

EDBE 2050:

UNDERSTANDING AND TEACHING MULTILINGUAL STUDENTS



We Feel You- From the Ancestors. Ricardo Levins Morales 2020.

Instructor: Mr. Michael Leonas Please call me: Michael	Pronouns: he/him/his
Meeting place/time: Thursday 5:30pm-8:20pm Matthews Hall	Student hours: By appointment only <i>Email for appointment confirmation</i>
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CATALOG DESCRIPTION

This course uses an intersectional approach to understand and conceptualize the histories, backgrounds, identities, and current realities of multilingual students in US educational contexts. Critical theoretical, conceptual, and historical perspectives around multilingualism and multilingual learners will provide a foundation for engaging these same learners through empowering, humanizing, and research-based pedagogies, which will be discussed in the course.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: To recognize the land is an expression of gratitude and appreciation to those whose territory we reside on, and a way of honoring the Indigenous people who have been living and working on the land over time. It is important to understand the long existing history that has brought us to reside on the land, and to seek to understand our place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation. Hence, it is essential to acknowledge that the land on which we gather is the occupied/unceded/seized territory of the Wichita and Caddo Affiliated Tribes. These tribes have stewarded this land throughout the generations and we would like to pay our respects to elders, both past and present. (Adapted from UNT's Division of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access)

FOCUS ON EQUITY & EQUITABLE PRACTICES

Acknowledging the pluralism of linguistically diverse populations, this course focuses on the literacy needs and the variety of language learning strategies of our diverse school

populations. Students in the class are expected to be sensitive to and responsible for the needs of all students in their instructional planning, material selections, and proposed activities. In addition, students are expected to broaden their knowledge base of multicultural issues, including: language differences; economic disparities; and cultural variations, and to evidence growing critical insight into these perspectives in their assignments as they prepare to work in public school classrooms. This insight is particularly important if teachers intend to provide excellent instruction for Communities of Color.

REQUIRED TEXTBOOKS AND/OR MATERIALS

Espinoza, C. M., & Ascenzi-Moreno, L. (2021). *Rooted in strength: Using translanguaging to grow multilingual readers and writers*. Scholastic.

***Not found in UNT Bookstore (orderly directly from Scholastic or Amazon)

All materials can be found on the [Course Guide: EDBE 2050](#)
Materials not found on Course Guide can be found on Canvas

CENTERING PRACTICES FOR THE COURSE

- **Historicizing**: We will historicize the experiences of multilingual students by critically examining historical processes that have marginalized particular communities (and move this into praxis work)
- **Interrogate power**: We will interrogate dominative ways of being and knowing in the understanding and teaching of multilingual students.
- **Radical imagination**: We will radically imagine transformative processes and practices in our understanding and teaching of multilingual students for our future classrooms.

ALSO SEE [UNT teacher education Program commitments](#)

COURSE PREREQUISITES

Admission to the Teacher Education Program

COURSE GOALS

- Historical perspectives and demographic trends of multilingualism and multilingual learners in Texas and the US, and how racialization and deficit perspectives have contributed to harmful language ideologies at the levels of policy and practice for Indigenous groups, Black, Latinx, and other historically marginalized populations.
- Understand and problematize how multilingual learners have been labeled, tracked, and talked about historically in society and schools through deficit discourses anti-Blackness, and subtractive pedagogies.
- Examine key legislation that has impacted the trajectories of multilingual students at the state and national levels, along with initiatives and activism that have advocated for these same students.
- Provide an overview of the different types of programs that traditionally serve multilingual students in Texas and the US: ESL, Bilingual Education, Dual language, Newcomer; along with snapshots/ethnographic examples of multilingual students in these contexts and the importance of collaboration between educators in these different programs.
- Examine pedagogical approaches to teaching multilingual students that leverage students' linguistic, cultural, and academic realities and identities, while also positioning the community as a valuable resource.

STUDENT EVALUATION (see descriptions below)

ASSIGNMENTS	Total %
Discussion Boards via Canvas (Weeks 2,4,6,& 8)	20%
Critical Case Study - Group Project	10%
Radically imagining my future classroom - Final Project	30%
Active participation and attendance in weekly class	40%
Total Points for Course Grade	100%

COURSE GRADING SCALE

A	100-90
B	89-80
C	79-70
D	69-60
F	Below 60

MAJOR ASSIGNMENTS

Brief descriptions of major assignments are described below with corresponding due dates. Please refer back to this throughout the semester. A more detailed assignment sheet and evaluation rubric will be provided on Canvas a few weeks before each assignment is due. Please note that my preference is double-spaced, one-inch margins, and 12-point font for all assignments. *It makes it easier to read and provide feedback.*

COURSE ASSIGNMENTS (Rubrics will be provided)

Reflective Written Discussions via Canvas (20% points total) (Weeks 2, 4, 6, & 8)

Throughout the trajectory of the semester students will document their reactions, connections, and critical questions around the materials from the course. We will also use this space to introduce ourselves and provide feedback to the instructor about the course.

During the semester you will write 4 entries about class materials and your Homework Hotline Virtual Field experience (when applicable). The requirements are; (1) at least 350 words; (2) write about the prompt(s) assigned and connect to the materials of the week; (3) reflect critically on your personal experiences (or lack thereof) in conjunction with the prompt. Prompts will be based on the week's class(es), readings and other materials and may integrate one or a combination of the following:

- A powerful concept/idea from the reading(s)
- A video/documentary we saw in class

- An activity we did in class
- A children's book that we read in class
- A guest who came to class to talk with us
- A reflection on your experience as a tutor in Homework Hotline

Here is a [RUBRIC](#) for your written discussions via Canvas.

Critical Case Study (10 points)

In groups (2-3 students per group), students will complete an analysis of a critical case study that prioritizes bi/multilingual students in a hypothetical (but very similar to what they might encounter in the field) scenario. In this assignment, students will have the opportunity to critically analyze challenges within the scenario that do not align with our theoretical perspectives in the course. Students will be expected to present justice-oriented pedagogical practices that better fit the needs of their hypothetical students in a humanizing way. The final product should be 3-5 pages, including citations of course materials. A detailed rubric along with additional instructions will be provided in class.

This assignment addresses all centering practices of our course.

Understanding and Teaching Multilingual Students: Radically imagining my future classroom (due Dec. 6) (30 points)

Based on theoretical perspectives from the course and the co-construction of knowledge throughout the semester, students will create a product (guidebook/zine/video/infographic/website/Tumblr/Canva/children's book, or other creative outlet) that focuses on their newfound understandings, discoveries, and critical reflections around the teaching of bi/multilingual students for the elementary classroom. This product should be something that demonstrates students' grasp of historical perspectives in the education of multilingual students, their emerging understanding of the realities and identities of these students, and ways they imagine engaging with them in their future classrooms.

We imagine this product as something that demonstrates students' growth and development alongside their radical imagination of what their future classroom with bi/multilingual students could look like, sound like, and feel like based on these newfound understandings, discoveries, and critical reflections that have emerged during the course. It is our hope that this product accompanies students' journey through the teacher education program and is a product that could be looked back upon and also be revised and reimagined as students gain more perspectives in future semesters.

Feel free to make this more specific to your trajectory as a future ESL, special education, early childhood, and bilingual education teacher. You are more than welcome to use tools and ideas you are gaining from other courses (we encourage these connections), but you cannot submit an assignment from another course.

This assignment addresses centering practice #3: *Radical imagination: We will radically imagine transformative processes and practices in our understanding and teaching of multilingual students for our future classrooms.*

RUBRIC

COURSE OUTLINE & SCHEDULE

This course syllabus/schedule is intended to be a guide and may be modified at any time at the instructor's discretion to enhance the learning experiences of students.

****All materials found in [Course Guide: EDBE 2050](#) or Canvas**

Week	Materials (readings, videos, etc.) to be read before class unless otherwise designated	Key topics/overarching questions	What do I need to do?
1 January 18th	<p>"3 ways to speak English" (Lyiscott, 2014)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Introduction, pp. 8-16);</p>	Introduction to the course/syllabus, centering practices, core commitments	<p>Digital Introduction</p> <p>Background check with Denton ISD**</p>
2 January 25th	<p>"A Brief look at the History of Bilingual Education in the United States" (Rethinking Schools, 2017)</p> <p>"Forgetting my first language" (Liao, 2021)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 1)</p>	Brief history of bilingual education; intersection of language, identity, and race; introduction to virtual field experience	Discussion #1 Due Thursday, February 1st via Canvas at 5:29pm.
3 February 1st	<p>"Positioning teachers, positioning learners: Why we should stop using the term English Learners" (Colombo et al., 2018);</p> <p>"A critical perspective on the educational labeling of multilingual students in the US" (García-Mateus, Wong, & Chaparro, 2021)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 2)</p>	Who are and how we talk about multilingual students, raciolinguistics	

4 February 8th	<p><u>REMOTE LEARNING DAY</u> *We will meet via Zoom on Thursday, February 8th*</p> <p>Guest Lecturer: Ms. Alison Hardy, University of Texas at Austin "Multilingual Supports in Mathematics"</p> <p>Read/Listen to all three: Centering black students in language education" (Shepard, 2021)</p> <p>"Not mere abstractions: Language policies and language ideologies in U.S. settler colonialism" (Iyengar, 2014)</p> <p>"American Boarding School Haunts Many" (podcast) (Charla Bear, 2008)</p> <p>Fill out the Google Form via Canvas</p>	<p>Raciolinguistics, contd.</p> <p>Historical Perspectives; Settler colonialism and language ideologies</p>	<p>Discussion #2 Due Thursday, February 15th at 5:29pm via Canvas.</p>
5 February 15th	<p>"Lemon Grove Incident" (documentary) (2013)</p> <p>"The Burial of Mr. Spanish" (Warren (host) Story Corps, 2017)</p> <p>"A lifetime without Spanish: The Latinos who lost their language and their fight to recover it" (video) (2021)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 3)</p>	<p>Historical Perspectives; Policies and practices that have impacted language minority students at the national level</p>	
6 February 22nd	<p>"Chronology of events, court decisions, and legislation affecting language minority children in American public education" (Santa Ana, 2004)</p>	<p>Key legislation; Bilingual Education Act of 1968; interest convergence</p>	<p>Discussion #3 Due Thursday, February 29th at 5:29pm via Canvas.</p>

	<p>"Critically assessing the 1968 Bilingual Education Act at 50 years: Taming tongues and Latinx Communities" (García & Sung, 2018)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 4)</p>		
<p>7</p> <p>February 29th</p>	<p>"Creating a more bilingual Texas" (Sikes & Villanueva, 2021)</p> <p>"Chapter 89: State plan for educating English Learners" (TEA)</p> <p>"What are the different types of dual language programs?" (Flores, 2018)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 5)</p>	<p>Texas policy and emergent bilinguals; types of programs for emergent bilinguals; dual language bilingual education (DLBE)</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>March 7th</p>	<p>REMOTE LEARNING DAY</p> <p>*We will meet via Zoom on Thursday, March 7th*</p> <p>"The truth about bilingualism: It's only for some students" (Mitchell, 2019)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 6)</p>	<p>Current Perspectives: Gentrification of bilingual education;</p>	<p>Choose a children's storybook and present reading to the class. Either as a shared reading or as a read aloud. This will count as Discussion Board #4.</p>
<p>March 14th</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK</p>	<p>SPRING BREAK</p>
<p>9</p> <p>March 21st</p>	<p>DB#4 Presentations</p> <p>"How to dismantle elite bilingualism" (Flores, 2019)</p> <p>"Bilingualism, biliteracy, biculturalism, and critical consciousness for all (Palmer et al., 2019)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 7)</p>	<p>Current Perspectives: Bilingualism for all?; Seal of Biliteracy; critical consciousness in DLBE</p>	
<p>10</p>	<p>"Dismantling anti-Black racism in English language arts classrooms:</p>	<p>Black language, White mainstream</p>	<p>Critical Case Studies posted</p>

March 28th	<p>Toward an anti-racist Black language pedagogy" (Baker-Bell, 2020)</p> <p>"From academic language to language architecture: Challenging raciolinguistic ideologies in research and practice" (Flores, 2020)</p> <p>"Rooted in strength" (Chapter 8)</p>	English, anti-racist Black language pedagogies; raciolinguistic ideologies; white listening/reading subject	
11 April 4th	<p>"What is translanguaging?" (video)</p> <p>"Understanding translanguaging in US literacy classrooms" (Seltzer & de los Ríos, 2021)</p> <p>"'Make sure you see this': Counternarratives of multilingual Black girls' language and literacy practices" (Presiado & Frieson, 2021)</p> <p>Rooted in Strength Chapter 9/10</p>	Translanguaging: stance, lens, and pedagogy; Black girl literacies	
12 April 11th	Critical Case Study Writing Time in Groups		Critical Case Studies
13 April 18th	<p>Critical Case Study presentations</p> <p>Final Presentation Expectations/Rubric/Exemplars</p>		Final Project brainstorming
14 April 25th	<p>Course Evaluations</p> <p>Connecting Loose Ties</p> <p>So, What's Next?</p> <p>Conferences with Instructor</p>	Connect readings and activities to final projects	
15 May 2	Radically imagining my future classroom	Student presentations	

16 May 9	No Class Individual Meetings via Zoom, if needed, to discuss projects/grade	Individual Conferences, if needed	
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UNT's Course Policies

Course Materials for Remote Instruction

Remote instruction is a requirement of this course. Students will need access to a computer and Zoom to participate in fully remote portions of the class. Information about required synchronous Zoom sessions are provided in the schedule. Also, information on how to be successful in a remote learning environment can be found at <https://online.unt.edu/learn>

KEY SERVICES AT UNT

[Health Alerts](#)

[Student Health and Wellness Center](#)

[COVID-19 Student success award](#)

[UNT Dean of Students](#)

[Return to Learn](#)

[Division of Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Access](#)

Resources for DACA students: <https://www.unt.edu/daca>

[Scholarships in COE](#)

Additionally, UNT offers other support services such as:

COE Student Advising Office: <https://www.coe.unt.edu/student-advising-office>

Office of the Registrar: <http://registrar.unt.edu/registration>

Student Financial Aid and Scholarships: <http://financialaid.unt.edu/>

DEPARTMENT OF TEACHER EDUCATION AND ADMINISTRATION: PREPARING TOMORROW'S EDUCATORS AND SCHOLARS

The Department of Teacher Education and Administration seeks to improve educational practice through the generation of knowledge and to prepare education professionals who serve all students in an effective, inclusive and equitable manner. Its focus is on the preparation of highly competent educators, researchers and administrators who employ current theory and research as they fill these important roles.

Mission

The Department of Teacher Education and Administration integrates theory, research, and practice to generate knowledge and to develop educational leaders who advance the potential of all learners.

Vision

We aspire to be internationally recognized for developing visionary educators who provide leadership, promote social justice, and effectively educate all learners.

LATE WORK POLICY

Students are expected to turn in assignments at the designated time, but I understand that situations may arise where this may not be possible. It is your responsibility to communicate with me when such a situation occurs so that I am aware of this, along with a specific/hard date when you will turn in the assignment (within 1 week of the due date). In your communication with me about this late assignment you should also let me know where you are at in the process of completing it. If you do not turn in the assignment within the 1 week grace period, you will not be able to get full credit. The key here is to do your best to keep with the material and if you do by chance get behind please COMMUNICATE! I take this content and our community seriously and hope you will do the same!

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY/ USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Academic integrity is essential to maintaining an environment that fosters excellence in teaching, research, and other educational and scholarly activities. Therefore, any acts of plagiarism, use of AI technology to complete course work, or the use of any other materials/methods/means not one's own, is prohibited. These types of offenses will be judged by the instructor, who will determine the best course of action to rectify these issues.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

Class attendance and punctuality is a requirement for this course. Along those lines, *we are all human and we are living in unprecedented times*. We have lives that stretch far beyond the four walls of any institution. If you need to miss class for any emergency, please contact me first. I treasure the relationships with my students, so if you miss class and I have not been previously warned, I will genuinely be concerned about you (please take this into consideration). If you must miss class, it is expected that you will review any course material that you missed, course materials, and read the assigned literature for the class session.

Any unexcused absences and tardies will affect your participation grade. Each student may miss 2 classes without penalty (excused or unexcused). If you miss more than 2 classes, 5 percentage points will be deducted from your final grade for each additional class missed (unexcused absences). On the 4th unexcused absence, you will be referred to the ARR committee. If you have more than 5 unexcused absences, you will not get credit for the course. According to University policy 06.039, absences due to religious observances, active military duty, UNT-sponsored events, illness or extenuating circumstances, pregnancy and parenting, and official university closure will be excused. All other absences will be dealt with at the discretion of the instructor.

UNT's Standard Syllabus Statements

Academic Integrity Standards and Consequences. According to UNT Policy 06.003, Student Academic Integrity, academic dishonesty occurs when students engage in behaviors including, but not limited to cheating, fabrication, facilitating academic dishonesty, forgery, plagiarism, and

sabotage. A finding of academic dishonesty may result in a range of academic penalties or sanctions ranging from admonition to expulsion from the University.

ADA Accommodation Statement. UNT makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodation must first register with the Office of Disability Accommodation (ODA) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the ODA will provide a student with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding one's specific course needs. Students may request accommodations at any time, however, ODA notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. For additional information see the ODA website at disability.unt.edu.

Emergency Notification & Procedures. UNT uses a system called Eagle Alert to quickly notify students with critical information in the event of an emergency (i.e., severe weather, campus closing, and health and public safety emergencies like chemical spills, fires, or violence). In the event of a university closure, please refer to Blackboard for contingency plans for covering course.

Department Syllabus Statements

Foliotek ePortfolio (where applicable). Foliotek is a software data management system (DMS) used in the assessment of your knowledge, skills, and dispositions relevant to program standards and objectives. You will be required to use your Foliotek account for the duration of your enrollment in the College of Education in order to upload required applications, course assignments, and other electronic evidences/evaluations as required. This course may require assignment(s) to be uploaded and graded in Foliotek. The College of Education will track your progress in your program through this data to verify that you have successfully met the competencies required in your program of study. All students must register in the program portfolio that aligns with their degree plan. Registration codes and tutorials can be found on this site: <https://coe.unt.edu/educator-preparation-office/foliotek>

Student Evaluation Administration Dates. Student feedback is important and an essential part of participation in this course. The student evaluation of instruction is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT. The survey will be made available during weeks 13, 14 and 15 of the long semesters to provide students with an opportunity to evaluate how this course is taught. Students will receive an email from "UNT SPOT Course Evaluations via *IASystem* Notification" (no-reply@iasystem.org) with the survey link. Students should look for the email in their UNT email inbox. Simply click on the link and complete the survey. Once students complete the survey, they will receive a confirmation email that the survey has been submitted. For additional information, please visit the SPOT website at www.spot.unt.edu or email spot@unt.edu.

Sexual Assault Prevention. UNT is committed to providing a safe learning environment free of all forms of sexual misconduct. Federal laws and UNT policies prohibit discrimination on the basis of sex as well as sexual misconduct. If you or someone you know is experiencing sexual harassment, relationship violence, stalking and/or sexual assault, there are campus resources

available to provide support and assistance. The Survivor Advocates can be reached at SurvivorAdvocate@unt.edu or by calling the Dean of Students Office at 940-565- 2648.

[Educator Standards Addressed in this Course](#)

The UNT Educator Preparation Program curriculum includes alignment to standards identified by the Texas State Board of Educator Certification (SBEC) for beginning educators. These standards are addressed throughout your preparation and assessed through the TExES Certification exams required for your teaching certificate. Additionally, the Commissioner of TEA has adopted these rules pertaining to Texas teaching standards:

TEXAS TEACHING STANDARDS:

Standards required for all Texas beginning teachers fall into the following 6 broad categories:

- (1) Standard 1--Instructional Planning and Delivery.
 - a. Standard 1Ai,ii,iv
 - b. Standard 1Bi,ii (Lesson design)
- (2) Standard 2--Knowledge of Students and Student Learning
- (3) Standard 3--Content Knowledge and Expertise
- (4) Standard 4--Learning Environment
- (5) Standard 5--Data-Driven Practice
- (6) Standard 6--Professional Practices and Responsibilities

English as Second Language Standards

[Domain I. Language Concepts & Language Acquisition](#)

[Competency 2 \(Processes of 1st/2nd language acquisition\)](#)

2.a., 2.b. (L1 and L2 language acquisition and development)

2.d., 2. e. (Connections and challenges between L1/L2)

[Domain II. ESL Instruction and Assessment](#)

[Competency 3 \(ESL teaching methods/leveraging this to plan and implement instruction\)](#)

3.b., 3.c., 3.d. (instructional methods/critical thinking for students with diverse linguistic needs)

[Competency 4 \(ESL teacher knows how to promote communicative development\)](#)

4.b., 4.c, 4.e., 4.g. (environment, support, resources, materials, language transfer, feedback)

[Competency 5 \(ESL teacher understands how to promote students' literacy development in L1\)](#)

5.d., 5.e., 5.g. (factors that impact L1 language acquisition; both social and technical)

[Competency 6 \(ESL teacher promotes content-area learning, language development, achievement\)](#)

6.b., 6.c. (knowledge of students' background to promote instruction and facilitate student use of learning strategies)

[Domain III \(Foundations of ESL education, cultural awareness and family and community involvement\)](#)

[Competency 8 \(Understands the foundation of ESL education/types of programs\)](#)

8.a., 8.b. (historical, theoretical foundations of ESL programs, types of programs)

Competency 9 (Factors that impact ESL student learning/implement strategies for diverse classroom)

9.a., 9.b., 9.c., 9.d., 9.e. (understands linguistic/cultural diversity to contribute to multicultural/multilingual learning environment)

Competency 10 (Knows how to advocate for ESL students/include families and communities)

10.a., 10.b., 10.c., 10.d. (effective communication/practices to collaborate with families/communities to enhance ESL students' education)

Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities (PPR)

Competency 001 (Understands human development processes/application of knowledge)

1.001.1.K. (Productive learning environments; high expectations, equity)

Competency 002 (Understands issues of diversity/plan learning experiences accordingly)

1.002.A., B., C., D., E., F. (accepts students from diverse backgrounds, knows how to learn about students' backgrounds, knows how to be culturally responsive)

Competency 003 (Understands procedures for designing coherent instruction)

1.003.E. (knowledge of various types of resources and materials to enhance learning/engagement)