



DELTA Online Handbook

DC Teacher Training

This handbook provides practical information for candidates enrolled on DELTA (Diploma in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) courses with DC Teacher Training. It outlines course structure, delivery, assessment, expectations, and responsibilities. It should be read alongside official Cambridge documentation, which remains the definitive source for assessment regulations.

1. About DELTA

DELTA is an advanced, in-service teaching qualification awarded by Cambridge University Press & Assessment. It is designed for experienced teachers who want to deepen their understanding of language, methodology, and professional practice, and who may be considering senior roles such as teacher trainer or academic manager.

DELTA consists of three modules, which may be taken in any order:

- Module 1: Understanding Language, Methodology and Resources for Teaching
- Module 2: Developing Professional Practice
- Module 3: Extending Practice and ELT Specialism

Each module is assessed and certified separately. You may take them in any order, but we recommend doing them in numerical order as this makes the most sense. Once all three modules are passed, Cambridge issues the overarching DELTA diploma.

2. Entry Requirements

DELTA is an in-service qualification. Candidates are normally expected to:

- have an initial teaching qualification (e.g. CELTA or an equivalent award)
- have at least two years' full-time teaching experience (or equivalent)
- have experience teaching different levels and learner types

Candidates whose first qualification is not CELTA are welcome, provided they have a solid grounding in ELT methodology and classroom practice.

Non-native speakers of English should have a high C1 level or above on the CEFR.

All applicants for DELTA courses with DC Teacher Training will complete an online interview. For Module 2, applicants are also required to complete a written pre-interview task.

DC Teacher Training only accepts candidates who we believe have a realistic chance of successfully completing the course. Final decisions on suitability rest with DC Teacher Training.



3. Delivery Model and Tutor Support

All DELTA courses with DC Teacher Training are delivered online and are part-time. Each module combines live tutor-led input with guided independent study. The balance of synchronous and asynchronous work varies by module and is outlined below.

Contacts

- Academic support: Candidates are assigned course tutors for each module (usually one tutor for Modules 1 and 3; two tutors for Module 2).
- Administration: All administrative queries should be directed to info@dcteachertraining.com.

Tutors may vary from course to course; individual tutors are assigned once a course begins.

Module 1 – Delivery and Course Structure

- Format: synchronous
- Live input: One two-hour live session per week (Wednesday evenings, 6:30 – 8:30 pm UK time)
- Duration: 12 weeks
- Independent work: Weekly exam-focused reading and practice tasks
- Feedback: One marked exam-style task per week

Module 1 focuses on developing candidates' language awareness, understanding of methodology, and familiarity with resources and reference materials used in English language teaching. Core areas include:

- language systems (grammar, lexis, phonology, discourse)
- language skills (reading, listening, speaking, writing)
- learners and learning contexts
- approaches and methodologies in ELT
- assessment principles and practices

Module 1 Examination and Grading

Module 1 is assessed by a written examination consisting of two papers, each 90 minutes long, with a short break between papers.

- Paper 1: Five compulsory tasks (terminology, analysis of teaching materials, language analysis, evaluation of learner output)
- Paper 2: Four compulsory tasks (testing, methodology, coursebook analysis, classroom practice)

Results are awarded as:

- Pass
- Pass with Merit



- Pass with Distinction

Examinations take place twice yearly, on the first Wednesday in June and December.

Module 2 – Delivery and Course Structure

- Format: Fully synchronous
- Live input:
 - Monday evenings (6:00 – 9:00 pm UK time): input sessions and workshops
 - Thursday evenings (6:00 – 9:00 pm UK time): teaching practice and associated activities
- Duration: 12 weeks

Module 2 focuses on the development of professional teaching practice and is assessed through a portfolio of coursework.

Teaching practice for Module 2 is fully contained within the course. DC Teacher Training organises online classes for all assessed lessons, ensures minimum learner numbers, and manages technical arrangements.

Module 2 Assessment Components and Grading

Module 2 coursework consists of:

Professional Development Assignment (PDA)

- a diagnostic lesson (unassessed)
- a reflective assignment tracking professional development
- an experimental practice assignment exploring a new area of classroom practice

Language Systems Assignments (LSAs)

- two assignments focusing on language systems (i.e. grammar, lexis, phonology, discourse)

Language Skills Assignments (LSAs)

- two assignments focusing on language skills (one receptive and one productive)

Each LSA includes:

- a background essay (theoretical focus)
- a taught lesson with a detailed plan
- a post-lesson reflection and evaluation

One LSA is externally assessed by a Cambridge-appointed assessor; the remaining assignments are internally assessed and moderated.

Overall results for Module 2 are awarded as:

Pass

Pass with Merit



Pass with Distinction

Candidates may fail individual assignments and still pass the module overall, subject to Cambridge regulations. You must pass one Language Skills Assignment and one Language Systems Assignment. You must pass the externally assessed assignment. You may fail the other components, but you must complete them all in order to pass.

Module 3 – Delivery and Course Structure

Module 3 is delivered as a one-to-one supervision model rather than a cohort-based course.

- Duration: 12 consecutive weeks (chosen by the candidate)
- Tutor meetings: two scheduled one-to-one Zoom meetings
- Feedback: written feedback on each section of the assignment, plus feedback on a full redraft

Many candidates choose to complete their 12-week supervision period immediately before the June or December Cambridge submission window, though supervision may take place at any time of year provided deadlines are met.

Module 3 is assessed by an extended written assignment of 4,000–4,500 words, structured into the following sections:

- review of key issues and literature
- needs analysis and diagnostic assessment
- course proposal and syllabus design
- assessment and evaluation procedures
- conclusion and rationale

Candidates choose one of the following specialist areas:

- Business English
- Teaching young learners/young adults
- English for Specific Purposes
- English for Academic Purposes
- Teaching examination classes
- Teaching one-to-one
- ESOL learners with literacy needs (
- CLIL/Embedded ESOL
- Teaching monolingual classes
- Teaching multilingual classes
- Teaching in an English-speaking environment
- Teaching in a non-English-speaking environment
- Teaching learners online/through distance/blended learning
- Teaching English to learners with special requirements
- Language development for teachers



- Language support

Results are awarded as:

- Pass
- Pass with Merit
- Pass with Distinction

Submission dates are June and December each year.

4. Workload Expectations

DELTA is academically demanding. Typical study commitments are:

- **Module 1:** approximately 10–15 hours per week (exam practice tasks and reading)
- **Module 2:** approximately 15–20 hours per week (reading, lesson planning, and written assignments)
- **Module 3:** approximately 10–15 hours per week during the supervision period

Actual workload may vary depending on individual experience and context.

5. Assessment Overview

Assessment regulations are set by Cambridge. The summary below is indicative; candidates should refer to official Cambridge handbooks for full details.

Module 1

- Assessed by a written examination (two papers)
- Results awarded as Pass / Pass with Merit / Pass with Distinction

Module 2

- Assessed through a portfolio of coursework, including:
 - Professional Development Assignment (PDA)
 - 2 Language Systems Assignments
 - 2 Language Skills Assignments
 - Overall results are awarded as Pass / Pass with Merit / Pass with Distinction.

Module 3

- Assessed by an extended written assignment (4,000–4,500 words)
- Results awarded as Pass / Pass with Merit / Pass with Distinction
- Assignments that do not meet pass criteria may be referred for resubmission, subject to Cambridge rules

6. Cambridge Registration and Submissions

Module 1

Approximately four weeks into the Module 1 course, candidates are contacted by DC Teacher Training with guidance on exam registration.



- Candidates wishing to sit the exam in Birmingham must pay the Cambridge exam fee before DC Teacher Training registers them.
- Candidates who do not wish to sit the exam in Birmingham may register at another authorised Cambridge exam centre. Guidance can be provided by DC Teacher Training on finding alternative centres, but availability cannot be guaranteed.

The Cambridge exam fee for Module 1 is normally paid around eight weeks before the exam date.

Module 2

Module 2 candidates are assessed from the beginning of the course. As a result, all candidates must:

- Be registered with Cambridge by DC Teacher Training
- Pay the Cambridge registration fee before the course begins

It is not possible to complete a Module 2 course without being registered for assessment.

Module 3

Module 3 candidates must register with Cambridge for assignment submission.

Approximately eight weeks before the June or December submission deadline, DC Teacher Training contacts candidates with instructions for:

- Cambridge registration
- Payment of the Cambridge submission fee

Candidates may complete a Module 3 preparation course without submitting in a given window, but registration and payment are required for formal submission.

7. Technical Requirements

Candidates are expected to:

- have a reliable internet connection
- use a computer capable of video conferencing for live sessions
- be familiar with Zoom (especially for Module 2)
- use Google Classroom and shared folders for course materials and submissions (this requires a Google/Gmail account)

Paid Zoom accounts are not required for candidates. Basic IT competence is assumed, but advanced technical expertise is not.

8. Candidate Responsibilities

Candidates are responsible for:

- managing their time effectively
- attending scheduled live sessions



- completing and submitting work on time
- maintaining professional communication with tutors and peers

DELTA is a demanding qualification and requires sustained engagement throughout each module. All candidates must sign a candidate agreement, outlining expectations and policies, as well as payment terms and conditions before starting the course.

9. Further Information

This handbook is intended as guidance only. In the event of any discrepancy, Cambridge regulations take precedence.

For updated information on course dates, times and prices, as well as exam dates and submission deadlines, please visit: <https://www.dcteachertraining.com/delta-course>

For queries, contact: info@dcteachertraining.com