



TEFL CERTIFICATION & TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD AND ONLINE IN 2024



GET TEFL CERTIFIED WITH AN AWARD-WINNING SCHOOL & EXPERIENCE THE WORLD AS A PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH TEACHER



6,000+ Certified Students a Year



9.6/10 Rating on GoAbroad.com



9.3/10 Rating on GoOverseas.com



As Featured on Thrillist Travel



Personalized Job Search Guidance



A Network of 48,000+ Alumni



Level 5 TQUK Accreditation



A+ Rating - Better Business Bureau

PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Pay in full or in installments for your 11-week Online TEFL course. Chat to your Admissions Advisor for more information and to discuss your payment options.

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7-STEP PLAN FOR TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD OR ONLINE

YOU ARE HERE!

1



RESEARCH

Check out all ITA resources: FAQs, alumni articles, webcasts and more!

2

SPEAK WITH AN ITA ADMISSIONS ADVISOR

They can help answer your questions and provide guidance when choosing a TEFL class.



3

ENROLL IN YOUR TEFL CLASS & BEGIN JOB SEARCH PREP

Pay tuition and turn in enrollment docs. Gain access to Job Search Guidance.



4



JOIN ALUMNI FACEBOOK GROUPS AND BEGIN NETWORKING.

Connect with ITA alumni and the alumni association to get involved. Start following ITA on Instagram @intteflacademy to stay connected.

5

COMPLETE YOUR TEFL COURSE & PRACTICUM

Receive your TEFL certification.



6

RECEIVE JOB SEARCH GUIDANCE & INTERVIEW FOR JOBS

Our expert Student Affairs team will provide you one-on-one lifetime guidance.



7

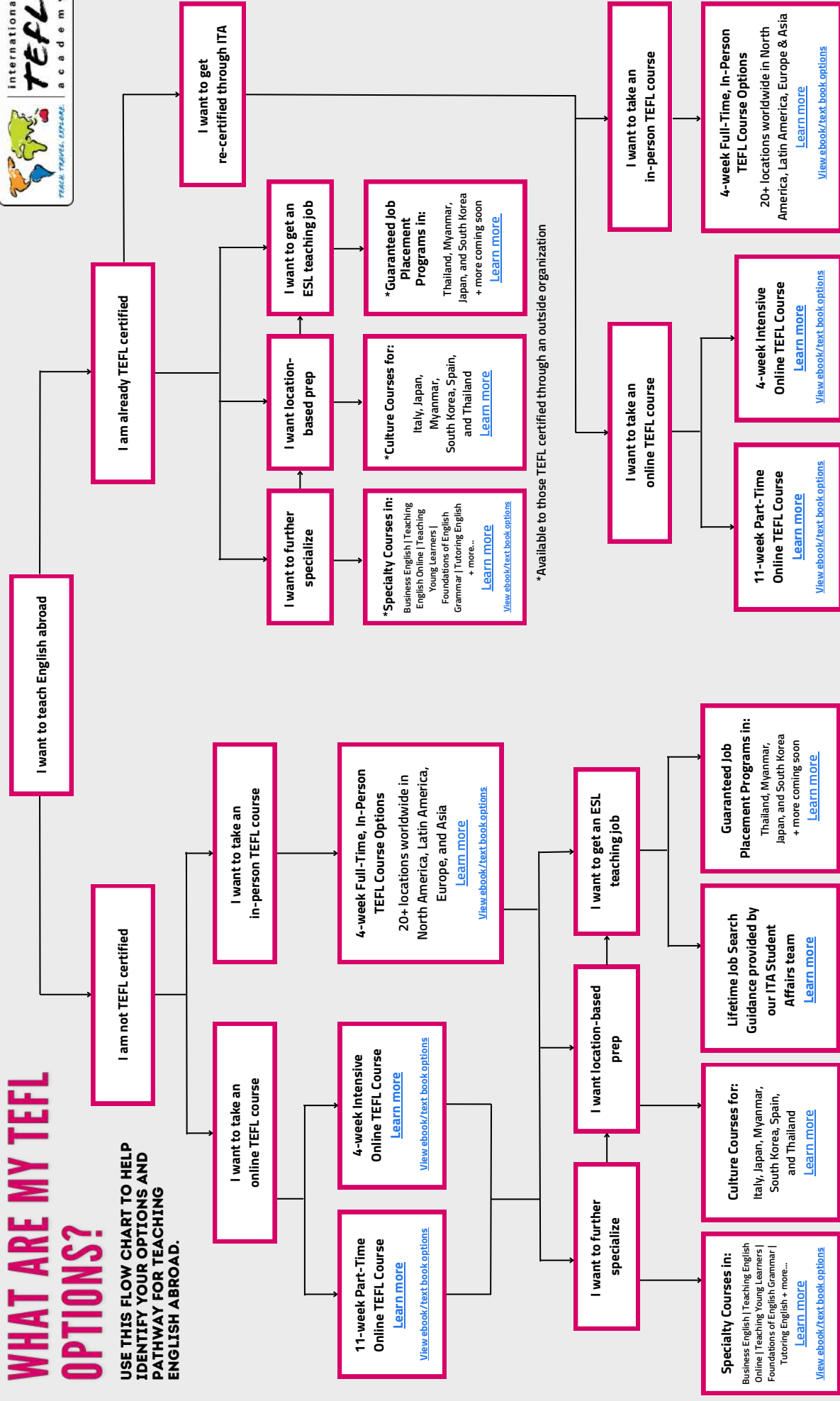


GET HIRED AND TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD OR ONLINE

You did it!!

WHAT ARE MY TEFL OPTIONS?

USE THIS FLOW CHART TO HELP IDENTIFY YOUR OPTIONS AND PATHWAY FOR TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD.



* Available to those TEFL certified through an outside organization



1. WHO IS INTERNATIONAL TEFL ACADEMY?

International TEFL Academy (ITA) is a world leader in TEFL certification for teaching English abroad. Headquartered in Chicago, we offer accredited 11-week [Online TEFL classes](#) and full-time, 4-week In-Person TEFL classes in [24 locations worldwide](#). We certify over 6,000 people per year from all walks of life, and our graduates are teaching English abroad in 80 countries worldwide. ITA courses are taught by [experienced professors](#) possessing advanced degrees and experience.

Before enrolling in an ITA TEFL class, every prospective student works one-on-one with a trained and experienced Admissions Advisor. All ITA alumni will also have a Student Affairs Advisor to work one-on-one with on your unique job search.

From TEFL certification options to the realities of the international job market, we're committed to providing every one of our students with the training and post-course guidance required to travel the world as a paid, professional English teacher.



[Read more about the dynamic ITA team](#)

OUR TEAM

Everyone on the [ITA team](#) has lived, traveled, and/or taught internationally. We've been in your shoes. We're all very familiar with that nervous-excited feeling you get when you click "confirm" on that one-way international plane ticket. We've all experienced the good, the bad, the stressful, the unforgettable, and everything that goes along with getting settled in your foreign country. [Read our vision statement.](#)

It's our goal to empower our students to share in the experience of discovering new cultures, exploring the world, and becoming true global citizens while teaching English abroad.

2. WHAT IS TEFL?

TEFL is the acronym for [Teaching English as a Foreign Language](#), or simply, English language instruction for non-native English speakers. You'll also see other acronyms like, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL), and teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).

The field of TEFL is one of the fastest-growing educational fields in the world. TEFL-certified, native and fluent English speakers have thousands of professional opportunities for teaching English abroad in Asia, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East.

In practical terms, when these acronyms are applied to the field of teaching English abroad, there is little to no difference between "TEFL" and "TESOL." They are both acronyms that for all intents and purposes mean the same thing: teaching the English language to non-native speakers. In the vast majority of cases, a "TEFL certification" and a "TESOL certification" are the same and the terms are interchangeable.

If you want to take a deep dive into the nitty-gritty of TEFL and the common industry terminology, check out these two articles:

>> [What is TEFL & TEFL Certification?](#)

>> [What's the Difference Between TEFL, TESOL & CELTA?](#)



THE STANDARDS FOR TEFL CERTIFICATION

During your research, you'll find that every TEFL company offers something different. In your research as an English teacher abroad, you'll find that every TEFL company offers something different. It's important to know the standards for the TEFL industry before you start vetting out different TEFL companies.

First things first, consider the job you are signing up for. You're planning on leaving your comfort zone, perhaps even quitting a long-term job, and moving halfway across the world to begin a new career as a professional English teacher.



Teaching English Abroad - How does it work in 7 steps

You'll likely be responsible for teaching 20-30 hours per week, and you'll spend your days creating lesson plans and class materials, managing a classroom full of students, and teaching topics like grammar, vocabulary, sentence structure, and more. These are just a few of the basics you'll need to master to excel in your new job abroad.

Prior teaching experience or a degree in education are not required to teach English abroad, but you want to make sure you earn an [accredited TEFL certification](#) that not only provides you with the training you'll need to become a professional English teacher, but also a recognized qualification that enables you to get hired for quality jobs at thousands of schools around the world.

The Minimum Standards for a Professional-Level TEFL Certification Class are:

- >> A minimum of 100 hours of academic coursework and training (typically a full-time intensive 4-week in-person course, or the equivalent part-time or online);
- >> 6-20 hours of live practice teaching (practicum) to ESL students;
- >> Employs a curriculum accredited by a recognized, independent body within the field;
- >> Course is taught by a highly qualified, university-level instructor. Meet the ITA instructors [here](#).



[Download the Ebook: ABCs of TEFL Certification for Teaching English Abroad](#)

To learn more about evaluating TEFL certification classes and TEFL schools, check out these two articles:

- >> [Read More: 7 Key Tips to Evaluating a TEFL School](#)
- >> [Read More: 5 Tips for Picking the Right TEFL Class \(and Not Getting Ripped Off\)](#)



[Read Now: What is Accreditation for TEFL Certification Really All About?](#)

INTERNATIONAL TEFL ACADEMY ACCREDITATION

International TEFL Academy has a Level 5 regulated status on the Ofqual QCF Scale for all of our franchise classes. We proudly use a state-of-the-art curriculum written by a staff of highly experienced ITA professors for our [Online](#), [Costa Rica](#), and [Barcelona](#) courses. Our courses meet or exceed the same standards as top-level professional courses, including CELTA.

ITA is one of the global leaders in TEFL curriculum. Our curriculum also meets internationally recognized requirements of a minimum of 100 hours of academic work and 6 hours of practicum for a professional-level TEFL certification.

To ensure our TEFL certification meets international standards in quality and delivery, this curriculum has been externally monitored and approved for accreditation by TQUK, an official Awarding Organization that is recognized and regulated by Ofqual, the British Government body responsible for monitoring and maintaining educational standards in the United Kingdom.

[Learn more about ITA's accreditation: Overview of International TEFL Academy's Accreditation.](#)

3. WHAT ARE THE BASIC REQUIREMENTS TO TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD?



Read an ITA alumni's take on teaching English abroad

With 1.7 billion people learning English worldwide, the international job market for teaching English abroad has never been stronger. There are new job opportunities opening every single day in exciting places like [South Korea](#), [Spain](#), [Costa Rica](#), and [Vietnam](#).

Teaching English abroad provides more opportunities than any other field for English speakers from all backgrounds to live, work, and travel across [Asia](#), [Europe](#), [Latin America](#), and the [Middle East](#).

No prior teaching experience is required, but taking one of ITA's accredited [TEFL certification classes](#) will give you the skills and qualifications you need to get hired and teach at the professional level.

[Read more about teaching English abroad without prior teaching experience or a degree in Education.](#)

ITA has a network of 48,000+ alumni who have taught English in 80 countries worldwide. Keep in mind, every country has its own unique hiring process and requirements.

COMMON REQUIREMENTS FOR TEACHING ABROAD

- >> **TEFL Certification:** You don't need to have prior teaching experience or a degree in education to teach English abroad, but an accredited TEFL certification will provide you with the training and qualification you need to get hired as a professional English teacher. You'll be able to successfully run a classroom and provide a high-quality educational experience to your students.
- >> Are you a certified teacher? Here's an article for you: [Do Certified Teachers Need a TEFL Certification to Teach English Abroad?](#)
- >> **Native English Speaker:** Citizenship from a recognized English-speaking nation: U.S., U.K., Ireland, Canada, Australia, New Zealand or South Africa is generally required for teaching English abroad. If you're a non-native speaker, [read this article for more information & options for English teaching opportunities.](#)
- >> **A bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university** (4 years in US/3 years in UK) is preferred but not always required for teaching abroad. [Check out the Country Comparison Chart to see which countries require a BA and which do not.](#)
- >> **Don't have a degree?** Don't worry about it. [Check out our top Markets for Teaching English Abroad Without a Degree.](#)
- >> **Passport:** Nearly half of our teachers each year have never been abroad. Teaching English overseas will be their FIRST international adventure. Perfect! This is a great way to see the world, and your passport is a must-have!
- >> **Age 21 or Over:** It's not set in stone, but many countries prefer to hire teachers ages 21 or older.
- >> **Am I too old/young to teach English abroad?** Learn more by reading our article about [age limits and restrictions for teaching English abroad.](#)



4. ONLINE VS IN-PERSON: WHICH CLASS IS RIGHT FOR ME?

So, you want to teach English abroad and experience the international adventure of a lifetime? Great! And you want to earn the training to become a professional English teacher so you can get hired in Europe, Latin America, Asia and/or the Middle East, right? Perfect!

Should you go for the 11-week, part-time [Online TEFL Course](#)? It's a great option for students or working professionals with busy schedules. Or would you prefer to dive in and take an intensive, 4-week, full-time [In-Person TEFL Courses](#) at one of our 24 locations worldwide? There's also our newest [4-Week Intensive Online TEFL Course](#) addition for those wanting to teach abroad or online ASAP!

Check out our complete TEFL course index



11-WEEK, PART-TIME ONLINE TEFL COURSE

LENGTH OF TRAINING

11 Weeks part-time (typically 10-12 hours per week of work).

170 HOUR CERTIFICATION

150 hours academic coursework + 20 hours of practicum (live practice teaching). Those who choose to take one of our three optional Specialty Classes will receive an additional certificate for those classes.

TEFL COURSE DATES & AVAILABILITY

[More information on TEFL Course Dates.](#) We recommend enrolling at least 2-3 weeks in advance.

UNIVERSITY-LEVEL INSTRUCTION

All ITA Online TEFL Certification classes are taught by highly qualified university instructors with advanced degrees and experience.

TUITION

\$1,599 - Check TEFL Course Dates & Tuition for current tuition discount offers.

JOB SEARCH GUIDANCE

All students and graduates receive hands-on job placement assistance and lifetime, worldwide job search guidance from ITA's expert team of advisors. Students who have fully paid tuition are eligible to receive job search guidance during their class.

CLASS SIZE

Classes are capped at 20 students to ensure personal attention and maintain the highest standards of instruction.

ACCREDITATION

The ITA Online TEFL Course is accredited by TQUK and awarded a Level 5 status by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation regulates qualifications, examinations, and assessments in England). [Read more.](#)

PAYMENT PLANS AVAILABLE

Pay in full or in installments for your 11-week Online TEFL course. Chat to your Admissions Advisor for more information and to discuss your payment options.



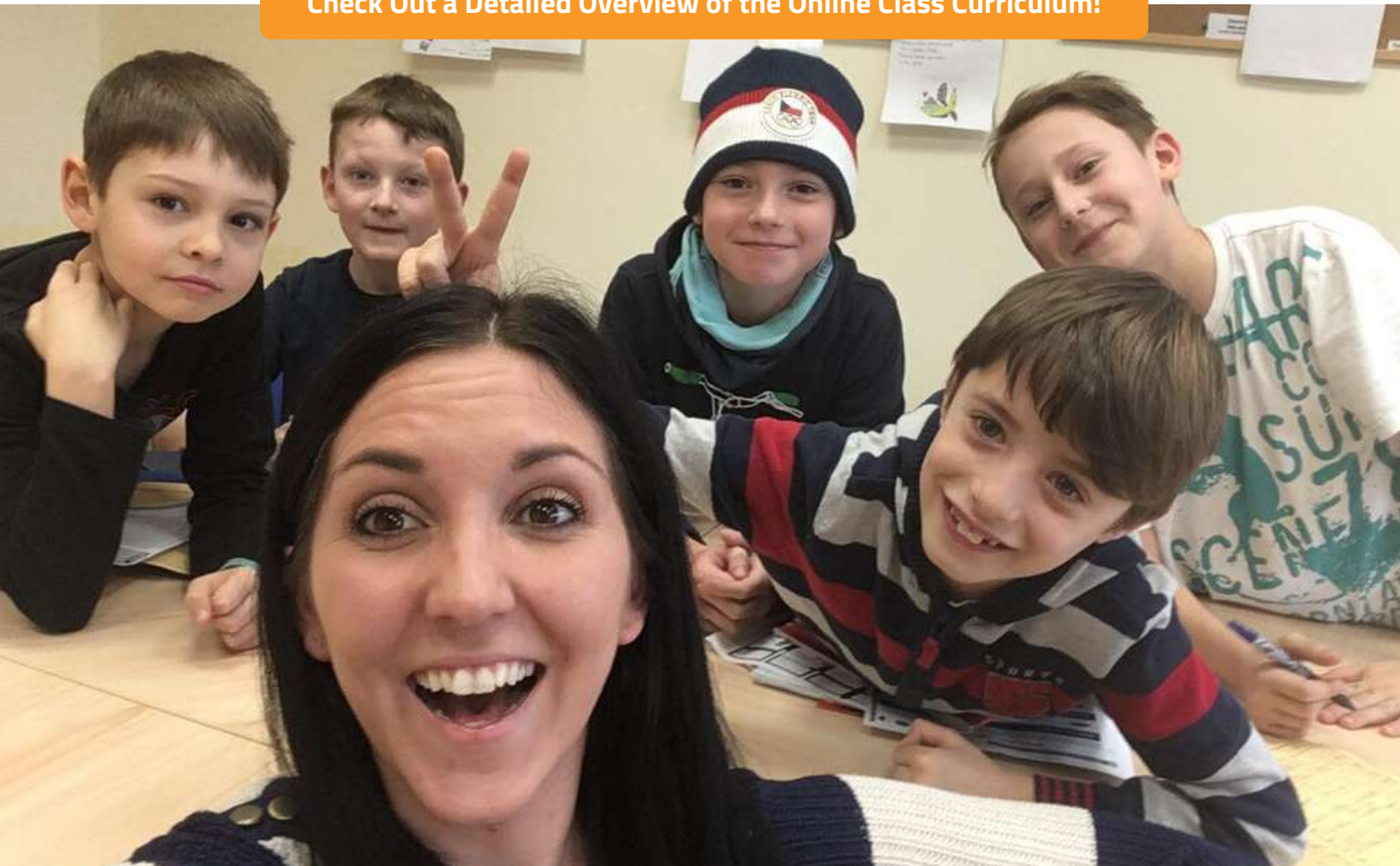
11-WEEK, PART TIME ONLINE TEFL COURSE

The [170-hour Online TEFL Course](#) is the most popular course offering for International TEFL Academy. Graduates of this course are teaching English abroad in up to 80 countries worldwide and it is accredited & recognized as a professional "Level 5" TEFL course by accrediting bodies in the UK, which is the same level of accreditation enjoyed by top-level 4-week classes, including [CELTA](#). This online TEFL class also provides a recognized qualification for teaching English online.

The ability to earn a TEFL certification on a part-time schedule appeals to those students who wish to continue working or going to school while completing their training. Aside from being able to continue with work, the Online TEFL Course enables students to afford the highest quality of TEFL training at the professional certification level at a cost that is considerably lower than a comparable 4-week in-person class.

Every ITA student receives comprehensive, one-on-one pre-enrollment guidance so you can choose the right TEFL class based on your needs. Upon enrollment in your Online or In-Person TEFL class, you have access to lifetime, one-on-one [job placement assistance](#). You can start utilizing this job search guidance as soon as you enroll in your TEFL class.

[Check Out a Detailed Overview of the Online Class Curriculum!](#)



4-WEEK, INTENSIVE ONLINE TEFL COURSE

LENGTH OF TRAINING

4 weeks full time (5-days per week with 6-8 hours per day class time + online practice teaching + homework). This is an intensive, full-time course.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Reliable/quality internet connection; decent computer microphone with headset; computer webcam (built-in or attached as an accessory); a quiet place to learn & give online classes; a free, basic Zoom account in your name.

TEFL COURSE DATES & AVAILABILITY

[More information on TEFL Course Dates](#). We recommend enrolling as far in advance as possible.

UNIVERSITY-LEVEL INSTRUCTION

All ITA Online TEFL Certification classes are taught by highly qualified university instructors with advanced degrees and experience.

TUITION

\$2,099 - Check TEFL Course Dates & Tuition for current tuition discount offers.

JOB SEARCH GUIDANCE

All students and graduates receive hands-on job placement assistance and lifetime, worldwide job search guidance from ITA's expert team of advisors. Students who have fully paid tuition are eligible to receive job search guidance during their class.

CLASS SIZE

Classes are capped at 12 students to ensure personal attention and maintain the highest standards of instruction.

ACCREDITATION

The ITA 4-Week Intensive Online TEFL Course is accredited by TQUK and awarded a Level 5 status by Ofqual (Office of Qualifications and Examinations Regulation regulates qualifications, examinations, and assessments in England). [Read more](#).



4-WEEK, INTENSIVE ONLINE TEFL COURSE

The [4-Week Intensive Online TEFL Course](#) is our most recent TEFL course offering at International TEFL Academy (introduced in 2020) and is quickly becoming a very popular option. Graduates of this course will be able to teach English online and abroad in up to 80 countries worldwide and it is accredited & recognized as a professional "Level 5" TEFL course by accrediting bodies in the UK, which is the same level of accreditation enjoyed by top-level 4-week classes, including [CELTA](#). This online TEFL class also provides a recognized qualification for teaching English online.

Unlike our 11-Week, Part-Time Online TEFL Course, the intensive course allows students who want to move abroad or start teaching English online as soon as possible to do so - in just four short weeks, you can be fully certified and begin your job search. This course also has your practice teaching (practicum) built into it - you will be completing your live practicum online with ESL students sourced by ITA.

Every ITA student receives comprehensive, one-on-one pre-enrollment guidance so you can choose the right TEFL class based on your needs. Upon enrollment in your Online or In-Person TEFL class, you have access to lifetime, one-on-one [job placement assistance](#). You can start utilizing this job search guidance as soon as you enroll in your TEFL class.

[Check Out a Detailed Overview of the Intensive Online Curriculum!](#)



4-WEEK IN-PERSON TEFL COURSES

LENGTH OF TRAINING

4 weeks, full-time. This is an intensive university-level class.

HOUSING

Housing costs are not included in the course tuition except for the Vietnam In-Person TEFL courses.

TEFL COURSE DATES & AVAILABILITY

We recommend enrolling at least 90 days before your class start date. See a full list of locations and start dates [here](#).

UNIVERSITY-LEVEL INSTRUCTION

All ITA In-Person TEFL classes are taught by highly qualified university instructors with advanced degrees and experience.

TUITION

The tuition costs vary from location to location but average from \$1,495 to \$2,795. See the full list of tuition prices [here](#).

JOB SEARCH GUIDANCE

All students and graduates receive hands-on job placement assistance and lifetime, worldwide job search guidance from ITA's expert team of advisors. Students who have fully paid tuition are eligible to receive job search guidance during their class.

ACCREDITATION

All ITA TEFL classes meet or exceed international standards and are accredited by recognized institutions in the field. [Read more](#).



IN-PERSON TEFL COURSES

If you prefer a face-to-face learning environment, then consider getting TEFL certified in one of our [24 In-Person class locations](#) across North America, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. No matter which location you choose, these 4-week classes are very much a full-time commitment. These In-Person classes are extremely intensive, but they offer a fantastic opportunity to meet fellow travelers and get TEFL certified in only one month.

Students should expect a college-level TEFL certification class that runs Monday through Friday from 9 am - 6 pm daily (exact times may vary) with 10 -14 students per class. Student teaching (practicum) is often completed in the evening hours with local ESL students.

ITA offers In-Person TEFL classes at our licensed centers in Costa Rica and Spain. In addition to the courses listed above that are administered by ITA, we partner with other TEFL courses that are accredited. We work together to register the students and provide lifetime job guidance assistance after graduation. Some of these centers are accredited by IATQuO, Cambridge University, SIT and more. Read about all of our partner courses and their individual accreditation and certifications [here](#).

Online vs In-Person: TEFL Class Comparison Chart



3 KEY FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR PATH TO TEFL CERTIFICATION AND TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD

>> **Money:** If you're at all tight on cash, definitely consider taking the 11-week, 170-hour [Online TEFL Class](#). The outright tuition is lower and you'll have time to be working during the class. If you decide to take an In-Person TEFL class, make sure you have enough money saved to support yourself during your 4-week class, as you won't have time to work at the same time.

The Online class will typically cost \$500 - \$1,000 less than traveling to a foreign country to take a 4-week In-Person course. Unless you're taking an In-Person course in your home city, you'll also need to consider the cost for housing, food, and living expenses, which usually run \$800 - \$1,500 for a month depending on the local cost of living.



7 Tips for Saving for TEFL Certification & Teaching English Abroad

>> **Interviews:** Do you know where you want to teach already or are you open to options worldwide? It's important to know the local interview process for the country you want to teach in. In countries like [Korea](#) and [Japan](#), you'll interview in advance from home and line up your English teaching job prior to heading overseas. In some parts of the world, they prefer to conduct face-to-face interviews in countries like [Argentina](#), [Spain](#), and [Vietnam](#).

That said if you're on a budget and want to teach in a location where most schools interview in person, you can certainly take an online class and use the money you save to fund your travel and other start-up costs required to support yourself while you interview and get a job until you receive your first paycheck. This requires traveling to another country without having a job lined up in advance, but if you're properly prepared and time your arrival around major hiring seasons, there's no reason why you won't be successful.

>> **Your timeline:** When do you want to be abroad? Are you looking to head abroad as soon as possible? Are you planning to head out in a few months or in a couple of years?

In-person TEFL classes will be completed in just 4 weeks compared to 11-13 weeks for online TEFL classes and represent the fastest way to get your accredited certification. The in-person classes are full-time and intense; it's basically boot camp for English teachers and should be considered a full-time commitment for those 4 weeks (don't try to tend bar at night or take other classes).

[Read More: How Quickly Can I Get TEFL-Certified & Begin Teaching English Abroad](#)

The online class is completed part-time, typically 10-12 hours per week over 11 weeks. This part-time structure makes it ideal for full-time college students who want to knock out their TEFL class before graduation or for working professionals who want to still earn money while getting TEFL certified & planning.

Ultimately your timeline will depend on a variety of factors including where you plan to teach; hiring seasons; your TEFL class; and other factors like whether you need to get a visa processed.

We recommend that you enroll in your TEFL class at least 3-6 months prior to your planned departure abroad.

[Read more: Online vs. In-Person - Which TEFL Class is Right for Me?](#)



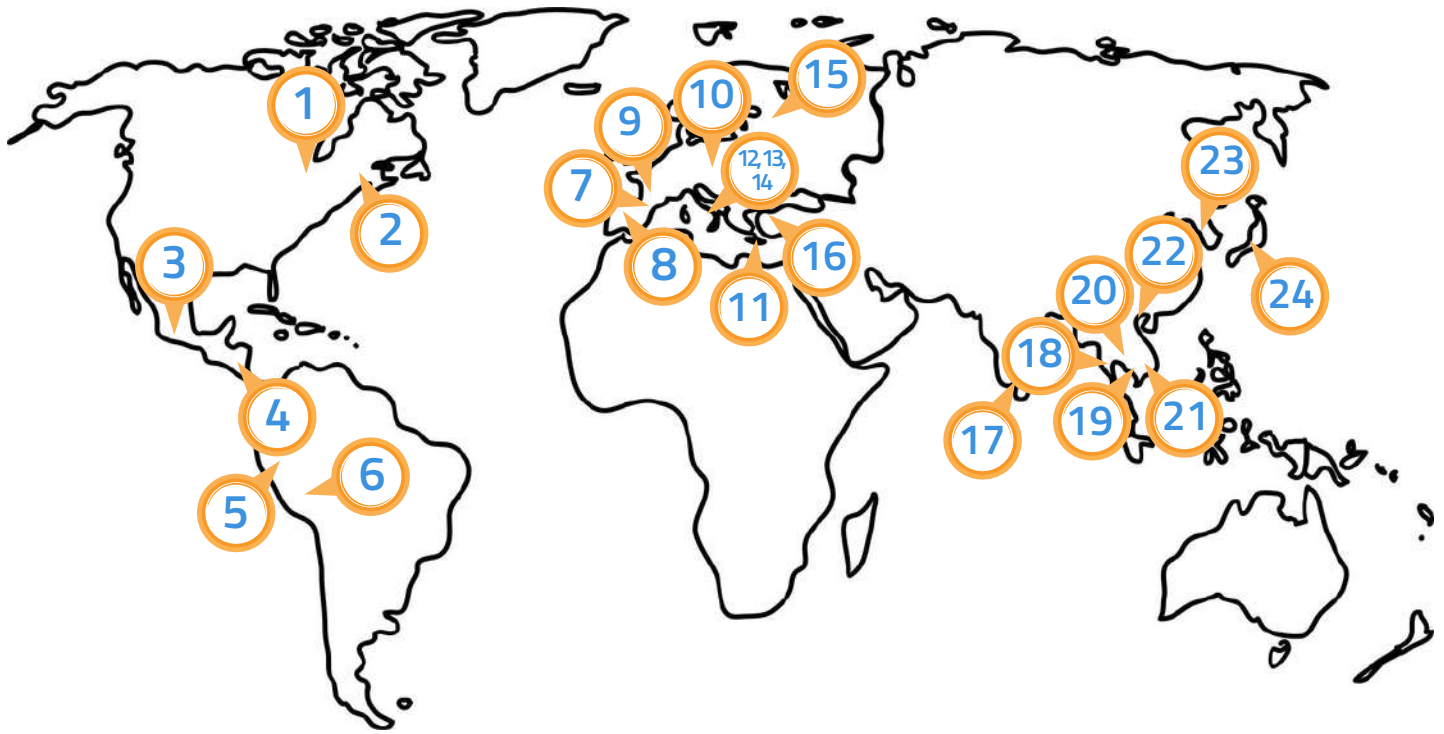
COURSE CURRICULUM

- >> CHAPTER 1: ROLE OF THE TEACHER
- >> CHAPTER 2: CREATING A STUDENT-CENTERED CLASSROOM
- >> CHAPTER 3: METHODS AND APPROACHES
- >> CHAPTER 4: LESSON PLANNING
- >> CHAPTER 5: COURSE DESIGN
- >> CHAPTER 6: LEXIS
- >> CHAPTER 7: GRAMMAR
- >> CHAPTER 8: LISTENING & READING
- >> CHAPTER 9: SPEAKING & WRITING
- >> CHAPTER 10: VISUAL AIDS & TECHNOLOGY
- >> CHAPTER 11: CULTURAL SENSITIVITY

Learn more about our class curriculum



4-WEEK IN-PERSON TEFL CLASS LOCATIONS



1. Chicago, USA
2. New York, USA*
3. Guadalajara, Mexico
4. Heredia, Costa Rica
5. Quito, Ecuador
6. Arequipa, Peru
7. Barcelona, Spain*
8. Madrid, Spain*
9. Toulouse, France
10. Prague, Czech Republic
11. Crete, Greece
12. Florence, Italy
13. Rome, Italy
14. Sardinia, Italy
15. St. Petersburg, Russia
16. Istanbul, Turkey
17. Yangon, Myanmar
18. Hua Hin, Thailand
19. Chiang Mai, Thailand
20. Phnom Penh, Cambodia
21. Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
22. Hanoi, Vietnam
23. Incheon, South Korea
24. Nagoya, Japan

*Hybrid class options available

[Learn more about our in-person locations here!](#)

WHICH TEFL CLASS IS RIGHT FOR ME?

SHOULD YOU GO FOR THE 11-WEEK, PART-TIME ONLINE TEFL CLASS OR WOULD YOU PREFER TO DIVE INTO THE INTENSIVE 4-WEEK, FULL-TIME IN-PERSON TEFL CLASS?

- >> Lower tuition cost with flexible payment options
- >> You can still work full time
- >> \$500-\$1000 less than traveling to take in-person class

ONLINE CLASS



- Higher tuition + need to pay for food, housing, living expenses during class <<
- Full-time, intensive class, can't work at the same time <<
- Can begin teaching immediately after the class is over <<

IN-PERSON CLASS

MONEY

INTERVIEWS

In advance from home
ONLINE CLASS

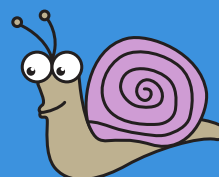


Locally in-person
IN-PERSON CLASS



TIMELINES

Flexible timeline?
ONLINE CLASS



Plan to teach abroad/online ASAP?
IN-PERSON CLASS



5. WHERE SHOULD I TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD?

Where can you teach abroad? You have options, lots and lots of options. From [Italy](#) to [China](#), [Argentina](#) to [Morocco](#), you have teaching opportunities all over [Asia](#), [Europe](#), [Latin America](#), and the [Middle East](#).



Check out our [World Job Index](#) with links to 50 country profiles

3 KEY FACTORS TO CONSIDER WHEN CHOOSING YOUR PATH TO TEFL CERTIFICATION AND TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD

>> **Which countries offer teaching opportunities that I can qualify for?** There are more than 250,000 English teaching jobs in the non-English speaking world filled each year. Hiring standards vary from country to country. Key factors like degree and citizenship requirements are important considerations when evaluating where you're qualified to teach (even with a TEFL certification).

>> **How much money do I need to earn teaching English abroad?** Will I be happy just to [break even and cover my expenses](#)? Or, do I need to make enough to save extra money to [pay for student loans](#) or extra travel?

In most countries in the world, first-time English teachers make enough to cover their bills and enjoy life but don't hold realistic expectations of putting savings in the bank at the end of the month. This is typical in Europe, Latin America, and North African Arab countries like Egypt and Morocco.

If you need to make enough to save \$200 to \$1,000 a month after expenses, consider opportunities in Asian countries like Korea, [Taiwan](#), and Japan, or perhaps teaching English in Persian Gulf countries like [Saudi Arabia](#).

>> **Do I want to travel to a country and interview locally in-person, or would I prefer to interview and get hired in advance from home prior to going abroad?** Countries like Argentina, Costa Rica, Italy, and Spain offer thousands of jobs for English teachers, but schools interview almost exclusively in-person. This means that in order to get hired, you need to travel to that country to **interview face-to-face** and then begin teaching. Some folks prefer this scenario as it enables them to meet potential employers face-to-face and to scout job opportunities in-person.

In other countries, including Asian nations like Korea, Japan, and China, schools recruit and hire teachers from their countries. In such cases, you will interview and sign a contract prior to leaving home. Many prefer the security of having a job lined up prior to going abroad.

>> **Type of Students:** Are you passionate about teaching a specific demographic or are you open to teaching both business professionals and young learners? Certain parts of the world have a higher demand for specific types of students. Asia is a great option if you're passionate about teaching young learners. If you are really eager to teach business professionals, typically Europe and the Middle East provide the most options. There are always exceptions with this aspect of teaching abroad, so check the country comparison chart below for more details!

Check out the Country Comparison Chart to see a country-by-country comparison of our most popular teaching destinations!



WHERE SHOULD I TEACH ENGLISH ABROAD?

ITA GRADS ARE CURRENTLY TEACHING ENGLISH IN OVER 80 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD. SO WHERE CAN YOU TEACH ABROAD?

250,000

English teaching jobs in the non-English speaking world are filled each year.



DEGREE



CITIZENSHIP



TEFL CERTIFICATION

QUALIFICATIONS VARY



CZECH
REPUBLIC



MEXICO



SPAIN



COLOMBIA



EARNINGS



JAPAN



CHINA



SOUTH
KOREA



UNITED
ARAB EMIRATES

BREAKEVEN

SAVE

IN ADVANCE FROM HOME



INTERVIEWS



LOCALLY IN-PERSON

YOUNG LEARNERS



STUDENTS



BUSINESS
PROFESSIONALS



ONLINE

6. MAKING MONEY TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD AND ONLINE

Everybody is familiar with the saying “you don’t become a teacher for the money. While going to teach English abroad will almost certainly be one of the most enriching and rewarding experiences of your life, you probably don’t want to count on it to buy that tropical island you fantasize about for your retirement. That being said, there are thousands of opportunities around the world for TEFL certified English teachers that allow you to save money each month and offer exceptional benefits.



Read: [Top 5 Countries to Make the Most Money Teaching English Abroad](#)

3 IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS FOR MONEY AND TEACHING ENGLISH ABROAD

>> **Start Up Costs:** To move anywhere whether it is from New York to New Jersey or Chicago to Madrid, you’ll probably need to incur at least some basic start-up costs. Depending on where you decide to teach abroad, these costs will vary with the local cost of living where you teach, travel expenses, and whether you receive benefits like free housing and/or airfare from the school that employs you. Common start-up costs include:

- >> *TEFL certification course*
- >> *Transportation costs to your destination country*
- >> *Daily expenses and supporting yourself until you begin to receive paychecks*

What are Basic Start-Up Costs for Teaching English Abroad?

>> **Cost of Living:** Think local — English teacher salaries abroad depend on the teacher’s position, qualifications, and the country where they teach. Foreign English teachers are typically paid in local currency and should be viewed through the prism of the local cost of living. This means that an English teacher earning \$1,000 a month in Peru will enjoy the same standard of living as a teacher in Madrid earning 2,000 Euro because while the teacher in Madrid earns more in absolute terms, the cost of living is higher in Spain.

>> **Break-even Markets vs. Saving Markets:** You will likely encounter the term “breaking even” with reference to salaries for English teachers overseas. Europe and Latin America are comprised of some of the most popular English teaching destinations in the world. However, most English teachers living there only make enough money to “break-even” each month. This means you can support yourself and cover your basic bills - rent, food, utilities, transportation, etc. - and overall enjoy your life abroad to the fullest, but you shouldn’t expect to save money at the end of the month. It’s common for teachers working in break-even markets to private tutor or teach English Online to boost their income.

Learn More About Boosting Your Income While Teaching Abroad:

[Can I Make Money as a Private Tutor While Teaching Abroad?](#)

[Teaching English Online: Your Guide on How to Make Money & Travel the World](#)

Check out [The Financial Guide to Teaching English Abroad](#) for a comprehensive overview of money and teaching English abroad!



Teaching English online is an industry experiencing rapid growth in demand, and it has the potential to provide long-term employment stability, whether it be on a part-time or full-time basis. A flexible lifestyle and the ability to be your own boss while teaching English & traveling the world - what's not to love?

We have teachers earning up to \$500+ USD per week in countries like Spain, Nicaragua, and Thailand, as well as from right here in the USA!



WHAT IS TEACHING ENGLISH ONLINE AND IS THERE A MARKET FOR IT?

In short, teaching English online is teaching English as a foreign language to a non-native English speaker over the Internet through the use of a computer and a webcam. Students can learn one-on-one or in a small group and the cost is usually cheaper compared to an in-person, face-to-face class. Both students and teachers are able to set their own times and schedules and the teacher can teach from whatever location is convenient to them. Online learning is a huge business and here to stay – from world class universities to Fortune 500 companies, computer, mobile, and Internet-based training has become an integral part of nearly all fields of education, including language instruction, and TEFL. Combining the fact that there are more than 1 billion people learning English worldwide with massive increased access to the Internet, online English instruction is one of the fastest growing sectors of international education. In recent years, opportunities for teaching English online to speakers of other languages from across the globe have grown exponentially and show no signs of slowing down – it's a booming industry!

WHAT QUALIFICATIONS ARE NEEDED TO TEACH ENGLISH ONLINE?

If you are TEFL certified and a fluent English speaker then you can teach English online! Most companies will also require that you have a Bachelor's degree, although this fluctuates from company to company. Other traits that are often sought after include being personable and having great presentation skills.

If you don't have an [accredited TEFL certification](#), then this is your first step. International TEFL Academy offers an [Online TEFL class](#), [hybrid](#), and [In-Person classes in 2 locations globally](#). Learn more about ITA's TEFL classes and [get your free online teaching guide here](#).

It is extremely common for someone already teaching English abroad at a language school to teach English online to boost their income. Many teachers also take advantage of teaching English online after returning home from being abroad. Finally, there are those who make teaching English online their full-time job no matter where in the world they are. This flexibility provides a fantastic way to support yourself while traveling the world and living abroad.



ADVANTAGES AND BENEFITS OF TEACHING ENGLISH ONLINE:

- >> You can teach English online from anywhere in the world, whether you are inside your home country or abroad;
- >> Work as few or as many hours as you please – you set your own schedule!
- >> Gain experience in the field of online learning, one of the fastest-growing areas in education both in the U.S. and abroad;
- >> The ability to gain teaching experience for your resume before or after you teach English abroad;
- >> Opportunities to hone your teaching skills;
- >> Whether you are teaching English abroad or working in an entirely different industry, you can teach online part-time to supplement your income;
- >> Use your TEFL certification to make a positive impact on people’s lives and to make some money at the same time.



7. SPECIALTY CLASS ADD-ON OPTIONS

Here at ITA, we always strive to provide the best TEFL training & guidance possible, which is why we offer several optional specialty class add-ons.

- >> Teaching English Online
- >> Teaching Business English
- >> Teaching English to Young Learners
- >> Foundations of English Grammar
- >> Tutoring English
- >> Teaching Test Prep Skills

These [specialty courses](#) are taught by university-level instructors with extensive experience in each respective field. These courses provide you with a specialized, professional skill set, and also access to a wealth of resources including videos, course design blueprints, and step-by-step activity plans. They range from 2 weeks part-time (30 hours of coursework) to 4 weeks part-time (60 hours of coursework), are 100% online, and can be taken from anywhere in the world on virtually any device.

WHO CAN TAKE AN ITA SPECIALTY CLASS?

You do not need to be an ITA TEFL certification graduate or enrolled in ITA's TEFL certification course to take one of our specialty classes. Our specialty classes are designed for those who are already TEFL certified, are in the process of completing a TEFL course, or are already teaching ESL. As such, we strongly recommend that you are currently taking an accredited TEFL certification, are already certified, or have experience teaching ESL.

Please note that International TEFL Academy's Lifetime Job Search Guidance and support, access to our alumni community, and our high-quality accreditation are only available to students and alumni of our online and in-person TEFL certification courses.

Read More: [5 Reasons You Should Take an ITA Specialty Class After Completing Your TEFL Certification.](#)

[Access Specialty Class Ebook to Learn More](#)



8. HOW WILL ITA HELP ME GET A JOB?

Whether you want to teach English abroad in Santiago, Tokyo, or St. Petersburg, our [Student Affairs Advisors](#) are ready to work with you one-on-one and show you how you can take advantage of job opportunities that match your specific goals and qualifications.



[Read more about ITA's lifetime Job Search Guidance](#)

6 HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR LIFETIME JOB SEARCH GUIDANCE WITH ITA

>> **Personal guidance from an experienced Job Search Advisor:** We have 8 expert Student Affairs Advisors ready to work with you one-on-one and help you plan your adventure abroad. They can schedule an appointment with you over the phone, over Skype, or in our Chicago HQ to make sure all of your questions are answered. They'll assist you with every aspect of your job search from writing your resume/CV and cover letter, coaching you on the interview process in different markets, to helping you assess which destinations might be the best fit for you.

>> **Alumni Facebook groups & ITA Alumni Association:** Connect with more than 20,000 ITA Alumni teaching English in 80 countries worldwide. Ask questions, make new friends, get job tips, and get the scoop on what it's like to really teach English abroad from people like yourself who are already out there doing it.





Want to learn more about getting a job teaching English abroad? Attend our next interactive webcast with ITA's most experienced TEFL experts. [Click to learn more!](#)

>> **Job Search Manual:** Say hello to your new favorite resource. All of our graduates receive a 400-page (and constantly growing) manual containing all relevant information for major job markets around the world, including hiring seasons, academic standards, templates for resumes/cover letters, international job boards, interview how-to's, and much, much more!

>> **Language School Finder:** We'll send you a directory of over 20,000 schools worldwide that you can contact directly regarding employment opportunities.

>> **Referrals to preferred recruiters, placement agencies and language schools:** ITA enjoys a strong relationship with schools, recruiters and placement agencies throughout the world.

>> **Detailed video webcasts on the job process:** We provide live and taped webinar workshops on: the process of creating resumes/cover letters and interviewing, continent specific talks for hiring processes in Europe, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East.

An Alternative Option: ITA'S Guaranteed Job Placement Program

For those seeking the adventure and personal growth of teaching English abroad without the hassles of long application processes, dealing with sketchy recruiters, and navigating confusing visa regulations, International TEFL Academy also offers **guaranteed job placements for teaching English in Thailand, Korea, Japan or Myanmar**. This is different from our lifetime Job Search Guidance and comes at an additional cost on top of your TEFL course.

ITA and our partners in Asia have over a decade of experience helping thousands teach English in Asia & around the world. With a network of more than **2,000+ vetted schools** in these three countries alone, we offer the ability to **place you in an English teaching job** that best matches what you seek in your experience teaching abroad. **Bottom line: You do not pay for a job you don't want**. We will also ensure you gain a placement with the best possible **pay and benefits** based on local standards, and that your **working conditions are healthy, fair, and welcoming**.

From the **job placement process and visa paperwork** to in-depth **cultural training**, our program provides the **end-to-end support & personalized guidance** you need to enjoy the experience of a lifetime teaching English abroad. We also offer the highest quality **TEFL training courses** in the field to those who still need an accredited TEFL certification for teaching English abroad.



Learn More: [TEFL Job Search Guidance vs Job Placement: What's the Difference?](#)

How do you know if our Guaranteed Job Placement Program is right for you?

- ✔ Would you like a guaranteed job teaching English in [Thailand](#), [Korea](#), [Japan](#) or [Myanmar](#)?
- ✔ Do you want to get paid to live in Asia and make a meaningful difference in the lives of your students?
- ✔ Can you see yourself exploring ancient Shinto shrines in Japan, eating kimchi in Korea, catching a wave on the beaches of Thailand, or exploring the pagodas of Myanmar?
- ✔ Would you like to teach English abroad knowing that you have a full team of experienced experts at your fingertips to answer any questions or provide hands-on support if needed?
- ✔ Do you want to enhance your skills and boost your resume with true international work experience?
- ✔ Are you seeking to broaden your horizons, grow as a person and experience new cultures?



If you answer “yes” to one, some, or all of the above, then joining one of these programs is your first step toward beginning the adventure of a lifetime!

How Do Our Guaranteed Job Placement Programs Help You Achieve Your Goals?

- ✓ **Our Guarantee to You:** You will receive a placement in a teaching position at a school in [Thailand](#), [Korea](#), [Japan](#), or [Myanmar](#) that has been carefully vetted and best matches your preferences for the experience you are looking for.
- ✓ **End-to-End Personalized Support:** From pre-departure preparations like document collection through the placement & interview process and even after you begin your English teaching job, our experienced team provides personalized guidance to help you every step of the way.
- ✓ **Superior Preparation & Cultural Training:** All participants receive 40 hours of online training in your destination country's history, culture, and language in addition to a week of in-country orientation with special excursions, trainings, and social events.
- ✓ **The Best Working Conditions:** We vet our schools carefully and ensure they are accountable for providing the best working conditions for our teachers. Otherwise, we won't work with them.
- ✓ **We Work for You!** Unlike many recruiters and agencies, we don't receive a commission from schools we work with, so we're 100% accountable to you and will stand up for you accordingly.
- ✓ **Post Placement Support:** Our team of experienced experts is on-hand 24/7, even after you begin your teaching job. You can count on our support to resolve any issues that arise after your placement.
- ✓ **Award-Winning TEFL Training:** International offers internationally accredited TEFL courses online and around the world.
- ✓ **Free Future Placements:** Once you enroll in one of our placement programs, you are eligible for free placements in the future!

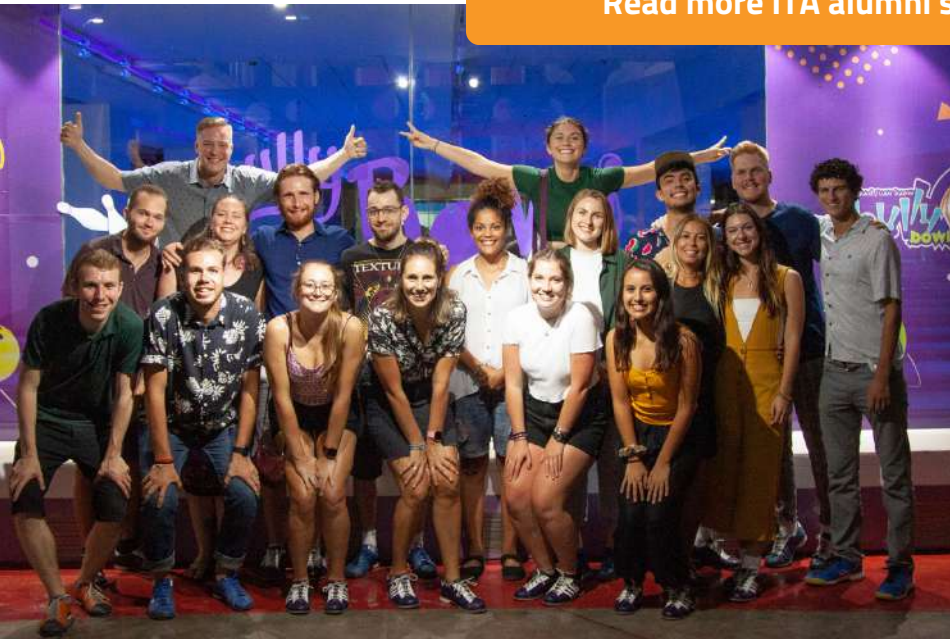
Learn more about our Japan, Thailand, South Korea & Myanmar Guaranteed Job Placement Programs

9. MEET OUR ALUMNI

Our 47,000 graduates are the heart and soul of ITA. Seeing our students' travel photos and hearing their life-changing stories are the reasons we come to work every day. Your journey with ITA doesn't end the second your TEFL class ends. You're a part of the ITA family for life, but don't worry we won't call you up every year asking for donations!

As an ITA alum, you can enjoy access to our exclusive alumni networks, alumni meet-ups, contests, alumni ambassadors, and much more. You'll also be eligible for paid opportunities for sharing your story with us.

Read more ITA alumni stories



ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS



“

I found other TEFL certifications that were much more affordable. But I still chose ITA because of their reputation and resources. One of my favorite things about ITA is that you have an assigned advisor. Changing careers and moving abroad was such a foreign concept for me... I had so many questions, I didn't know where to start. I scheduled multiple conference calls with my advisor at ITA and they answered all my questions - not just about the TEFL certification, but about the entire process of moving abroad. The support was worth spending the extra money, in my opinion."

Kellie Kaufmann, 27 - Online TEFL Class



“

Having met other TEFL graduates - ITA grads are better trained and have so many more resources to pull from. Many of my fellow teachers had no support resources once they graduate.

Lorraine McLeggan, 64 - Online TEFL Class



“

If you're looking to get TEFL certified, look no further than ITA! I really appreciated the strong level of professionalism of the ITA staff in how they answered my questions and addressed my concerns prior to signing up for the course. I loved that the course was taught by a professor who had experience teaching abroad - it was well organized, beautifully designed, and really easy to navigate. As a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer, I can say with confidence that this TEFL class is a great option for people both new and familiar with teaching abroad and for people who teach online.

Andrea Mendez, 25 - Online TEFL Class



“

I was attracted to the fact that there was a strong curriculum, experienced teachers and a good level of interaction between the teachers and students. I wasn't disappointed. The course was more challenging than I had imagined, but in a good way, I learned so much. My ITA TEFL certification has allowed me to make a nice transition from a very challenging but rewarding corporate career to a more 'fun' job that is flexible and allows me more free time to pursue my other interests.

Thomas Scott, 66 - Online TEFL Class

ALUMNI TESTIMONIALS



“ I found the course interesting and fun, but challenging. The practicum was helpful and taught me new things about the English language that I hadn't really thought about before. It has helped a lot. Without the TEFL training I would definitely be learning on the fly, and not as comfortable as I am now. It definitely set a solid background for what was expected of me. Teaching English in Peru has been a hugely rewarding experience. One of the best of my life. It'll look great on a resume too.

Eric Svensson, 30 - Arequipa, Peru TEFL Class



“ Moving abroad was the best thing I did for myself. I was tired of working two jobs and living a mundane lifestyle. Now, I'm always excited for a festival or seeing my friends at the base of Mt. Fuji. I was able to achieve my dream of living abroad for long period of time and traveling within Japan and other parts of Asia. Its the most rewarding experience you'll ever have. Don't be afraid to get out there and do it. You'll never regret this experience and certainly never forget it.

Kristi Violette, 22 - Online TEFL Class



“ If I had to choose another thing to treasure while traveling besides my passport, it would be my TEFL certification. Because I invested the time and money to get TEFL certified, I've been able to make my lifestyle of traveling and learning a reality. The ability to live in a new location every year or six months if I wanted to is just phenomenal.

Allen Tunstall, 28 - Online TEFL Class



“ I got a job in corporate America working for a content marketing agency, but it never felt right so I quit. Within days, I was in the admissions office at ITA exploring my options. I'd met with another organization that offered TEFL certification, but they were not accredited and it didn't feel right. As soon as I walked into the ITA, I immediately felt like I was making the right decision. Everyone was incredibly helpful and informative, and I knew I was going to be making a worthwhile and life changing investment by enrolling with ITA.

Laura Nalin, 30, Chicago TEFL Class

#WEAREITA

A NETWORK OF 48,000+ ALUMNI

What does that mean?



Lifetime Job Search Assistance & Professional Networking



Interact With Thousands of Fellow ITA Alumni In Our Exclusive Threads



Attend ITA Meetups Around the World



Watch Hundreds of Alumni Story Takeovers On Our Instagram Channel



Join Our Latest Article, Video, and Photo Contests



Be Part of an Award-Nominated Alumni Community



Celebrate ITA World Alumni Day



Enjoy Our Competitive Alumni Referral Program

HUNDREDS OF FIRSTHAND ARTICLES, STORIES, Q&AS, AND VIDEOS FROM PEOPLE JUST LIKE YOU!



10. ITA TEXTBOOK SERIES

International TEFL Academy Press provides the best, most comprehensive textbooks for teaching English abroad and TEFL Certification. Each one of our textbooks relates to either our standard TEFL Certification Course or one of our Specialty Classes.

Our textbooks are designed for training English as a Foreign Language (EFL) instructors. You'll benefit from ITA's textbooks if you're an ITA student striving to improve your skillset and understanding of teaching ESL. They are available for purchase in both print and PDF versions.



[Check out our textbook series](#)

Our textbooks are developed by ITA instructors, a curriculum development committee, and a writing committee and had final oversight by an accreditation board. We chose to involve a wide variety of our staff and professors in the creation of these textbooks to offer viewpoints from many academic disciplines of TEFL & TESOL training along with the practical and cultural experiences of teaching English on every continent worldwide. ITA students said they purchased their textbooks for these 3 reasons:

1

It helps you prepare for your upcoming International TEFL Academy TEFL Course or Specialty Class.

BEFORE YOUR CLASS

2

It provides hands-on material to help you during your TEFL Course or Specialty Class.

DURING YOUR CLASS

3

It is a lifetime resource for future reference when you are teaching English overseas or online.

AFTER YOUR CLASS

11. FAQs

How quickly can I get TEFL certified and teach abroad?

How big is the market for teaching abroad/ how much demand is there?

What are the top money-making countries for teaching abroad?

I have student debt, can I still teach abroad?

I don't speak a foreign language, can I still teach abroad?

Can I teach English abroad without prior teaching experience?

I'm a certified teacher already, do I still need a TEFL certificate?

Is a TEFL certification required to teach English abroad?

Can I Teach English Online?

How can I make money teaching English online?



SO... WHAT'S NEXT?



SPEAK WITH AN EXPERT ADVISOR

Get Your Questions Answered By An Experienced Advisor Who Has Lived & Taught Abroad.

[SPEAK WITH AN ITA ADVISOR](#)



ATTEND YOUR FREE TEFL WEBCAST

Attend a Free 1-Hour Webcast About The Basics of Teaching Abroad & TEFL Certification.

[SAVE MY SPOT FOR WEBCAST](#)



WATCH FREE ITA ALUMNI VIDEOS

Watch Hundreds of ITA Alumni Video Testimonials & Get a Firsthand Look at Life Abroad!

[WATCH ALUMNI VIDEOS](#)



#ITAALUMNI #TEACHABROADITA
#INTERNATIONALTEFLACADEMY
#TEACHTRAVELEXPLORE