

Course Syllabus: Foundations of Education for Emergent Bilinguals

Course Description:

This is the first in a series of six courses that will educate you to modify, adjust, and transform your practice in ways that will enable you to support the second language and literacy development of the English Learners or Emergent Bilinguals you are teaching in your regular classroom. We use the phrase Emergent Bilinguals to remind you that your students have a native or home language different from English and if you can support them in learning English and maintaining their language and literacy in their home language they will have an added intellectual benefit and marketable skill-biliguallity. Completion of this series of courses will lead to an ESL endorsement.

Through these courses you will learn a series of conceptual tools that will support you in your teaching of ELs. Two of these tools are foundational: The Inclusive Pedagogy Framework ([IP](#)) and the Standards for Effective Pedagogy ([SEP](#)). Inclusive Pedagogy is the framework for all of the courses. It begins with the question: Who is this student?. It reminds you that the instruction you provide is based on the characteristics, strengths, language and intellectual skills of the child. In this course, we establish the Inclusive Pedagogy Framework as a way of learning about linguistically and culturally diverse students and learning about ourselves as professionals. Throughout all of the endorsement courses, the Inclusive Pedagogy Framework serves as the lens through which we examine factors impacting the school experience and language and literacy development of language minority students in the United States.

Course Goals and Objectives:

The two ESL standards guiding this course are:

- know, understand, and use the major concepts, principles, theories, and research related to the nature and role of culture and cultural groups.
- create a learning environment that is sensitive to and supportive of English language learner's cultural identities, language and literacy development, and content area knowledge.

The Objectives are:

- Communicate a personal acceptance of and acknowledge the dynamics of culture in the lives of all students.
- Interpret the historical context of diversity and *discrimination and evaluate how it impacts current practices
- Demonstrate how culture affects language development and academic achievement.
- Understand and apply knowledge of how cultural identities impact language learning and school success by creating an environment that is inclusive of all students.

Textbooks:

Foundations of Education for Emergent Bilinguals. This is the main textbook for this course, an instructional guide found in an open access online platform developed by Royce Kimmons (EdTech Books). The book includes all the learning activities, homework activities, and major projects you will be using for the course.

Samway, K. D., & McKeon, D. (1999). *Myths and realities: Best practices for language minority students*. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

Digital Materials

TELL 400: Foundations of Bilingual Education: <https://equitypress.org/~wDiz>

Bilingual/ESL Programs and Practices Case (Interactive)

Activities:

A variety of learning activities and assignments will be used to help students understand course concepts. Students become active participants through the use of self-assessment, reflective writing, jigsaw readings, concept application logs, portfolio work, student profiles, response papers, and technology. Assignments will focus on active learning and require individual, paired, or group work to enrich learning. These activities model the planning, teaching, and assessment strategies that can be used with language minority students. There are also homework activities that, when completed successfully contribute to the points accrued for grading.

Attendance Policy:

This course is grounded in the belief that learning is a socially constructed process. In fact, active learning is a central feature of the course. Furthermore, the concepts presented through the video segments promote a conversational approach to learning. Concepts are immediately explored and applied through learning activities. As a result, much of the learning will take place through discussion and group activities that ask you to apply the research and theories about the teaching of English learners to your daily practice. Class discussion allows you to learn from your colleagues and to contribute to their learning; the insights of class members will be invaluable in your learning.

The experiences within the classroom cannot be reconstructed outside of class time with the facilitator or independently. Therefore, while attendance in and of itself does not count as part of your course grade, it is an important factor since recovering and reconstructing learning that occurs during class time will be difficult, if not impossible. Further, you will often be given credit for products developed during class time, and your presence is highly valued. In addition, students will usually work with colleagues and will frequently present findings and analysis during class time. For these reasons, it will be very difficult to make up class periods missed.

Grading Policy:

For the above reasons, full credit is only available to those students who attend each session and are present for the entire session. We recommend that if a teacher has to miss more than one of the eight sessions, they should be advised to take the course at another time.

In this course, your grade is based on participation in a learning process (i.e., process points) and the creation of individual and group products (i.e., individual and group product points) that emerge from participation in learning activities and homework. In addition, you will be asked to complete independent major assignments that will be evaluated for evidence of how you are learning and growing as a professional. Finally, you will present your professional development in relation to educating students of cultural and linguistic diversity in the final session of the course.

Grading Summary:

Type of Points	Description	Points
Process	Points for participating in learning activities during class	

Homework Individual Product	Points for individual products produced for homework assignments
Practicum	Points for individual or group products produced for practicum assignments
Total	

In the next chapter in this book, you will find a Total Points sheet you can copy and use to track your points earned throughout the course.

Grading Scale: You must earn at least a B- to pass this class.

Percentage	Grade
94-100%	A
90-93	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
77-79	C+
73-76	C
70-72	C-

Explanation of the Template
Total Points Sheet



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