

# AACR 3

Office of the President  
May 14, 2013

Members, Board of Trustees:

ACADEMIC DEGREE RECOMMENDATION:  
COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Recommendation: that the Board of Trustees approve the establishment of a Master of Arts with a major in Teaching English as a Second Language degree (CIP Code: 13.1401, PROG: GS MA TESL) in the Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literature and Cultures within the College of Arts and Sciences, effective in the Fall 2013 Semester.

Background: The Teaching English as a Second Language (TESL) program is designed to support pre-service or in-service teachers who would like to specialize in teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).

The rationale for the proposed program lies at the intersection of domestic and international trends in English language use and learning. English plays a dominant role among languages of the world, with approximately 1.5 billion speakers. It is estimated that within the next ten years, 2 billion learners will be studying English simultaneously around the globe. English is currently the only world language that approaches being a truly global language. With the growing demand for English, there is a commensurate need for English language educational programs and qualified teachers

In Kentucky for 2010-11, over 15,000 English language learners were studying in our public schools; 60% of these students were native Spanish speakers. The University of Kentucky can and should help expand the pool of trained ESL teachers. Establishing this program is the first step toward creating a TESL program with the option of a public school ESL certification.

Master's candidates will enroll in course work covering linguistics, teaching methods, second language learning, and socio-cultural studies. Graduates of the program will have a variety of job opportunities. The program prepares teachers to work with adult ESL learners in either college level academic programs or adult community-based programs.

This program has the approval of the appropriate councils and the University Senate and has completed the forty-five day review by the Council on Postsecondary Education. The Interim Provost of the University supports this recommendation.

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Action taken:     Approved     Disapproved     Other \_\_\_\_\_