Bilingual Endorsement for P-12 teachers

Note: The bilingual endorsement program is for those who are already P-12 teachers or in a P-12 teacher education program and who are working toward or already bilingual.

Teachers who complete the endorsement program in Bilingual Education from Western Washington University possess in-depth understandings of the role of cultural and linguistic diversity in each student’s education and the demonstrated ability to use research-based instruction when teaching in English and also in a non-English target language. The numbers of bilingual schools continue to grow across the United States as research documents the benefits of quality programs. Our program includes study of a variety of models for bilingual education, including two-way, dual, one-way, and early exit models. In addition, current issues related to bilingual education are explored. Teachers who earn the Bilingual Endorsement can also apply for the English Language Learner Endorsement. Undergraduates earning an ELL and/or Bilingual Education endorsement may choose to complete either the 27-credit TESOL P-12 Focus minor (ELL) or the 33-credit Bilingual Education minor, but not both.

The Bilingual Endorsement Program prepares you to:
- Obtain the WA state endorsement for Bilingual Education
- Teach standards-based content in a target language other than English
- Work with families from various cultures
- Serve as a resource for other teachers
- Instruct using effective methods including strategies from the Guided Language Acquisition Design (GLAD) and the Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol (SIOP) model.
- Thrive in culturally and linguistically diverse settings

Course Completion
The Bilingual endorsement coursework is designed around the normal schedules of employed P-12 teachers and teacher education students. Most courses are offered late afternoons or evenings during the academic year. Many certified teachers finish in 3 academic quarters (9 months) or a combination of academic quarters and summer intensive courses. Some courses are available on-line. Courses can be taken in conjunction with the Masters in Education: Language and Literacy.

Application to the Bilingual Endorsement Program
Applications are available in the Elementary Education Department, Miller Hall 300.
Application Requirements
Applicants must:

- be currently in an accredited P-12 teacher preparation program
  or
- have a P-12 teaching license from any state
  or
- have at least 3 years of successful P-12 classroom teaching experience (anywhere in the world) and permission from the bilingual endorsement advisor

Requirements Prior to Endorsement Completion
1. Submit an endorsement application to the ELED Dept.
2. Complete all required coursework (or equivalent) with a grade of B or better, within a 5-year time span.
3. Pass the state required test in bilingual education.
4. Pass the ACTFL Writing Proficiency Test (WPT) at the Advanced-Mid level in a world language area.
5. Pass the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) at the Advanced-Mid level in a world language area.

Required Courses (32 credits)
- ELL 431 Second Language Acquisition Theory and Policy for P-12 Teachers (4)
- ELL 432 Introduction to English Linguistics for P-12 Teachers (5)
- ELL 433 Understanding Bilingual Learners in a Socio Cultural Context (4)
- ELL 434 Methods and Materials for Teaching Beginning ELLs in Grades P-12 (5)
- ELL 435 Methods and Materials for Academic Language Proficiency in Grades P-12 (5)
- ELL 436 Seminar and Practicum for ELL or Bilingual P-12 Teachers (4)
- ELL 438 Methods and Programming for P-12 Bilingual Classrooms (5)

ELL is 438 the only course required in addition to the ELL sequence!
Candidates can earn BOTH an ELL and a Bilingual Endorsement.

Advising
Prospective Bilingual Endorsement students are invited to meet with Dr. Marsha Riddle Buly, bilingual education advisor for more information about the program. The main office is in Miller Hall 300 and the phone number is (360) 650-3336. Marsha’s e-mail is marsha.riddlebuly@wwu.edu.