

CALL FOR PAPERS

HUFLIT INTESOL International Conference 2026

Toward English as a Second Language in Vietnam: Pedagogical, Policy, and Practice Perspectives

 **Venue:** Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

 **Conference Date:** 07 August 2026

 **Conference Fee:** FREE (No registration fee)

 **Organizers:** HUFLIT & INTESOL Vietnam

Conference Overview

Vietnam is entering a critical stage in its language education development, with English increasingly positioned not merely as a foreign language, but as a second language for education, employment, and international engagement.

The HUFLIT INTESOL Conference 2026 aims to provide an academic and professional forum to examine what it truly means to move from EFL to ESL in the Vietnamese context. This shift raises fundamental questions about curriculum design, teaching methodology, assessment practices, teacher education, learner identity, language policy, and classroom realities across educational levels.

Building on this national and regional momentum, the conference invites researchers, teacher educators, practitioners, policymakers, and graduate students to critically explore how English can be taught, learned, assessed, and lived as a second language in Vietnam and comparable contexts.

Participation in the conference is free of charge, supporting open and inclusive academic exchange.

Conference Strands / Topics

Submissions are welcome on topics including, but not limited to, the following:

1. From EFL to ESL: Policy and Educational Implications

- English as a Second Language in Vietnam: visions, challenges, and realities
- Language-in-education policy and planning
- English for national development, mobility, and employability
- Comparative perspectives: Vietnam and other ESL-emerging contexts

2. Teaching English as a Second Language in Vietnam

- Pedagogical shifts from EFL-oriented to ESL-oriented classrooms
- Creating English-rich learning environments beyond the classroom
- Teaching speaking, listening, pronunciation, and interaction for real-life use

- EMI, EAP, and ESP as pathways toward ESL competence

3. Curriculum, Materials, and Assessment

- Designing ESL-aligned curricula and syllabi
- Materials development for local ESL contexts
- Assessment of communicative competence and real-world language use
- Classroom-based and alternative assessment approaches

4. Teachers and Teacher Education

- Re-defining the role of English teachers in an ESL-oriented system
- Pre-service and in-service teacher education for ESL contexts
- Teacher beliefs, identity, and professional agency
- Practitioner research and reflective teaching

5. Learners, Identity, and Language Use

- Learner motivation and attitudes toward English as a second language
- English use inside and outside school
- Multilingualism, translanguaging, and local language ecologies
- Equity, inclusion, and access in ESL education

6. Technology and Digital Support for ESL Development

- Technology and AI as support tools in ESL learning (not as ends in themselves)
- Digital literacies for ESL learners and teachers
- Ethical, responsible, and context-sensitive use of educational technologies

Types of Submissions

The conference welcomes the following submission formats:

- **Full Research Papers** (4,000–6,000 words)
- **Short Papers / Work-in-Progress Reports** (2,000–3,500 words)
- **Practical Workshops / Teaching Demonstrations** (1,000-word proposal)
- **Poster Presentations** (300–500-word abstract)

Submissions should demonstrate clear relevance to the ESL transition in Vietnam or comparable contexts, and offer theoretical insight, empirical evidence, or pedagogical innovation.

Submission Guidelines

- All submissions must be written in **English**
- Formatting should follow **APA 7th edition**

- Manuscripts should be submitted in **Word (docx) format**
- Submissions will undergo **peer review**
- Selected papers will be published in conference proceedings with ISBN (PDF online)

Important Dates

- **Abstract Submission Deadline:** *05/04/2026*
- **Notification of Abstract Acceptance:** *05/05/2026*
- **Full Paper Submission Deadline:** *05/06/2026*
- **Notification of Full Paper Acceptance:** *05/07/2026*
- **Conference Date:** *07/08/2026*
- **Proceedings Publication (PDF):** *30/09/2026*

Why This Conference Matters

The HUFLIT INTESOL Conference 2026 addresses a pivotal moment in Vietnam's language education landscape, as English is increasingly positioned as a second language essential for academic engagement, professional mobility, and global integration. The conference provides a timely forum for critical discussion on the implications of this shift for language policy, curriculum design, teacher education, assessment, and classroom practice.

By bringing together researchers, educators, and practitioners, the conference aims to bridge national policy directions, empirical research, and pedagogical implementation, fostering dialogue that is both theoretically informed and grounded in educational realities. The conference further promotes regional and international perspectives, enabling comparative insights and shared expertise relevant to Vietnam and other contexts undergoing similar transitions.

As a free academic conference, HUFLIT INTESOL 2026 ensures inclusive access to scholarly exchange and professional development for educators and researchers across the country. Jointly organized by HUFLIT and INTESOL Vietnam, the conference reflects a shared commitment to advancing high-quality, research-informed English language education in Vietnam.