to non-English speaking students. The traditional English major with its emphasis on literature did not fill that void. Soon, the new major was one of the most successful major programs on campus.

Over the years, the BA-level TESL major at BYU-Hawaii has not been changed substantially. But on January 23, 1979, the University Academic Planning Council approved a revision of the TESL major that strengthens it significantly and will prepare our TESL graduates better to compete in today's TESL professional opportunities.

Based on an analysis of our own survey of 500 TESL educators and employers world wide, and recognizing the recommendations from similar surveys, (TESOL, 1970 and Fanselow, 1978), this revision adds four new courses (Phonology, History of the English Language, a TESL Practicum course, and a senior seminar), reduces the required number of literature courses, and provides important modifications of existing courses. Finally, courses heretofore labeled as English courses are now given more appropriate Linguistics and TESL designations.

New TESL Major

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| LING 210 | Introduction to Linguistics (3)
What language is. A general introduction to the nature of language. This course is a prerequisite for Ling. 260, 310, 323, 331, and Eng. 421. |
| LING 260 | Phonology (3)
Phonetics and phonemics, phonetic alphabets, application of phonological theory to teaching/learning problems. (Prerequisites: Ling. 210 or consent of instructor). |
| LING 321 | Grammar (5)
Examination of syntactic theories of language, includes traditional grammar, structural grammar, tagmemics, transformational grammar, junction grammar, sector analysis, and their applications to teaching. Same as English 321. (Prerequisites: Ling. 210 or consent of instructor). |

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- LING 323 Psycholinguistics (3)
An analysis of the basic assumptions underlying language acquisition, language learning, and language teaching. (Prerequisite: Ling. 210; recommended, Psychology 402).
- LING 331 Sociolinguistics (3)
The sociology of language: bilingualism, dialectology, and pidgin and creole languages. Includes semantics. (Prerequisite: Ling. 210).
- ENG 251 Fundamentals of Literature (3)
English 251 is normally prerequisite to upper division literature courses. Any exception is by approval of the Division Chairman. Basic course in literary appreciation and criticism, literary terminology, and interpretive writing. Long library paper. Required of all English majors and minors. (Prerequisites: Eng. 111, 111W).
- ENG 421 History of the English Language (3)
The development of the English language, focusing on the historical context and the mechanisms of language change.
- ENG 362 or 363 American Literature (3)
Beginnings to 1865 or 1865 to the present. (Prerequisite: Eng. 251).
- ENG 375, 376
or 382 British Literature (3)
Victorian period, 1890 to the present, or Shakespeare (TESL Majors encouraged to take Shakespeare).
- ENG 345R Ethnic Literature (3)
A variable content course emphasizing Polynesian, Oriental, or American literature; considers the culture of these areas as it is reflected in imaginative literature. (Each offering may be taken for credit). Offerings include: Literature of Polynesia, Literature of the Orient, and Literature of U. S. Minority Groups. (Prerequisite: Eng. 251).
- ENG 477 TESL Methods (3)
A practical course in professional preparation for developing teaching skills in listening comprehension, speaking, reading, and writing. Includes teaching of ESL literature, language laboratory operation, and testing and evaluation. (Prerequisite: Ling. 321).
- ENG 478 TESL Materials (3)
Selection, evaluation, and adaptation of available materials in the TESL field, and a consideration of their applicability to current methods. Includes development and production of TESL materials. (Prerequisite: Ling. 321; Recommended: TESL 477).
- ENG 480 TESL Practicum (2)
Limited and closely supervised teaching in an English Language Institute class and the Language Skills Laboratory. (Prerequisites: TESL 477 and 478 or consent of ELI Coordinator).
- ENG 490 Senior TESL Seminar (1)
Preparation and presentation (written and oral) of a senior project. Includes an oral and written examination of general proficiency in TESL.