PURITAN REFORMED THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Theological English Enhancement Course

PRTS - TEEC Information Brochure

Updated Spring 2021
What is TEEC?

Theological English Enhancement Course (TEEC) is a three-month intensive English training course offered by Puritan Reformed Theological Seminary (PRTS) for students who are accepted by PRTS upon the condition of completing TEEC. TEEC focuses on both general English and theological English in vocabulary study, listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Who should take TEEC?

Students who wish to attend PRTS (and are qualified for PRTS admittance on all other conditions with the exception of English) but do not meet PRTS’s requirement for English proficiency should take TEEC.
Who can take TEEC?

Prospective ESL (English as Second Language) international students who qualify for PRTS admittance and meet **ONE** of the requirements below:

- a score between 68-84 on the TOEFL
- a score between 5.5-6.5 on the IELTS
- a combined score of 40+ in the reading and writing sections of the TOEFL
- a score of 6.5+ in reading and 6.0+ in writing on the IELTS

What is the time length and cost of TEEC?

- TEEC is 12 weeks long, running from mid-May to mid-August
  - Specific date may vary each year
- The cost of TEEC is $5,000 per student.
  - This tuition includes course material costs and exam fees.
Where is TEEC held?

TEEC is held on the PRTS campus in Grand Rapids, MI. Due to the particular characteristics of language training, PRTS requires all TEEC students to be on campus.

Does PRTS offer living accommodation for TEEC students?

PRTS does not offer special accommodations for TEEC students. However, students are encouraged to consult PRTS’s Vice President of Operations or registrar for housing options, or consult our Student Housing web page on the PRTS website.
Does PRTS offer TEEC every summer?

This course needs a minimum of three students to run. Students may choose to reserve a spot for TEEC for the following summer if the minimum number of students is not met that particular year.

When should I apply for TEEC?

The recommended deadline is February 15 for the current calendar year, although later applications can be considered as well.
How should I apply for TEEC?

• **STEP 1** Submit a PRTS admission application for a degree program (MDiv, MA, or ThM) and indicate in this application that you wish to take the TEEC, preferably before February 15th of that calendar year.

• **STEP 2** The Admissions Committee meets every two months; assuming your application is complete, it will be considered and you will receive the result of your application shortly after the next available committee meeting.

• **STEP 3** Upon notification of your conditional acceptance, you will need to pay a $500 deposit within 7 days to confirm your intent to enroll in TEEC.
  
  o This deposit will be counted as part of your tuition for TEEC.

• **STEP 4** If accepted, and upon receipt of your deposit, you will receive your conditional acceptance letter and I-20 form in the mail, ideally before the end of March.

• **STEP 5** You should apply for a US F1 student VISA ASAP once you have received your acceptance letter and I-20 form in mail.

• **STEP 6** You should arrange your trip to the US and your living accommodation in the US as soon as you have secured your US F1 student VISA.
  
  o Due to the intensive workload of the TEEC and the length of time needed for new students to settle in the US, our TEEC course instructor **strongly recommends** all TEEC students to plan on a 2-week settling time before the start of the TEEC.

• **STEP 7** You must pay the full tuition by the first day of TEEC.
What does a typical TEEC week schedule look like?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-8:30</td>
<td>Daily Quiz</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-8:45</td>
<td>Reciting</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:45-9:00</td>
<td>Bible Reading &amp; Prayer</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00-9:30</td>
<td>Pronunciation</td>
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<td>9:30-10:00</td>
<td>Grammar</td>
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<td>10:00-10:15</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>10:15-11:15</td>
<td>Integrated Skills: Listening &amp; Speaking</td>
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<td>11:15-11:30</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30-12:30</td>
<td>Integrated Skills: Reading &amp; Writing</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30</td>
<td>Lunch Break</td>
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<td>1:30-1:45</td>
<td>Pronunciation Review</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:45-2:45</td>
<td>Theological English: L/S</td>
<td>Theological English: L/S</td>
<td>Theological English: R/W</td>
<td>Skills*</td>
<td>Theological English: L/S</td>
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<td>2:45-3:00</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<td>3:00-4:00</td>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
<td>Theological English: R/W</td>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
<td>Exercises*</td>
<td>Critical thinking</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Skills: One of the following
- book reading skills
- note taking skills
- lecture comprehending (guest speaker, listening)

*Exercises: One of the following
- book reading exercise
- note taking exercise
- lecture discussion (speaking)
What are the course goals for TEEC?

Vocabulary

Students will study and master three vocabulary lists: General Service List, Academic Word List, and TEEC Theological Vocabulary List, which enables them to listen, speak, read and write English more efficiently in both daily common English usage and academic English setting.

Listening

Through this course, students will develop further ability in listening to comprehend general academic lectures as well as theological lectures by practicing skills in taking notes, processing and analyzing information received, thinking critically, recognizing arguments and their supporting reasons/evidences, etc.

Speaking

In the speaking section, students will speak with comprehensible pronunciations, expressing their thoughts and offering valuable arguments clearly and logically, with correct grammatical structures and supporting details. Students will also be practicing conversing, asking/answering questions and summarizing lectures in a general English setting as well as in a theological English setting.

Reading

Through this course, students will learn to recognize and adopt suitable ways to read, reflect on, efficiently annotate and summarize reading materials, both academic reading materials and theological reading materials. Students will practice strategies to help them understand the main arguments and supporting reasons/evidences in texts with different difficulty levels.

Writing

In the writing section, students will go through the details and skills of writing academic essays from preparation work and data collecting to drafting, revising, and final completion. Students will be able to improve their skills in writing academic papers with accurate grammatical structures and vocabulary usage, a clear outline, logical presentation of his/her arguments with reasonable supports, and correct citing of the resources.
How will I be assessed in TEEC?

You will be assessed by the following five parts:

- Attendance (5%),
- Daily Quiz (15%)
- Homework (30%)
- TOEFL Online Practice Test (30%)
  - Students will get a fail as a result of TEEC if they do not score 75+ on the TOEFL Online Practice Test, even if their overall grade has passed 60%.
- TEEC Theological English Final Examination (20%)
What are some other things I ought to know regarding TEEC?

- Your admission to a PRTS degree program is **conditional** on passing TEEC.
- If a student **fails** the TEEC, they can choose to either go back to his/her country or continue studying English at a local ESL center at his/her own expense (and under a different I-20 issued by local ESL center).