

The Delta Modules

There are three linked but separate Delta Modules:

Module 1: Understanding Language, Methodology and Resources for Teaching

Module 2: Developing Professional Practice

Module 3: Extending Practice and ELT Specialism

The 3 modules can be taken independently, in any order and over an extended period of time but, as Module 1 provides a solid basis for the other two modules, it is advisable to complete Module 1 first. It would not be unusual, however, for someone to complete module 1, then Module 3 and at a later date complete Module 2.

A separate certificate is issued for successful completion of each module. On successful completion of all 3 models, an overall Modular Delta certificate can be requested which lists achievement in in each separate module.

Syllabus Overview

Delta Module 1: Understanding Language, Methodology and Resources for Teaching

1. Theoretical perspectives on language acquisition and language teaching
2. Different approaches and methodologies including current developments
3. Language systems and learners' linguistic problems
4. Language skills and learners' problems
5. Knowledge of resources, materials and reference sources for language learning
6. Key concepts and terminology related to assessment

Delta Module 2: Developing Professional Practice

1. The language learner and the language learning context
2. Preparation for teaching English language learners
3. Evaluating, selecting and using resources and materials for teaching purposes
4. Managing and supporting learning
5. Evaluation of lesson preparation and teaching
6. Observation / Evaluation of other teachers' lessons
7. Professionalism and opportunities for professional development

Delta Module 3: Extending Practice and ELT Specialism

1. Research into specialist areas
2. Syllabus design: principles, influences on, methodological effects of, and major syllabus types as applied to the specific learning context
3. Designing syllabus and teaching programmes to meet the needs of learners in the specific context of their selected specialism
4. Course design and development in the specific context of their selected specialism
5. The principles and practice of testing and assessment and application to the candidate's specialist area
6. Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness and quality of courses and programmes of study

Assessment Overview

Module 1 (Assessed by formal written examination)

Two 90-minute papers on the same day (exam dates are 1st Wednesday in June and December). Paper 1 starts at 10.00 and there is a 30 min. break between each paper. Exam scripts are sent to Cambridge English for marking.

Paper 1

- Two terminology tasks
- Evaluation of an ELT writing or speaking skills development/practice task (identifying the language and skills a learner would need to complete the task)
- Genre and language analysis tasks (based on an authentic text)
- Evaluation of a piece of student writing or speech (a transcript)

Paper 2

- Evaluation of a test (evaluation of suitability of a given test for a given situation)
- Evaluation of published ELT materials (aims and assumptions underlying the design of the material)
- Discussion/evaluation of points raised by some ELT materials aimed at teachers (eg. based on a lesson plan, teacher's resources, an article, some quotes).

Module 2 (Assessed by written assignments and observed lessons)

Language Systems/Skills Assignments

- Four assignments consisting of two parts; a written essay of 2000-2500 words and an observed and assessed lesson.
- Two assignments will focus on language systems and two assignments will focus on language skills (one on speaking or writing and the other on reading or listening).
- Three assignments will be assessed internally by course tutors. One assignment (essay and lesson) will be assessed externally by an external assessor.

Professional Development Assignment (In two parts and internally assessed)

- Part A: Reflection and action. A 2000-2500 word written assignment focusing on development (reflection, self-evaluation and action planning). It is written in 3 parts (at the beginning, middle and end of course). It includes a lesson observed by a tutor early in the course. Feedback on the lesson is given and should be referred to in the 1st part of the assignment but the lesson itself is not assessed.
- Part B: Experimental practice. A 1500-2000 word written assignment focusing on a new method, approach, technique, activity, etc. As part of the investigation/experiment a lesson is taught but this is not observed or assessed by tutors.

Module 3 (Assessed by extended written assignment)

A 4000-4500 written assignment which focuses on a specialised area (eg. teaching for exams, teaching 1-to-1, teaching young learners).

The assignment is essentially a course proposal for a specific learner/group of learners. Key components are *methodology for the chosen specialism*, *needs analysis*, *course planning* and *testing*. This assignment is submitted electronically and is externally assessed.

Further details about the Delta Modules

Further details about the Delta Modules are available on the Cambridge English website (www.cambridgeenglish.org).

The following link should take you directly to the Delta Modules page:

<http://www.cambridgeenglish.org/teaching-english/teaching-qualifications/delta/>

There are many Delta documents (eg. the full *Syllabus Specifications*) available for download as pdf files.

The Delta Modules at the British Council Warsaw

At the British Council in Warsaw we offer all 3 Delta Modules on a part-time basis over the academic year (ie. from October to May).

We offer two **Module 1** courses over the academic year. One runs over eight Sundays in October and November and leads to the Module 1 exam on the first Wednesday in December. Our second Module 1 course runs over eight Fridays in April and May and leads to the exam on the first Wednesday in June. Course hours each day are 10.00 – 15.30.

Our **Module 2** course starts in January and runs through to May with the assessments taking place between the end of January and the end of May. There will be approximately 12 – 14 Sundays (depending on the number of participants) over this period at 1-3 week intervals (ie. not every Sunday); Course hours each day are 10.00 – 15.30 with the teaching practice taking place in the mornings.

Module 3 is supervised on a one-to-one basis by a tutor. Supervision is available from the beginning of October for the December entry and from February for the June entry.

In order to enrol for Module 2 or Module 3 with us, it is necessary to first complete a Module 1 course at an approved Delta centre (not necessarily with us). This is because we will touch upon some elements of the Module 2 and Module 3 syllabuses during our Module 1 course. Areas covered during the module 1 course will also provide a solid base for working on the other modules.

A strength of the Modular Delta scheme is that it is not necessary to complete all the modules in the same year or even do the separate modules at the same centre. There are a number of possibilities for completing the modules with us, eg.

- Complete all modules sequentially within 1 academic year (ie. sit the Module 1 exam in December, complete the Module 2 assessments from January to May and submit the Module 3 assignment in June).
- Only complete the Module 1 course and sit the exam in December. Then possibly return the following year, or later, to complete Module 2 and/or Module 3.
- Complete Module 1, then complete Module 3, and return later to complete Module 2.
- Only complete Module 1 without any intention of completing Module 2 or Module 3.

Exact dates for Module 1 and Module 2 meetings will be finalised during the summer. But the overall organisation of the courses will be as follows:

Overall Organisation of our Delta Modules Courses

Module 1 Course (October-November)

Period	Main Focus	Activity	Assessment
October-November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Module 1 syllabus areas. Module 1 exam preparation. Some Module 2 syllabus areas. Module 3 syllabus areas relating to testing and course planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Sunday meetings for workshops and seminars. Times: 10.00 – 15.30 Reading and research Exam preparation and practice Mock exam Some additional non-assessed tasks Some e-mail contact with tutor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1 exam (first Wednesday in December)

Module 1 Course (April-May)

Period	Main Focus	Activity	Assessment
April-May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Module 1 syllabus areas. Module 1 exam preparation. Some Module 2 syllabus areas. Module 3 syllabus areas relating to testing and course planning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 Friday meetings for workshops and seminars. Times: 10.00 – 15.30 Reading and research Exam preparation and practice Mock exam Some additional non-assessed tasks Some e-mail contact with tutor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Module 1 exam (first Wednesday in June)

Module 2 Course (January-May)

Period	Main Focus	Activity	Assessment
mid-January – mid-May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All Module 2 syllabus not previously covered. Delta Module 2 Assignments and assessment criteria Writing Delta Module 2 essays Preparing for Teaching Practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approximately 12-14 Sunday meetings for teaching practice, feedback, seminars and workshops. Times: 10.00 – 15.30 Teaching Practice (assessed and unassessed) Peer observation and feedback Reading and research Essay writing (for LSA and PDA assignments) Lesson Planning (for LSA assignments) E-mail contact with tutor 	<i>Internally assessed:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 <i>Language Systems/Skills Assignments (LSA 1,2 and 3).</i> <i>Professional development assignment (PDA)</i>
			<i>Externally assessed:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 <i>Language Systems/Skills Assignment (LSA 4).</i>

* The Module 2 assessed and non-assessed teaching will take place at the British Council in Warsaw on Sunday mornings. We will specially arrange classes of adult learners (10-12 learners per class) for Delta trainees to teach. You will be sharing these classes with other trainees and observing each other's lessons. The lessons will be either in the morning or afternoon. For non-assessed lessons you will need to be in the school for roughly 3 hours. For assessed lessons you'll be present for roughly 4 hours.

Module 3 Supervision (December entry)

Period	Main Focus	Activity	Assessment
October- November	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Module 3 syllabus areas.• Completing the <i>Module 3 Extended Assignment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading and research• Completing, writing and redrafting each part of the extended assignment• Mainly e-mail contact with tutor for general guidance and advice, and feedback on drafts of each part of the assignment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Module 3 extended Assignment (submitted 1st week of December)

Module 3 Supervision (June entry)

Period	Main Focus	Activity	Assessment
February - May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Module 3 syllabus areas.• Completing the <i>Module 3 Extended Assignment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading and research• Completing, writing and redrafting each part of the extended assignment• Mainly e-mail contact with tutor for general guidance and advice, and feedback on drafts of each part of the assignment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Module 3 extended Assignment (submitted 1st week of June)

Results and Grades

There are three grades for each Delta Module; *Pass*, *Pass with Merit* and *Pass with Distinction*

Module 1 and Module 3 are externally assessed, ie. the *exam scripts* (Module 1) and the *extended assignment* (Module 3) are sent to Cambridge English for marking.

Final Module 2 assessment is a combination of a *coursework grade* (based on the internally assessed assignments) and the grade of the externally assessed essay and lesson (the external assessment). To achieve an overall pass grade, or higher, candidates need to achieve at least a *pass grade* in the *coursework* and in the *external assessment*.

A *Statement of Results* is issued by Cambridge English to all candidates roughly 2 months after the December and June entry sessions. (So results from the December Module 1 exam will arrive in February and results from our Module 2 course will arrive in August). Certificates are issued roughly a month later.

For any candidate that is not successful, there are a number of options for re-entering which do not require taking a course again:

- Candidates who receive a *fail* grade in the Module 1 exam can simply re-enter for the next examination session.
- Candidates who are *referred* in Module 2 (ie. receive either a *fail* coursework grade or a *fail* in the external assessment) have two opportunities to re-enter in a 12-month period. Referred Module 2 candidates are required to complete another external assessment.
- Candidates who are *referred* in Module 3 also have two opportunities in a 12-month period to re-enter and they can either modify and resubmit their original assignment or write a new *extended assignment*.

Workload and Time Commitments

Each Delta module requires a considerable amount of time for reading and research (all modules), exam preparation (module 1), attendance at workshops and seminars (modules 1 and 2), assignment writing (modules 2 and 3), lesson planning and teaching practice (module 2). A reasonable estimate of the total amount of time needed for each module is:

Module 1: 100 -120 hours

Module 2: 200 – 250 hours

Module 3: 100 - 120 hours

It is unlikely that you would be able to maintain a *full* teaching load while working on the Delta modules. It's impossible to say exactly how many contact teaching hours it would be advisable to maintain while completing our Module 1 or Module 2 courses because that would clearly depend on a number of factors (eg. levels and types of courses, range of different levels taught and number of separate classes, the amount of preparation time required, whether the lessons taught were blocked or at very different times of the day, whether there was travel time to consider getting to different sites, and any additional contractual duties). Nevertheless, you should assume that you will need to set aside, on average, 2 *full* days a week for Delta work (including attendance at sessions) for the duration of our Module 1 and Module 2 courses.

We strongly recommend that all Delta trainees aim to arrange a regular teaching timetable which is spread over only four days – thus leaving an additional free day during the week.

Application and Registration Procedure

To apply for one or more of the Delta modules, complete our *Application Form and Pre-Interview Tasks* (available as a word document) and submit *for attention of the Delta coordinator* as indicated on the form.

We will then contact you to arrange a convenient time for an interview. The interview might be face-to-face in Warsaw or by Skype.

We will use your application form and pre-interview tasks and the interview to assess your suitability for the Delta modules that you have applied for, and your potential to complete these successfully. We are only able to offer places to applicants who meet these two criteria. The interviewer will also make recommendations for pre-course work that you can undertake to help you prepare for the courses.

To register, and secure a place on the Module 1 and/or Module 2 courses, you will then need to pay a non-refundable 1500 pln registration deposit for each course. The balance of course fees (ie. course fee minus the registration deposit) is payable before the course starts. The full fee for Module 3 supervision is payable at the time of registration.

The Cambridge entry fees for each Module are payable separately by the specified dates.

For further details about our Delta Modules courses, please contact our Delta Course co-ordinator, Steve Brewin, at steve.brewin@britishcouncil.pl.