

Laura M. Blumenthal, MA/TEFL
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Personal Message to the Learning Community:

After spending many years pursuing degrees I did not really want and working in careers I was not interested in, in 1987 I came to a time in my life when I needed to assess my priorities. I decided that I wanted three things in my career life: 1) to work with many different cultures, 2) to work with lots of people, and 3) to use my linguistic abilities. When I told someone about this realization, he suggested the field of ESL to me. Although I had never heard of it before, I decided to look into it. After my first interview with Patricia Porter at San Francisco State University's MA/TEFL program, I felt like I had come home. This was where I wanted to be and what I wanted to do, and I have never looked back.

I found almost every minute of my Master's Degree program exhilarating and eye-opening, and afterwards I went to live in Turkey, and teach at a Turkish university. Those of us who travel as tourists will never know the things I learned intimately through living in and earning a living in another country. I feel forever bound to that country and its culture and language, as I do to Germany, where I had lived previously. These experiences have shaped my life and my personality.

I feel so privileged to be able to continue pursuing my career and being exposed to different peoples and different cultures in my work at Douglas College. I hope never to stop learning from the people I teach, and never to stop enabling them to succeed with their life goals in a supportive atmosphere conducive to important cross-cultural dialogue and the exchange of information.

Laura Blumenthal
Vancouver, January, 2010

Curriculum Vitae

Professional Certification: **TESL Canada Level IV** Professional Certificate, 03/2005.

Teacher Training Experience

Dates	Department, Institution, Location	Title(s)
05/2010 –	TESL Citation Program, Douglas College , New Westminster, BC	Instructor
06/2004 – 04/2009	TEFL Program, Archer College (formerly Winfield College), Vancouver, BC	Program Director Instructor and Practicum Coordinator
11/2000 – 11/2003	TESL Program, English Bay College , Vancouver, BC	Instructor, Online Course Developer and Instructor
08/1999 & 08/2000	Centre for Teaching and Learning Excellence, University of Utah , Salt Lake City, UT	Senior Facilitator, ITA (International Teaching Assistant) Training Program

Significant ESL/EFL Teaching Experience

Dates	Department, Institution, Location	Title(s)
05/2008 –	EASL Department, Douglas College , New Westminster, BC	Instructor
03/2008 – 07/2009	ELSA Department, Vancouver Community College , Vancouver, BC	Instructor, Contract (and on-call Sub)
07/2004	English Language Institute, University of British Columbia , Vancouver, BC	Instructor, Contract
01/2000 – 07/2000	Department of Linguistics, University of Utah , Salt Lake City, UT	Instructor, ESL*
06/1996 – 07/2000	Developmental Education Division, Salt Lake Community College , Salt Lake City, UT	Instructor, ESL and Developmental Writing
05/1995 – 05/1996	English Department, Raritan Valley Community College , North Branch, NJ	Instructor, ESL

* Note: Although they were not called this, all of the ESL courses in this section were EAP (English for Academic Purposes).

10/1990 – 09/1993	English Department, School of Communication Sciences, Anadolu University , Eskisehir, Turkey	Instructor, English
01/1990 – 07/1990	English Department, Skyline College , San Bruno, CA	Instructor, ESL
01/1989 – 07/1990	English Department, City College of San Francisco , San Francisco, CA	Instructor, ESL
06/1988 – 08/1989	American Language Institute, San Francisco State University , San Francisco, CA	Instructor, ESL

Other Relevant Work Experience:

08/1995 – 05/1996	TOEFL Test Development, Educational Testing Service (ETS) , Princeton, NJ	Test Developer
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Education:

1987-1989	English Department, San Francisco State University , CA	MA/TEFL
1982-1985	Graduate Courses in Linguistics, Department of Historical and Comparative Indo-European Linguistics, Freie Universität Berlin (West), Germany	no degree objective
1974-1977	University of Pennsylvania , Philadelphia, PA	BA/Biology

Publications:

In-House Publications at English Bay College:

- 1) Complete Online TEFL Course: *Teaching English as a Second Language*, 2003.
- 2) 4-level in-house ESL Textbook Series: *The "English in Vancouver" Series*, 2003.

Other Interests:

Music and Dance of the Balkans, Greece, & Turkey	Dancer, Singer, and Musician
Languages & Linguistics	Fluent in six languages, Life-long language learner