

Specialisation: ELT Qualifications 1.0.

Features of certificate courses

SUMMARY

Ana Bratkovic is interviewing Rufus James, teacher trainer and NEAS Quality Assessor

1. Key features of TESOL certificate courses to prepare novice teachers

- Exposes novice teachers to the complexity of teaching
- Language skills and systems
- Language analysis
- Being job ready
- Analysis of materials and technology
- Opportunity to teach real students

2. Importance of the practicum

- Exposed to real life students
- Challenges and rewards
- Experiences peaks and troughs of teaching
- Support of students, colleagues and teacher trainer
- Reflective practice
- Being a leader, colleague and a mentor
- Mimics the real classroom
- Mirrors the peaks and troughs of one's teaching career

3. Courses and PD in Rufus' teaching career

- Counselling course to assist with boundary setting in the migrant sector
- DELTA was very practical in terms of subjects specialisation
- IDLTM was a great course for both novice and experienced managers
- An Auditing course which gave a different perspective
- Train the trainer courses to specialise and refresh what it's like to be a novice teacher

4. Advice for teachers looking forwards in their careers

- There are many opportunities eg. Student services, marketing
- Consider values – congruence of yours and the organisation's
- Know thyself and find the place that works for you