

Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Language Centre

COURSE INFORMATION 2025

C325

Specialist Certificate in TESOL with Cambridge Teaching Knowledge (Foundation) for Secondary/High School Teachers

23 Sep 2025
- 17 Oct 2025
&
Jan 2026 Feb 2026

(Important: This document should be read by all applicants prior to completing the application form for admission.)

Course Overview

| Rationale | This 120-hour Specialist Certificate in TESOL with Cambridge Teaching Knowledge (Foundation) is designed to support secondary/high school English teachers in their professional practice. The Specialist Certificate in TESOL with a Cambridge Certificate in Teaching Knowledge Test (TKT) will benefit certified TESOL teachers as they will have access to a wide range of opportunities such as working in public or private secondary/high schools, private language schools or centres, and summer schools. |
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| Course Objectives | At the end of the course, participants will be able to: acquire and apply their knowledge of and skills in teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages at the secondary or high school level; draw on and extend their repertoire of teaching approaches, methods, and techniques to enhance their learners' language skills and communicative competence; and plan and deliver effective lessons with the use of relevant resources and appropriate technology to engage large classes of learners |
| Course Components | Module 1: Background to Language Teaching and Learning in the 21st Century Module 2: Teaching Grammar, Vocabulary and Pronunciation Module 3: Teaching Listening, Reading, and Viewing Module 4: Teaching Speaking, Writing, and Representing Module 5: Preparation for Cambridge Teaching Knowledge Test (Module) Module 6: In-country Lesson Observation & Supervision |

| | This 120-hour course comprises: |
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| Duration | Phase 1: Four-week (96 hours) residential school at RELC in Singapore a) 3-week (72 hours) Specialist Certificate in TESOL • 20 in-person seminars/workshop sessions • 4 asynchronous online study/consultation sessions b) 1-week (24 hours) Cambridge TKC (Teaching Knowledge Course) Foundation • 8 in-person seminars & test practice sessions • TKT Module 1 Test & Closing Phase 2: In-country Lesson Observation for Formative & Summative Assessments (3 to 4 days; 24 hrs per participant) • One lesson observation with feedback for formative assessment • One lesson supervision with feedback for summative assessment, to be conducted in-country, at the course participant's secondary/high school. For private fee-paying course participants, special arrangements will be made for them to conduct lessons for their formative and summative assessments. |
| Delivery | The training strategies used in this course are highly interactive. They include lectures/input sessions, task-based workshops, role-plays, discussions, and micro-teaching sessions. |

Course Requirements

To complete the course successfully, a candidate must:

- a) Satisfy class attendance requirements;
- b) Attain a satisfactory standard in required course work;
- c) Complete all assignments including planning and delivering lessons for observation, supervision, and assessment by trainer; and
- d) Complete the TKT Module 1 test

A course participant whose progress has not been satisfactory may be required to terminate his/her candidature.

Course Award

The course will lead to the award of a Specialist Certificate in TESOL by SEAMEO RELC and a Certificate in TKT (Module 1) by Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

Entry Requirements

The course accepts a wide range of qualifications for entry into the programme.

For RELC scholarship applicants:

The requirements for admission to the course are:

- a) A Bachelor's degree (or equivalent qualifications) in Linguistics, English Language, TESOL, or Education;
- At least two years of recent full-time English language teaching experience or recent experience in English language curriculum planning and language development programmes*;
- c) Currently teaching in a high school/secondary school;
- d) Will remain teaching in a high school/secondary school during the in-country lesson observation phase; and
- e) Meet the minimum language scores or its equivalent for any of the following:
 - B1 (CEFR);
 - o GCE O Level English D7-C6
 - o IELTS: 5.0;
 - TOEFL: 460 ITP; 42 internet-based/iBT;
 - o CU TEP: 50;
 - o APTIS (B1) or Linguaskill (>140) (equivalent 5.0 IELTS/B1)
 - Duolingo English Test (>80) (equivalent 5.0 IELTS/B1)
 - Any Cambridge English Qualifications & Placement Test with B1 (CEFR)

Note: Applicants who do not meet criterion (e) are required to pass the RELC Selection Test.

For private fee-paying applicants:

The requirements for admission to the course are:

- a) A Bachelor's degree preferably from an English-medium university;
- b) Little or no English language teaching experience; and
- c) Minimum English language proficiency of B2 (CEFR) or its equivalent

Note: Applicants who do not meet criterion (c) are required to pass the RELC Selection Test.

^{*} Nominees whose teaching experience is not recent or current but who intend to take on a teaching role after the course should indicate this plan/ intent clearly in section 3 (personal statement) of their completed RELC application form.

| IT Requirements |
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| As some of the lesson components require you to be online, participants must ensure that they have the following: |
| Desktop/Notebook PC (Windows OS/Mac OS) with an internet browser Stable internet connection Webcam Word processing software to type documents and create presentations (e.g. Microsoft Office (2003 upwards) or Open Office) |

| Application — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — | | | |
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| nterested applicants must submit the following documents: | | | |
| | RELC Application Form (completed and endorsed) | | |
| | Officially certified copies of the applicant's certificates of degrees/diplomas | | |
| | Officially certified copies of the applicant's transcripts. Where a transcript is in a language other than English, it should be accompanied by a certified translation into English. (In the absence of a transcript, a certified statement on the degrees/academic qualifications achieved with a listing of subjects studied and subject examination results is required.) | | |
| | Two reference letters (The two reference letters can be from an academic staff who has supervised you or a current/previous employer.) | | |
| | Officially certified copies of applicant's current/valid IELTS, TOEFL, or other valid test results | | |

Note: Shortlisted candidates not residing in Singapore will be required to undergo a medical

necessary details to them in due course.

examination in their home countries as part of the application process. We will provide the