

W I N T E R 2 0 1 0

# L<sub>2</sub>RIC NOTES

## English as a Second/Additional Language: Program Options



With the increase in opportunities for teaching English overseas and the increase in newcomers to our Canadian schools, comes a growing interest in courses focusing on ESL/EAL methodology. For the last nine years, the Second Language Research Institute of Canada (L<sub>2</sub>RIC), housed within the Faculty of Education at the University of New Brunswick, has offered individual courses focusing on pedagogical approaches to the teaching of ESL/EAL as well as a full certificate program approved by TESL Canada.

## Certificate in Teaching English as a Second Language (CTESL)

The CTESL is a certificate program in English Second Language Education open to Bachelor of Education students or those possessing relevant educational and/or professional background in the field of ESL. The certificate features three compulsory courses focusing on the foundations of ESL teaching and learning as well as electives related to various aspects of second language education, literacy and multicultural education. These compulsory courses are ED 3561 – Introduction to Second Language Education, ED 4562 – Advanced Methods in ESL Education and ED 4075 – Reflections on Second Language Theory & Practice. Also included in the certificate is ED 5566, a 39-hour practicum experience in the field of TESL. Finally, students must choose an approved elective course in Education in the area of literacy, cultural studies, adult education or second language education. Pre-approved electives include ED 3033, ED 5314, ED 5352, and ED 5567 (see details on this new summer course below). Anyone interested in the CTESL should contact Dr. Paula Kristmanson at [pkristma@unb.ca](mailto:pkristma@unb.ca) or 506-453-5136.



# New Summer Course

## Course Description

ED 5567, Specialized Techniques in ESL Teaching, involves participants in active and interactive tasks and assignments aimed at equipping them to work with ESL students at various grade and ability levels in the public school system. Instructors for the course are Anna-Marie Robinson, Director of the English Language Programme (ELP) at UNB, Colleen Meagher-Alkan, Senior Administrator and Master Teacher at ELP, and other guest speakers from ELP. The course is offered during Summer Session, usually a one-week intensive format in early August. (Please note: There are 40 in-class hours, some of which include time for working on assignments under the guidance of the course instructor.)



## Rationale

With the success New Brunswick has had in attracting newcomers to the province, there is an increase in non-Anglophone students in the public school system. In order to retain and support these families in our communities, ESL instruction is necessary. Increasingly, public school administrators and teachers are faced with the challenge of communicating with these students (and parents) who do not speak and understand English. School Districts are recognizing the need for an immediate strategy to address this new reality. This summer course was designed to provide educators (teachers/tutors/administrators) with a wide range of field-tested ESL teaching strategies. This course will be open to teachers and tutors already dealing with ESL students, as well as students in the BEd and CTESL programs.

## Field Experiences in Teaching ESL\*

ED 5566 is a field experiences course open only to students registered in the CTESL. This course requires a pre-requisite of ED 3561 and a co- or pre-requisite of ED 4562. Students enrolled in this course must meet with the instructor, Dr. Paula Kristmanson, to organize the time frame for the ESL practicum and to discuss course requirements. Placements for this field experience are usually located at a local adult ESL learning institution (e.g., the Multicultural Association of Fredericton) or, if the student is in the BEd program, field experiences can be arranged for a high school, middle school or elementary school ESL context. Host institutions reserve the right to interview candidates before they are accepted for this 39-hour practicum, and although all efforts will be made to secure a practicum for CTESL students, these placements cannot be completely guaranteed if the candidate is unsuccessful in the interview. A high level of oral and written fluency in the English language is required for the practicum and students will be expected to do some independent teaching at certain points during the field experience.

*\*In particular cases where student already has considerable work experience in ESL, CTESL candidates can apply for an exemption to ED 5566. Candidates must consult ED 5566 instructor for details and requirements.*

Students will also complete 10 hours of observation and a minimum of 20 hours of instruction. The other 9 hours can be used for assisting the mentor teacher and preparation for lessons to be delivered. Prior to beginning the field experience, the student must meet with the instructor to review and sign the CTESL field experience contract.

### Assessment

The candidate will receive a pass (CR) or a fail (NCR) designation. The granting of CR will be based on two components: 1) the practicum assessment and 2) the field experience portfolio.

1) The Practicum Assessment: The mentor teacher and/or the course instructor will complete an assessment of the student based on observations of the student's teaching. The intern will also be expected to reflect on his or her teaching and submit a reflective essay or journal with their CTESL field experience portfolio.

2) The Field Experience Portfolio: This document will consist of the following components: Chronological observational field notes, brief reflective journal or reflective essay, description of teaching context, sample lesson plans, teaching resources and/or learning materials used for the lesson, any other relevant documents that add insight into the practicum experience (e.g., sample student work, photos, other feedback from colleagues or students, supplementary materials consulted during practicum).



*For more information about ESL/EAL courses, the CTESL, or any of our other program options (including French Second Language [FSL] programs and certificates), please visit our website at:*  
[www.unbf.ca/L2/programs/programs.html](http://www.unbf.ca/L2/programs/programs.html)