



**Touro College
Graduate School of Education**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Touro College Offers Tuition-Free Graduate-Level TESOL Courses to NYC Teachers Grades 6-12

Language Development in the Context of the Disciplines (LDCD) Program Offered to New York City Middle and High School English, Math, Science, and Social Studies Teachers Who Do Not Have an ESL Certification

New York, N.Y. – March 10, 2010 – New York City secondary teachers are invited to apply to enroll in a series of three tuition-free graduate-level courses in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) at Touro College. Middle and high school English, math, science, and social studies teachers who are not ESL certified are eligible to apply. Applications for the first course, offered this summer, are now being accepted.

Sponsored by the Touro College Lander Center for Educational Research and the New York City Department of Education Office of English Language Learners (ELLs), the courses – known together as the Language Development in the Context of the Disciplines (LDCD) Program – are funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of English Language Acquisition.

“The courses make it possible for New York City teachers to better educate their students who are struggling to learn English,” said Dr. Lamar Miller, dean of Touro’s Graduate School of Education, who designed the LDCD program. “The methods that many high school teachers are now using typically do not adequately facilitate learning or literacy instruction for English language learners. It’s not enough for students to learn how to speak English. They need to also have academic literacy if they want to compete in the world.”

The first course of the series, *Trends and Current Issues in Second Language Acquisition*, will be offered twice in summer 2010; Monday through Thursday, July 22nd – August 11th, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:10 p.m., and Monday through Thursday, August 12th - August 31st, from 5:00 p.m. - 8:25 p.m.

Upon completion of the first course, teachers enroll for *Teaching Reading and Writing for Second Language Learners* in the fall, and *Second Language Learners and the Content Areas* in spring 2011.

New York City teachers enrolled in the LDCD Program also have opportunities for:

- Sponsorship to one five-day Quality Teaching for English Learners (QTEL) Institute;
- Participation in up to 36 additional hours of free TESOL-related professional development through conferences, study groups, and summer institutes – applicable to New York State’s requirement of 175 hours per five years for continued certification;
- Application to Touro College’s master’s degree program in TESOL.

Tuition fees will be waived for the three LDCD Program courses; however participating teachers will be asked to pay a registration fee of \$100 per course. For further information and an LDCD application packet, please contact Rebecca Sharman at the Lander Center for Educational Research at rebecca.sharman@touro.edu or at (212) 463-0400 ext. 5387.

Touro is a system of Jewish-sponsored non-profit institutions of higher and professional education. Touro College was established in 1971 primarily to enrich the Jewish heritage, and to serve the larger American community. Approximately 17,500 students are currently enrolled in its various schools and divisions. Touro College has branch campuses, locations and instructional sites in the New York area, as well as branch campuses and programs in Berlin, Paris, Jerusalem, Moscow, and Florida. Touro University California and its Nevada branch campus, as well as Touro College Los Angeles, are separately accredited institutions governed in common by the same Board of Trustees as Touro College. For further information on Touro College, please go to: <http://www.touro.edu/media/>.

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