

Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Department of Educator and Leadership Preparation
EDBL 5338 Foundations of Bilingual Education

A. MAJOR COURSE DESCRIPTION/REQUIREMENT

This course will introduce the concepts of bilingual education from a national perspective in contextualization within an international perspective to illustrate concerns related to teaching and learning of bilingual populations. Issues affecting educational policy, classroom practice, sociological and historical foundations as well as the legal ramifications of bilingual education will be addressed. Various theoretical orientations and discourses of bilingual education will be addressed. Various theoretical orientations and discourses of intolerance in US history related to political and practical applications will also be the focus of discussions.

B. LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Demonstrate knowledge of the historical and legislative background of bilingual/ESL education in the United States, with special emphasis to the State of Texas, including pertinent federal and state legislation and significant court cases related to bilingual and ESL education and effects of demographic changes on bilingual and ESL education.
- Develop an understanding of the principles and theories of bilingual education.
- Describe different theories of developing language.
- Describe potential factors that can affect second language acquisition.
- Demonstrate an understanding of the primary role of the bilingual teacher in the education of linguistically and culturally diverse populations, theory, research and implications for teaching in the bilingual classroom.
- Differentiate between various types of bilingual education and ESL program models and approaches and understand the relationship between ESL and Bilingual Education.
- Review and give an informed opinion of the debate over bilingualism and be able to establish how this debate has had an impact on the education of linguistic diverse students.

C. LECTURE OR DISCUSSION TOPICS

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| Understanding the bilinguals and multilingual learners |
| Conceptualizing dimensions of Bilingualism |
| Demographics of linguistic diverse groups in the U. S. |
| History of Bilingual Education in the U.S. |
| Understanding the trajectory of Bilingual Education: Legal and Historical cases |
| Bilingual Education in the historical context of the state |
| Understanding the role of language in a Global society |
| Assessment of Bilingual Education |
| Theories: Bilingualism in the early years |
| Theories: Bilingualism in the later years |
| Theories of Bilingualism and the curriculum- Bilingual and ESL Education Models |
| Language Policy that fosters biliteracy, bilingualism, biculturalism |
| Bilingualism and bilingual education: Ideology, Identity and Empowerment |
| Bilingualism and bilingual education as a problem, right, and resource |
| Funds of Knowledge and Parental involvement with the parents of English Learners students |

D. REQUIRED OR RECOMMENDED READINGS

Required Text:

Baker, C., & Wright, W.E. (2017). *Foundations of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism*. 6th Edition. ISBN: 9781783097203

- Additional readings will be available on Blackboard.