

# Multilingual Education @Woodring

## Frequently Asked Questions



### We have a new name!

The ELL/Bilingual Program is now called the **Multilingual Education Program**. Our course prefix has also changed from ELL to **MLE** (e.g., instead of ELL431, it's now MLE441).

The endorsements have not changed names and are still the **ELL Endorsement** and the **Bilingual Endorsement**. This is the terminology used by Washington state and we want to stay consistent in order to reduce possible confusion.

### What is an endorsement?

A subject + grade level that you are permitted to teach. Endorsements are given out by Washington State. Every teaching certificate must have at least ONE endorsement. For example, elementary education is an endorsement. All elementary school teachers must have at least this endorsement.

You can add endorsements to your teaching certificate. The ELL, Bilingual, and reading endorsements are examples.

### How is an endorsement different from a minor?

A Minor is a set of courses designed to give you insight into a particular academic field. It's a secondary specialization that's less than a major (obviously), but is more than having taken 0-1 introductory courses.

Majors are listed on diplomas. Minors are not. However, your official transcript will show both.

	Who	Impact on teaching
<b>Endorsements</b>	Given out by WA State	Required to teach
<b>Minors</b>	Given out by WWU	Not recognized by the state; no impact on what you can teach

### Can I get a minor in Multilingual Education?

Indeed you can! The [Multilingual Education Minor](#) is composed of the same coursework as the ELL/Bilingual endorsements.

## What's the difference between the ELL and the Bilingual Endorsements?

	English Language Learner (ELL)	Bilingual
<b>Purpose</b>	Classroom teacher w/ability to support multilingual learners; can be a specialist	Classroom teacher in a dual-language school
<b>Grade Range</b>	K-12	K-12
<b>WWU classes</b>	MLE441-MLE445 (25 credits)	Same courses
<b>AMST</b>	1 AMST (4-5 credits)*	1 AMST*
<b>Language requirement</b>	Experience w/language learning in form of 2 years of HS or 2 quarters of college	Proficiency in language at the Advanced Mid level

*\*Note: Read the question below about AMSTs to determine if you're someone who is completing the old system and needs 2 AMSTs.*

### Why get a Bilingual Endorsement?

- You are a strong speaker and writer in a language used in dual language schools in WA state (or other places if you might want to move)
- Shows you have training to work in dual-language schools, and can teach on the "target language" side
- Not yet required in WA state, but may be in the future. Dual language is the preferred model in WA State, and the State Superintendent has made it a goal to have all students have access to Dual Language by 2040.
- Bilingual teachers are paid more in many districts (sometimes the endorsement is needed, sometimes not)

### Why get an ELL Endorsement?

- Training so that you can be a strong teacher for the multilingual students in your class! Concrete principles and strategies so you can differentiate in linguistically and culturally relevant ways.
- Matter of equity!
- Employability:
  - Yes, it also helps with employability
  - In WA State, if any portion of your salary is paid through TBIP funding, you must have your ELL endorsement.
- I don't believe there are districts that currently pay more to someone simply because they have an ELL endorsement.
- Though we don't encourage it right away after graduating, this is the endorsement you would need to become a specialist.

## How many AMST courses am I supposed to take?

We have a list of [pre-approved courses](#), but welcome proposals from you of other courses that you think might meet the goal helping you explore a culture other than your own.

When do you start your Internship?	How many AMST courses do I take?
<b>This academic year</b> (FA22, WI23, or SP23)	You will finish on the old system. <b>Take 2 AMST courses.</b> (You probably already have taken these)
<b>Next academic year or later</b> (FA23 or beyond)	You will switch to the new system. <b>Take 1 AMST course.</b>  <i>*Note: If you declared your major last year (or earlier), DegreeWorks will not automatically update. Contact Molly Baumann at <a href="mailto:baumanm2@wwu.edu">baumanm2@wwu.edu</a> and she can help you complete the paperwork needed to update DegreeWorks.</i>

## Can you tell me more about the language requirement?

ELL Endorsement (and also Multilingual Education Minor)	Bilingual Endorsement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For the ELL endorsement we want you to have had some experience - even if small - at being a language learner. You need the <i>equivalent of</i> 2 quarters of college study. One quarter of college study = 1 year (or credit) of High School.</li> <li>- Both quarters/years do not need to be the same language.</li> <li>- American Sign Language (ASL) is a language!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Because someone with a bilingual endorsement will be teaching content <i>in a language other than English</i>, it is important they have strong proficiency in that language.</li> <li>- To receive the Bilingual Endorsement, you'll need to achieve an <a href="#">Advanced Mid</a> rating in <b>Speaking</b> and <b>Writing</b> on the ACTFL.</li> <li>- These are not tests <i>about</i> the language (you won't be asked to identify parts of speech, for example). Instead, they are tests of your ability to <i>use</i> language.</li> <li>- Before you take the tests, you can self-assess where you're at. Click on the "Speaking" and "Writing" buttons to view descriptions of the levels and samples.               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">Spanish</a></li> <li>- Links to other languages forthcoming</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

## I started on the old program. Do the ELL courses I've already taken still count towards my major / endorsement?

They do! Here's how the new courses map onto the old courses. *If you've already taken ELL courses, then you do not need to take the MLE course in that same row.*

New (MLE)	Old (ELL)
MLE441	ELL431
MLE442	ELL433
MLE443	ELL434
MLE444	ELL432
MLE445	ELL435*
	ELL436**

### Notes:

**\*LLCs didn't take MLE435 in the past.** In the new sequence, everyone will take all five of the new MLE courses.

**\*\* ELL436 only offered in WI23 and SP23** to help individuals who started internship on the old system finish up. If you are starting your internship in WI23 or later, you will *not* take ELL436.

## Can you show me a few sample schedules?

Lourdes is an LLC major and took three courses from the old program: ELL431, ELL432, and ELL433. This means she won't need to take MLE441, 442, or 444. She's going to start internship in Fall of 2023; she needs to take MLE443 before she starts internship. Because she's starting internship in FA23 or later, she won't take ELL436; instead she'll take MLE445 in her 2nd quarter of internship.

New (MLE)	Old (ELL)
MLE441	ELL431
MLE442	ELL433
MLE443	ELL434
MLE444	ELL432
MLE445	ELL435*
	ELL436

Evan is an LLC major and took one course from the old program: ELL431. This means he won't need to take MLE441. He doesn't know when he'll start internship yet, but he knows it will be after Fall of 2023. He needs to take MLE442, MLE443, and MLE444 before he starts internship. Because he's starting internship in FA23 or later, he won't take ELL436; instead he'll take MLE445 in his 2nd quarter of internship.

New (MLE)	Old (ELL)
MLE441	ELL431
MLE442	ELL433
MLE443	ELL434
MLE444	ELL432
MLE445	ELL435*
	ELL436

Elliot is a Sociology major. They are working on the ELED professional program and adding the ELL endorsement. They took three courses from the old program: ELL431, ELL432, and ELL435. This means they won't need to take MLE441, 444, or 445. They plan to start Internship in FA23, which means they won't take ELL436. They need to complete MLE442 and 443 before starting internship.

New (MLE)	Old (ELL)
MLE441	ELL431
MLE442	ELL433
MLE443	ELL434
MLE444	ELL432
MLE445	ELL435*
	ELL436

Harper is in the MIT Program in Secondary Education. She took two courses before she started the MIT program: ELL431 and ELL432. This means she won't need to take MLE441 or MLE444. The courses that remain for her are MLE442, MLE443, and MLE445. She *won't* take ELL436 because it will be phased out by then. These may not all fit in her MIT schedule, but if they do, the best time to take MLE445 is during the same quarter she takes SEC436: Secondary Practicum II. Harper might do what many MIT students do - come back after they graduate to take the last class (MLE445).

New (MLE)	Old (ELL)
MLE441	ELL431
MLE442	ELL433
MLE443	ELL434
MLE444	ELL432
MLE445	ELL435*
	ELL436

### Do I have to take ELL436?

For most people, the answer is no. ELL436 is now called MLE436. **This course is being phased out.** The only individuals who will take ELL436 are individuals who are either (a) already in their Elementary Internship, or (b) who will start their Internship in WI23. You will take ELL436 in Q2 of your Internship.

### When can I take each of the MLE classes?

Before Woodring		After admitted to Woodring		During Internship
MLE441	MLE442	MLE443	MLE444	MLE445

### Can I take any of the MLE classes at the same time?

Though we recommend you take all five classes sequentially, you can take MLE443 and MLE444 in the same quarter (concurrently). This 10-credit combination is a heavy load, so we recommend that if you find you need to do this you try to pair it with lighter coursework.

## What are the service learning and practicum requirements for MLE courses?

Three of the MLE courses include experiences working with Multilingual Learners in K-12 settings. Because MLE courses all meet in afternoons and evenings, *all of these experiences will happen outside our scheduled class time*. We will work with each of you individually to determine your daytime availability and create a weekly schedule that matches up.

<b>MLE442</b>	Service Learning 10 hours (on average, 1-1.5 hours/week)
<b>MLE443</b>	Practicum 30 hours (*Note: Will only be 20 hours this WI23 for a variety of reasons) (on average, 3-4 hours/week)
<b>MLE445</b>	Practicum 30 hours (on average, 3-4 hours/week)

## I still have questions. Who can I talk with?

- **Program Coordinator:**
  - Molly Baumann: [baumanm2@wwu.edu](mailto:baumanm2@wwu.edu)
  - Appointment Calendar: <https://calendly.com/baumanm2>
- **Family Names A-M:**
  - Dr. Beth Dillard: [dillare@wwu.edu](mailto:dillare@wwu.edu)
  - Appointment Calendar: <https://calendly.com/bethdillard>
- **Family Names N-Z:**
  - Dr. Jennifer Green: [greenj33@wwu.edu](mailto:greenj33@wwu.edu)
  - Appointment Calendar: <https://calendly.com/greenj33>
  - \*Note: Dr. Green is currently on professional leave; please reach out to Molly or Beth!