Teaching English Language Learners (ELL) Concentration

The Master of Education in Teaching English Language Learners (ELL) is intended for teachers at either primary or secondary levels wishing to pursue a masters degree with an ELL emphasis. The ELL concentration provides in-service teachers with the cultural and linguistic pedagogy needed to address the educational needs of ELLs. This concentration capitalizes on the university’s excellent reputation and historic role in teacher preparation and the university’s strength in ELL teacher training and couples it with its highly successful online M.Ed. The coursework in the ELL concentration is aligned with the TESOL/NCATE recommendations. The ELL concentration is approved by NCATE and meets the content standards and credit requirements identified by the North Dakota Education Standards and Practices Board for the ELL endorsement. All coursework is completely online with no required campus visits.

Core Courses 12 hours
EDUC 610 Research in Education (3)
EDUC 625 Issues in School, Community, and Family (3)
EDUC 640 Supervision and Assessment of Teachers and Learners (3)
EDUC 657 Exceptionality, Diversity, and Differences (3)

In addition to the core courses, students will complete the following 19 hours of required courses.

Required Courses 19 hours
EDUC 660 Authentic Assessment Strategies and Evaluation of ELLs (2)
EDUC 663 Methods of Teaching English and Academic Content to ELLs (2)
EDUC 670 Second Language Theory and Practice (2)
EDUC 673 Foundations of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism (2)
EDUC 685 Action Research (3)
EDUC 693 ELL Practicum (2)
ENGL 653 Language and Society (3)
ENGL 673 Linguistics for ELL Teachers (3)

Special Program Requirements 3 hours
EDUC 698 Capstone (2)
EDUC 689 Research Application (1)

These courses are designed to support the student in completing graduation requirements including a field experience, an action research report, and a comprehensive portfolio.

Teaching English Language Learners Concentration Contact:
Dr. Shou-Ching Chao, Assistant Professor
School of Education and Graduate Studies
Phone 701.845.7314 or 1 800.532.8641 ext 37314
Email: shouching.chao@vcsu.edu

What our students say:
“A friend recommended Valley City State University to me after she had graduated from the program. I have been very happy with my choice in Valley City State University and the ELL program in particular. The schedule and the courses are designed to be practical for a practicing teacher. I have already applied so much of what I have learned into my classroom, and even though I have never met them in person, I feel like I know the professors and fellow students well. Everyone has been so helpful and encouraging. The flexibility of the program has worked well with my busy schedule as a full-time teacher and full-time mother of two.”

Amanda Indra

Our Partners:
North Dakota belongs to WIDA (World class Instructional Design and Assessment), a consortium of 17 states. The coursework in this concentration is based on the content standards and assessment tools endorsed by WIDA and TESOL/NCATE standards. VCSU has partnered with Norda, a corporation in Wisconsin which provides programs for prospective and practicing teachers, to provide programs in ELL/ESL as distance learning opportunities to complete licensure in Wisconsin.