# JULIAN MERCER

**ESL TEACHER**

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

ESL teacher with 8+ years supporting English learners from beginner to advanced levels in public middle and high schools. Combines language instruction with academic content so students progress on state English proficiency exams. Collaborates with content teachers and families to keep students on track for graduation.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**ESL Teacher** Aug 2021 - Present
**Houston Independent School District, Houston, TX**

- Teach English language development to about 70 students in grades 9 through 12, from newcomers to long-term English learners.
- Helped 41% of students move up at least one level on the TELPAS proficiency assessment in 2026, compared with 33% the prior year.
- Co-plan with biology and U.S. history teachers to add vocabulary routines and sentence frames to content lessons.
- Built a newcomer unit on school survival language, banking, and healthcare vocabulary that students could use outside the classroom.
- Meet with students and families on credit recovery and graduation plans with the counselor, using interpreters when needed.
- Lead a monthly professional learning session for content teachers on scaffolding for English learners.
- Convened quarterly language support meetings with counselors and administrators to review each long-term English learner's data.

**ESL Teacher** Aug 2018 - Jun 2021
**Dallas Independent School District, Dallas, TX**

- Taught beginning and intermediate English to grade 6 through 8 students with speaking and writing tasks tied to grade-level topics.
- Raised average writing rubric scores for English learners by about a point through weekly sentence-level feedback.
- Pulled small groups for reading and used leveled texts, so students could build fluency and vocabulary together.
- Created bilingual progress reports for families that explained levels in plain language and next steps.
- Ran a family literacy night in Spanish and English that drew about 60 parents.
- Taught a weekly speaking circle that raised oral language scores for 15 intermediate learners across the year.

**English Language Instructor** Jan 2016 - Jul 2018
**Berlitz, Dallas, TX**

- Taught adult English classes for professionals from several countries, with learners ranging from beginner to advanced levels.
- Prepared 20+ students for the TOEFL iBT, with most reaching their target scores.
- Taught a weekly business writing class for 12 employees from a local firm, with measurable gains on writing samples.
- Wrote customized lesson plans around workplace communication, presentations, and email writing.
- Kept a student progress log for each class and shared quarterly summaries with the program's academic manager.

## CORE SKILLS

English language development | Sheltered content instruction | SIOP model | Newcomer programs | TELPAS assessment | Scaffolding and sentence frames | Co-planning with content teachers | Vocabulary instruction | Writing instruction for ELs | Family communication | Cultural responsiveness | TOEFL preparation | Differentiated instruction

## EDUCATION

**Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction, ESL emphasis**, University of Houston, Houston, TX

## CERTIFICATIONS

Texas Teaching Certificate, English Language Arts and Reading 7-12 | Texas ESL Supplemental Certificate (TExES 154) | CPR and First Aid