

International Projects
College of Education

International Inbound Short Course

In

English Language Teacher Training



COURSE SUMMARY

This is a full time 4 week course focusing on professional development in the teaching of English, while enhancing participants' own English Language communicative abilities through instruction and language immersion. The course also includes a "Buddy Programme" with regular opportunities to interact informally with a native speaker.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

- *Promote the competence of the teachers' communication skills and English language teaching methods through interaction with native speakers and exposure to authentic language.
- * Provide instruction in and opportunities to practice speaking, listening, reading and writing in an English speaking academic environment.
- *Provide professional development in ESOL pedagogy.
- *Provide opportunities to observe New Zealand teachers in schools and other educational institutions.
- *Introduce experiential learning pedagogy and practice.
- *To practice and peer-critique communicative teaching skills.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- *Teachers with enhanced confidence and competence in their ability to communicate in English.
- *Modernised and deeper understanding of ESOL pedagogy
- *Ability to critically appraise ESOL teaching methodology in New Zealand against participants' home country context.
- *Teachers able to develop and facilitate experiential learning activities in the ESOL context.
- *Teachers able to develop and facilitate ESOL professional development experiences for their colleagues.

FORMAT

Workshops and pedagogy/skills based activities in the College of Education and teaching practice placements in Christchurch Primary or Secondary schools. Class field trips and timetabled sessions in which participants interact with their buddies or take part in optional structured conversation practice, recreational activities, or independent study.

Participants will:

- Visit one or more schools to observe the teaching and learning styles being practised. They will also have an opportunity to observe a pre-degree English language preparation class on the university campus;
- Work on a teaching-related research project to present to their peers in the final week. This will be critiqued by their peers and tutor;
- Receive individualised assistance and feedback;
- Take part in English Outside The Classroom (EOTC) experiences, in which they learn how New Zealand teachers use the natural environment as resource material for their lessons. As they do so, they will experience some of New Zealand's most spectacular mountain and coastal scenery. Participants are advised to bring comfortable walking shoes, warm clothes and wet weather gear for the field trips.

JOURNAL

Participants will be required to keep an experiential journal in English, which they will review regularly with their tutor. The journal will be a forum for participants to extend their own language use, allowing them to receive regular personal feedback on their use of language and enabling their tutor to diagnose language areas needing attention and to develop trainees' observational and reflective competence in relation to a new cultural context.

We anticipate trainees will record their experiences and impressions of life in New Zealand as well as reflect upon their own language awareness and development to include both elements of description and self-reflection.

ACCOMMODATION DURING THE COURSE

The University of Canterbury will organize accommodation for the duration of the course. This can be either full board Homestays with local families or self catering accommodation in Halls of Residence on the University campus. The University will also organize transfers to and from Christchurch International Airport.

http://www.education.canterbury.ac.nz/international/short_courses.shtml

TESTIMONIALS

"One of the most impressive parts of this training programme was school visits. I got to know about real education situations and meet many good students. Also, teaching experience was a great opportunity to increase my self confidence..."

"They (course tutors) gave me interesting and useful methods to teach because we have a lot of students in a classroom so we need an alternative way to teach."

- Participants in courses during 2010.