Bilingual Education

Are you a licensed teacher with proficiency in a second language? This online program enables you to add the Bilingual Endorsement or Approval to your professional educator license. You can even apply your coursework toward your Master of Arts in Education.

Curriculum

Courses for the Bilingual Endorsement
- Methods and Materials for Teaching English as a Second Language
- Methods and Materials for Teaching in Bilingual Education Programs
- Assessment of English Language Learners
- Language and Culture
- Foundations of Language Minority Education
- Literacy Development for English Language Learner

Courses for the Bilingual Approval
- Methods and Materials for Teaching in Bilingual Education Programs
- Assessment of English Language Learners
- Foundations of Language Minority Education

Requirements

- Candidates for the Endorsement may apply for the credential after completing the curriculum with a grade point average of 3.0 or above (on a 4.0 scale). In addition to your coursework, you will complete 100 hours of field experience or three months of teaching experience in a bilingual educational setting. You also must successfully complete a language proficiency exam.
- Candidates for the Approval must hold a valid Illinois Professional Educator License with a Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) endorsement. Upon completion of your coursework, you can apply for the approval by submitting an application online through your account in the Educator Licensure Information System (ELIS).

Earn a credential that's in high demand

Our country’s learning communities have never been more diverse. More than 30% of Chicago-area students speak a language other than English at home—and school districts increasingly are requiring teachers to obtain ESL credentials. This program helps committed teachers to make today’s classrooms more inclusive to English-language learners. It is ideal for teachers who are either currently employed or planning to teach in Bilingual Education programs. You’ll master advanced teaching strategies to support bilingual students. You’ll gain a deep understanding of the foundations of linguistics, acquire methods for assessing English-language learners, and explore the subtleties of multiculturalism and its profound impact on your students and their world.

A program designed for the busy teacher

This program is affordable and flexible. You’ll take one course at a time, completing each course online in sessions lasting 7.5 weeks. The courses are offered asynchronously, which means you can work the program efficiently into your schedule—you won’t need to log onto your computer at set times. The coursework includes 100 hours of field experience. The Bilingual approval takes 9 semester hours to complete; it allows teachers with an LBS I endorsement to work with English language learners who hold an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The Bilingual endorsement takes 18 semester hours to complete; it allows you to work with bilingual learners from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade.

“I can't tell you the number of times the principals who hire our teachers have told me that Dominican alums are the best prepared—in terms of the basics of teaching, knowing content and even interacting with colleagues and parents.”

Ben Freville
School of Education Faculty
The fast track to your master’s degree

With all the demands of classroom and home, who has time to earn a master’s degree? You do. Upon completing your endorsement coursework, you can earn your Master of Arts in Education at Dominican by adding just four additional courses (12 additional semester hours). To qualify for this exceptional opportunity, you’ll need to hold a valid Professional Educator License (PEL), have completed at least half of your endorsement classwork at Dominican, and have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher in your endorsement classwork (with no grade lower than C). This program ensures that your excellent work on your endorsement sets you up efficiently for further academic achievement.

Our goal: your success

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Outstanding preparation for a purposeful career

The School of Education at Dominican University is committed to fostering the values of scholarship, leadership and service among teacher candidates and their students. The course of study emphasizes the acquisition of professional expertise, the expansion of personal insight, and the fostering of a deep appreciation of human diversity. We recognize that with knowledge comes responsibility. A teacher trained in the Dominican tradition is prepared—in the words of the university’s founder, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli—“to go where the work is great and difficult,” and to strive to create a more just and humane world.

Learn More!

Please contact:

Dominican University
Office of Graduate Admission

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