

## ESL -- Career Resources

### What can I do with a degree in ESL?

English as a Second Language teachers help adults to speak, listen, read, and write in English, often in the context of real-life situations to promote learning. More advanced students may concentrate on writing and conversational skills or focus on learning more academic or job-related communication skills. ESL teachers teach adults who possess a wide range of cultures and abilities and who speak a variety of languages. Some of their students have a college degree and many advance quickly through the program owing to a variety of factors, such as their age, previous language experience, educational background, and native language. Others may need additional time due to these same factors. Because the teacher and students often do not share a common language, creativity is an important part of fostering communication in the classroom and achieving learning goals.

(From the Occupation Outlook Handbook website at <http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos289.htm>)

ESL Job-Related Titles	
Interpreters and Translators Social Workers Teachers—Adult Literacy and Remedial Education	Writer Editor Teachers Assistant Teachers—Special Education

### Bureau of Labor Statistics Information

#### Teachers—Adult Literacy and Remedial Education (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos289.htm>)

- Many adult literacy and remedial education teachers work part time and receive no benefits; unpaid volunteers also teach these subjects.
- Most programs require teachers to have at least a bachelor's degree; a public school teaching license is required for public programs in some States.
- Opportunities for teachers of English as a second language are expected to be very good because their classes should be in demand by the increasing number of residents with limited English skills.

#### Teachers—Special Education (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos070.htm>)

- All States require teachers to be licensed; licensing requires the completion of a teacher training program and at least a bachelor's degree, though many States require a master's degree.
- Excellent job prospects are expected due to rising enrollments of special education students and reported shortages of qualified teachers.
- Many States offer alternative licensure programs to attract people to these jobs who do not have the qualifications to become teachers under normal procedures.

#### Social Workers (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos060.htm>)

- About 9 out of 10 jobs were in health care and social assistance industries, as well as State and local government agencies.
- While a bachelor's degree is the minimum requirement, a master's degree in social work or a related field has become the standard for many positions.
- Employment is projected to grow faster than average.
- Competition for jobs is expected in cities, but opportunities should be good in rural areas.

#### Interpreters and Translators (<http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos175.htm>)

- 15 percent of these workers are self-employed.
- Work is often sporadic, and many interpreters and translators work part time.
- Although training requirements can vary, most interpreters and translators have a bachelor's degree.
- Job outlook varies by specialty and language combination.

**ESL Job Search/Listings Websites**

- Bilingualjobs.net ([www.bilingualjobs.net](http://www.bilingualjobs.net))
- ESL Teacher Jobs (<http://esl.teacher.jobs.topusajobs.com/>)
- Teach English as a Foreign Language ([www.tefljobplacement.com/](http://www.tefljobplacement.com/))
- ESL Jobs ([www.esljobs.com/](http://www.esljobs.com/))
- ESL Employment ([www.eslemployment.com/](http://www.eslemployment.com/))

**Professional Associations, Organizations, and List-servs**

- National Association of Bilingual Education (<http://www.nabe.org/>)
- Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (<http://www.tefl.net>)
- Teachers of English as a Second Language (<http://www.tesol.org>)
- The Center for Adult English Language Acquisition (<http://www.cal.org/caela>)

**Books and Print Resources**

**General ESL Books at UNT Dallas Library:**

TITLE	CALL NUMBER
Teaching Academic ESL Writing	Electronic Resources -- netLibrary
Language Education	Electronic Resources -- netLibrary
Careers in Education	Electronic Resources -- netLibrary
Careers for Foreign Language Aficionados and other Multilingual Types	Electronic Resources -- netLibrary
Careers in Foreign Language	Electronic Resources -- netLibrary

**Other Suggested Titles:**

TITLE	CALL NUMBER
Teaching Adult Second Language Learners	Amazon.com ISBN 0521649900
Highway To E.S.L.: A User-Friendly Guide to Teaching English As A Second Language	Amazon.com ISBN 0595342213
Educating Second Language Children: The Whole Child, the Whole Curriculum, the Whole Community	Amazon.com ISBN 0521457971