Q: What degrees are granted by the TESOL (College and Adult) program?  
A: Boston University’s School of Education grants both a Master of Education (Ed.M) degree and a non-degree certificate in TESOL.

Q: Where will I be qualified to teach do with a master’s in TESOL?  
A: Our program prepares students to teach in a variety of settings. In the US, our graduates work in college and adult language programs, and in K-12 programs so long as they do not require state licensure. In international settings, TESOL graduates work in universities, primary and secondary schools, and adult education programs.

Q: What professional opportunities will I have besides teaching?  
A: Because our program also focuses on developing and evaluating teaching materials for students at all levels, many of our students and graduates have published extensively, developing new approaches and materials for a rapidly expanding field in education. Other graduates have gone into program administration and nonprofit administration.

Q: What are the course requirements for the EdM in TESOL?  
A: The course of study balances practical teaching methodology with linguistic theory. The required courses are:

- Methods of Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages  
- Introduction to Language and Linguistics  
- Second Language Acquisition  
- Linguistic Problems in TESOL  
- Perspectives on Inquiry  
- Seminar in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)  
- Student Teaching (US Students) or Field Observation (International Students)  
- 2 of the following 3 Options  
  + Intercultural Education  
  + Computer-Assisted Language Learning (CALL)  
  + An approved elective

Q: How long will it take for me to complete the master’s degree?  
A: A student can generally complete the program leading to the master’s degree in 2 semesters and the summer session, or in 3 semesters. US students may begin either in the fall or spring semester or in the summer session. International students may begin in the fall or spring (due to visa requirements).

Q: I’m not sure if a master’s program is right for me. Is there another program with fewer requirements?
A: The TESOL program offers a four-course, 16-credit graduate certificate that prepares future teachers of English to speakers of other languages. Students are exposed to a theoretical introduction to the nature and structure of language, key factors affecting second-language acquisition, and communicative approaches to the teaching of English as a second or foreign language.

Q: What if I enroll in the certificate program and then want to change to the master’s program?
A: A student in the certificate program may apply to the master’s program. If admitted, any required courses the student has satisfactorily completed in the TESOL certificate program will be credited towards the TESOL master’s degree.

Q: I’m worried about the cost of graduate school. Is there financial assistance for graduate students in TESOL?
A: There are several forms of financial assistance that may be available to graduate students in TESOL. First, some outright grants are made to students on the basis of achievement (rather than need). Students apply for financial assistance when they apply for admission.

In addition, the School of Education has a special reduced tuition rate for students attending graduate school on a part-time basis (no more than 11 credits a semester, which is generally two courses). On a pro rata basis, the cost per course is only 50% of the normal tuition. Thus, a student completing the master’s degree on a part-time basis will, at the completion of the degree, have paid only 50% of the tuition that a student attending on a full-time basis will have paid.

Q: I’d like to get all the details about admissions requirements, tuition costs, fees, and other things I need to know. Where can I find out about these things?
A: Check out the School of Education’s website at http://www.bu.edu/sed/admissions/graduate-students/application-components. You’ll find answers to those questions as well as other information that may be of interest to you.

Q: I’d like to visit the School of Education and talk to someone about the TESOL program. Can I do that?
A: You certainly can. We hold several information sessions for prospective students in the fall, which you can learn about online or by contacting SED’s Admissions Office. In addition, you can contact Dr. Marnie Reed by e-mail at any time arrange to meet with her to discuss the program.