TESOL AND BILINGUAL EDUCATION

The TESOL and Bilingual Education programs are offered at the Master's and Sixth Year Certificate levels. The MA degree programs are designed for prospective teachers seeking initial certification or certified teachers seeking a cross-endorsement in TESOL or in elementary or secondary bilingual education. Candidates in the certification programs are prepared to educate K-12 students who are learning English as a second or additional language. A TESOL MA only option for candidates interested in teaching adults is also available. Applicants interested in the bilingual education cross-endorsement must be certified teachers (elementary K-6 or secondary 7-12 in an academic area) and must demonstrate proficiency in English and at least one other language in accordance with current Connecticut State Department of Education regulations.

The Sixth Year Certificates (SYC) are designed for certified teachers with an MA in TESOL or bilingual education or an MA, professional development training, or some coursework in TESOL or bilingual education, and extensive experience working with language minority populations.

Programs

- Master of Arts in Bilingual Education (http://catalog.fairfield.edu/graduate/education-allied-professions/programs/psychological-educational-consultation/tesol-bilingual/ma-bilingual)
  - MA in Bilingual Education with Cross-Endorsement
  - MA in Bilingual Education with Concentration in Leadership in English Acquisition Pedagogy
  - Cross-Endorsement in Bilingual Education
- Master of Arts in TESOL (http://catalog.fairfield.edu/graduate/education-allied-professions/programs/psychological-educational-consultation/tesol-bilingual/ma-tesol)
  - MA in TESOL for Non-K-12 Educators
  - MA in TESOL with Initial Certification
  - MA in TESOL with Concentration in Leadership in English Acquisition Pedagogy
  - MA in TESOL with Cross-Endorsement
  - Cross-Endorsement in TESOL
- Sixth Year Certificate in TESOL or Bilingual Education (http://catalog.fairfield.edu/graduate/education-allied-professions/programs/psychological-educational-consultation/tesol-bilingual/sys-tesol-bilingual)

Courses

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SL 0420 Linguistic Foundations of English Acquisition 3 Credits
This course focuses on the various theoretical components related to developing linguistic competency in English and provides related information associated with the foundational knowledge of reading and language arts. A primary focus is phonology and related contrastive linguistics, and its relationship to reading decoding. Also addressed are the linguistic components of: (a) morphology and vocabulary; (b) syntax, grammar, and sentence structure; and (c) associated constructs of attention such as working memory and executive functions that impact maintaining newly learned information. Students will have the opportunity to: (a) explore current research regarding developing linguistic competency; (b) analyze linguistic similarities and differences between languages; (c) read about typical and atypical reading and language development of English learners (ELs); and (d) become acquainted with current technological tools to support ELs acquisition of linguistic skills.

SL 0421 Linguistics and Language Assessment 3 Credits
This course focuses on the instructional application of the theoretical concepts learned in SL 0420 to English learners' reading and language development. Areas of study include the following: 1) Assessment of English learners' development of English phonology, morphology, and syntax; 2) interpretation of assessment results for the purpose of diagnosing English development; and 3) the use of language assessment results to develop instruction and intervention strategies to support English learners in mainstream, as well as Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3 programs.

SL 0422 Teaching Grammar in Second Language Settings 3 Credits
Grammar is a necessary component of language programs. This course provides foreign/second language and bilingual teachers with techniques to facilitate their students’ acquisition of grammar, to illustrate effective contextualization of grammatical principles, and to examine instructional strategies that draw the learner’s attention to specifically structural regularities. The course also analyzes the theoretical considerations of second language grammar teaching.

SL 0423 Foundations of Bilingualism and Bilingual Education 3 Credits
This foundation course examines research and theories underlying bilingualism. Candidates gain an understanding of the concepts and issues involved in using the principles of bilingualism in educational settings. The course also includes an overview of the historical development of bilingual education in the United States and other countries and a discussion of major programs and social models for bilingual education.

SL 0433 Elementary TESOL/Bilingual Advanced Practicum 3 Credits
Prerequisite: SL 0436 or SL 0451.
This course provides TESOL/Bilingual Education candidates with opportunities for supervised internships in TESOL or bilingual elementary classroom settings. Students complete a minimum of 48 hours fieldwork in classroom settings where they will observe instructional practices and interact with and plan instruction for students learning English as a second language. In practicum seminar, candidates will reflect on and deepen their understanding of the ways in which the educational context and diverse educational needs of students have an impact on their learning and academic progress.
SL 0436 TESOL Methods and Materials Development 3 Credits
Designed for second language teachers and prospective teachers, this course explores methods, techniques, strategies, and instructional media relevant to teaching English language learners, emphasizing the development and enhancement of communicative environments in language classrooms. Participants examine a variety of innovative methods and discuss the adaptation and development of materials and assessment instruments. This course meets the state requirement for the certificate for teaching English to adult speakers of other languages.

SL 0439 Methods of Foreign Language Teaching for Elementary School 3 Credits
This course is designed for pre- and in-service World Language teachers seeking the Elementary World Languages cross-endorsement. Candidates will gain an understanding of current theory and methods of teaching foreign languages in the elementary school (FLES) grades K-6. They will examine similarities and differences between FLES program models and develop and understand of the issues related to program development. Topics will include the selection of developmentally appropriate strategies and materials for elementary foreign language teaching, lesson planning and curriculum development, and use of technology-assisted instruction. Candidates will develop their ability to integrate the ACTFL and CT World Languages Standards into FLES instructional program development and lesson planning.

SL 0441 Teaching and Learning within Multicultural Contexts of Education 3 Credits
This course explores and addresses the multifaceted aspects of multicultural education with the aim of engaging in a teaching-learning process where participants explore their commitment to the well-being and learning of all students; develop a deep understanding of the needs of all students; develop strategies to promote caring, justice, and equity in teaching; learn to respect linguistic, racial, ethnic, gender, and cultural diversity; investigate how students construct knowledge; demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between students’ daily life experiences and education; and critique systematic processes of discrimination that marginalize and silence various groups of students. Crosslisted with ED 0441.

SL 0450 Second Language Methods for Secondary Teachers (Grades 6-12) 3 Credits
Prerequisites: SL 0423, SL 0527*.
This course provides an overview of second language theory and methods, curriculum models, materials selection and development, and content-based ESL for teaching secondary English language learners. The role of literacy in second language acquisition and the appropriate integration of technology to enhance second language teaching and promote secondary students’ learning will be examined. Culture, language, dialect variation, and diversity and their implications for the secondary school curriculum will also be addressed. (* indicates concurrency allowed)

SL 0451 Infusing Content Language Instruction into TESOL/Bilingual Programs 3 Credits
Prerequisites: SL 0423 or SL 0467; SL 0436.
Designed for ESL and bilingual teachers, this course explores teaching strategies that enable the English language learner to understand the discourse of content subjects. Topics include strategies to develop academic language, oral presentation skills, content specific syntax and grammar, and writing. Participants will examine textbooks and develop materials that infuse content-area language into the ESL program.

SL 0453 Differentiated Instruction for English Language Learners 3 Credits
Designed for foreign/second language/TESOL and bilingual teachers, this course will also assist content area and classroom teachers. Its purpose is to explore the basic concepts, research, and principles of differentiated instruction as a means to meet the diverse needs of students in today’s classrooms. Participants will be able to align the concepts to their present teaching environments.

SL 0456 Reading and Writing in a Second Language 3 Credits
Designed for second/foreign language and bilingual teachers, this course examines current theory and research underlying first- and second-language reading and composing processes. Additional topics include procedures for understanding and analyzing the problems that characterize second language readers and writers; strategies for assessing student performance; evaluating and adapting materials; and enhancing the comprehension and creation of written second language discourse.

SL 0467 Language Acquisition 3 Credits
This course introduces the core hypotheses of current theory on language acquisition. Participants learn to recognize fundamental patterns of social and cultural contexts that facilitate language acquisition, build upon the processes and stages of language acquisition and literacy to provide comprehensible input, facilitate communicative competence and evaluate teaching and learning strategies across ability levels and within discipline-specific content areas. Approved for the Elementary Foreign Language cross-endorsement.

SL 0470 Sociolinguistics 3 Credits
This course examines variability in language use according to region, race or ethnic background, gender, and personality with the goal of developing sensitivity to variation in one’s own language and that of others, and examining language variation using the methods and insights of contemporary linguistics.

SL 0477 Culture and Second Language Acquisition 3 Credits
Designed for second language and bilingual teachers, this course treats culture and language as interdependent phenomena, exploring the basic concepts, research, and principles applicable to culture and language learning with an emphasis on the practical application of these concepts to the language classroom. Participants also gain an enhanced awareness of their assumptions regarding their own and other cultures, and an understanding of how these assumptions influence language teaching and learning.

SL 0489 Secondary TESOL/Bilingual Advanced Practicum 3 Credits
Prerequisite: SL 0436 or SL 0451.
This practicum provides TESOL/Bilingual Education candidates with opportunities for supervised internships in the TESOL or bilingual secondary classroom settings. Students complete a minimum of 48 hours of fieldwork where they will observe instructional practices and interact with and plan instruction for students learning English as a second language. In practicum seminar, candidates will reflect on and deepen their understanding of the ways in which the educational context and diverse educational needs of students have an impact on their learning and academic progress.

SL 0498 Thesis Seminar 3 Credits
Candidates who have selected the thesis option for completion of the M.A. degree develop their research proposals, carry out the research, and complete their theses during this seminar. An approved thesis must be submitted to fulfill this degree requirement.
SL 0504 English Language Learners in the Regular Classroom 3 Credits
Designed to familiarize the mainstream teacher with the learning needs of children and adolescents who are linguistically and culturally diverse, this course employs an overview of second language acquisition theory as the framework for discussing ways to meet the needs of English language learners. Teachers also learn strategies for developing and adapting materials for creating communicative classroom environments and assessing student performance.

SL 0522 Emergent Literacy in Bilingual Early Childhood Education 3 Credits
This course is designed to prepared teachers of early childhood education (Pre-K to 3) to work effectively with culturally diverse children who are learning English as an additional language in pre-school and school contexts. The course focus is on first and second language development in the young child with implications for emergent literacy teaching and learning. Culture and childrearing practices, their impact on schooling, and strategies to build successful partnerships with families and communities will also be discussed.

SL 0526 Historical and Sociopolitical Issues in Bilingual/Multicultural/ESL Education 3 Credits
This course, which is conducted as a seminar, provides an overview of the historical events and philosophical issues underlying bilingual/multicultural/ESL education and discusses contemporary socio-political controversies surrounding bilingual/multicultural and ESL instruction.

SL 0527 Testing and Assessment in TESOL and Bilingual Programs 3 Credits
Prerequisites: SL 0423 or SL 0467; SL 0436.
Designed for TESOL and bilingual teachers, this course provides an overview of formal and authentic techniques for assessing second language and bilingual proficiency. Participants evaluate standardized instruments currently in use; analyze techniques for assessing factors relevant to second language and bilingual proficiency such as academic achievement, language aptitude, and competence in reading, writing, speaking, and listening; and discuss controversial issues affecting language assessment.

SL 0528 Second Language Curriculum Development 3 Credits
This course familiarizes foreign/second language and bilingual teachers with the theory underlying the development of second language curricula. The course emphasizes devising curricula in accordance with the needs of learners and presents strategies for analyzing needs, developing curricula that focus on communication, and evaluating and choosing appropriate materials and assessment instruments.

SL 0530 Content Language & Reading Acquisition for English Language Learners and Students with Special Needs 3 Credits
Using a train-the-trainer model, this course develops literacy leadership skills to train others and develops understanding of foundational reading concepts and strategies to better prepare pre-k-12 teachers to teach EL students how to read. This course is designed for candidates to learn about the developmental learning needs of culturally and linguistically diverse students, exceptional learners, and bilingual students with special needs, as well as working in collaborative data teams. Candidates will explore the similarities and differences between bilingual/TESOL students and students with special needs with a focus on reading skills development (e.g. phonology, orthography, morphology, syntax, semantics, etc.) Candidates will learn about instructional strategies that all teachers can use in their classroom to support reading development for all students. Crosslisted with RLD 0530.

SL 0540 Capstone Seminar in English Acquisition Pedagogy 3 Credits
This course provides candidates in the TESOL and Bilingual Education MA programs with the opportunity to conduct an action research project in their classroom related to teaching English language learners. Through the course seminar and discussions, as well as individual conference sessions, students will deepen their understanding of the ways in which the learning environment, personal challenges, and educational needs of ESL and bilingual students from linguistically and culturally diverse backgrounds impact their academic progress. By conducting research in field settings, course participants will become familiar with the various issues and factors that influence the development and implementation of programs for second language learners and those who teach them. The research practicum will enable candidates to apply their understanding of prior bilingual and ESL coursework to the development and implementation of instructional support activities and/or a research project related to the education of ESL and Bilingual K-12 students. Candidates must have completed 24 credits in their program of study before enrolling in this course.

SL 0568 Special Topics (Shell) 1-3 Credits
Prerequisite: Completion of 12-15 credits of program coursework or advisor permission.
The special topics course in TESOL and Bilingual Education varies in content, as needed, in order to provide timely opportunity to explore time-sensitive, new and emerging topics and foci on a one-time basis, or to offer a pilot section of a new course in development.

SL 0581 Directed Observation and Supervised Student Teaching 6 Credits
This course for candidates who have been approved as qualified candidates for teaching in TESOL or bilingual education involves candidates in observation and teaching five days a week for one semester. In accordance with certification regulations, candidates spend half of the student-teaching period in an elementary setting and half in a secondary setting. The course emphasizes classroom management dynamics, teaching techniques, lesson plan organization, and faculty duties. Candidates participate in group seminars and individual conferences; the university supervisor(s) and the cooperating teacher(s) assist, observe, and evaluate each candidate. Prerequisites: Formal acceptance into teacher preparation program and completion of all certification requirements

SL 0582 TESOL Student Teaching and DSAP Seminar 3 Credits
Candidates take this weekly seminar concurrently with student teaching or DSAP Part I. The seminar focuses on the issues and problems faced by student teachers and on the culture and organization of the schools. Although much of the seminar’s subject matter flows from the on-going student teaching experience, it address issues such as school governance, school and district organizational patterns in TESOL and bilingual programs, classroom management, conflict resolution, communication with parents, and sensitivity to multicultural issues and inclusion, as well as the job application process, including resume writing, interviewing, and the development of professional and teaching portfolios.
SL 0588 Directed Observation I for TESOL/Bilingual DSAP

Candidates 3 Credits

Prerequisite: All requirements for student teaching; approval of program director and dean.

This course is designed for candidates working in a public elementary or secondary school under a DSAP. Two semesters of observation are required. Candidates are observed and evaluated by a University supervisor a minimum of three times each semester. The supervisor collaborates with the candidate, his/her mentor, and with school personnel who are assigned to assess the candidate at the district level. Concurrent participation in a collegial reflective seminar is an element for this field experience.

SL 0589 Directed Observation II for TESOL/Bilingual DSAP

Candidates 3 Credits

These courses are designed for candidates working in a public elementary or secondary school under a DSAP. Two semesters of observation are required. Candidates are observed and evaluated by a University supervisor a minimum of three times each semester. The supervisor collaborates with the candidate, his/her mentor, and with school personnel who are assigned to assess the candidate at the district level. Concurrent participation in a collegial reflective seminar is an element for this field experience.

SL 0590 Sixth Year Certificate Advanced Research Practicum in TESOL/Bilingual Education

Candidates solve a practical problem in classroom teaching, applying educational research to a specific ESL/bilingual school situation.

SL 0595 Independent Study 1-3 Credits

Candidates complete individual study with the written permission of the department chair, having submitted their proposals prior to registration.