

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT
Office of Education Services (OES)
EDUC 2016.10.22280 EDPD-501-6F1
Teaching English Learners (ELs) with Sheltered Content Instruction (SI)
Three graduate credits Winter 2024
January 25 – March 15, 2024
Meeting virtually in Zoom 4:30 – 5:30pm most Tuesdays and Thursdays
with asynchronous module coursework in Blackboard

Faculty

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Prerequisites/Corequisites

None

University Catalog Course Description

This course is designed *to* examine sheltered instruction and focus on preparing teachers *to* teach content effectively *to* English learners while developing the students' language ability. The course will emphasize academic literacy, developing academic vocabulary aligned with core content curriculum, reading development and comprehension, ESL methodologies, progress monitoring of students and explicit training on how *to* co-teach. Examples of instructional tools appropriate for different grade-level divisions and the subjects of science, social studies, math, and language arts will be provided.

Course Overview

This course is designed *to* examine sheltered instruction and focus on preparing teachers *to* teach content effectively *to* English learners while developing the students' language ability. The course will emphasize academic literacy, developing academic vocabulary aligned with core content curriculum, reading development and comprehension, ESL methodologies, progress monitoring of students and explicit training on how to co-teach. Examples of instructional tools appropriate for different grade-level divisions and the subjects of science, social studies, math, and language arts will be provided.

Course Delivery Method

This course will be delivered online (76% or more) using a synchronous and asynchronous format via Blackboard Learning Management system (LMS) housed in the MyMason portal. You will log in to the Blackboard (Bb) course site using your Mason email name (everything before @gmU.edu) and email password. The course site will be available January 25.

Under no circumstances may candidates/students participate in online class sessions (either by phone or Internet) while operating motor vehicles. Further, as expected in a face-to-face class

meeting, such online participation requires undivided attention to course content and communication.

This online course is **not self-paced. You will be expected to complete one module every week.** Completing a Weekly Module includes reading, participating in Discussion Board, and completing any assignments and/or activities within that Weekly Module. You are asked to engage deeply with the course content, to take risks in your thinking, and to listen to and learn from your classmates.

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Technical Requirements

To participate in this course, students will need to satisfy the following technical requirements:

- High-speed Internet access with standard up-to-date browsers. To get a list of Blackboard's supported browsers see:
https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#supported-browsers
- To get a list of supported operation systems on different devices see:
https://help.blackboard.com/Learn/Student/Getting_Started/Browser_Support#tested-devices-and-operating-systems
- Students must maintain consistent and reliable access to their GMU email and Blackboard, as these are the official methods of communication for this course.
- Students will need a headset microphone for use with the Blackboard Collaborate web conferencing tool. [Delete this sentence if not applicable.]
- Students may be asked to create logins and passwords on supplemental websites and/or to download trial software to their computer or tablet as part of course requirements.
- The following software plug-ins for PCs and Macs, respectively, are available for free download: [Add or delete options, as desire.]
 - Adobe Acrobat Reader: <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>
 - Windows Media Player:
<https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/help/14209/get-windows-media-player>
 - Apple Quick Time Player: www.apple.com/quicktime/download/

Expectations

- **Course Week: Our course will begin on June 20, 2023. Our asynchronous weeks will begin on June 21, 2023 following our synchronous meeting in Zoom and finishes on August 1, 2023.**
- **Log-in Frequency:**
Students must actively check the course Blackboard site and their GMU email for communications from the instructor, class discussions, and/or access to course materials at least 3 times per week. In addition, students must log-in for all scheduled online synchronous meetings.
- **Participation:**
Students are expected to actively engage in all course activities throughout the semester, which includes viewing all course materials, completing course activities and assignments, and participating in course discussions and group interactions.
- **Technical Competence:**
Students are expected to demonstrate competence in the use of all course technology. Students who are struggling with technical components of the course are expected to seek assistance from the instructor and/or College or University technical services.

- Technical Issues:

Students should anticipate some technical difficulties during the semester and should, therefore, budget their time accordingly. Late work will not be accepted based on individual technical issues.

- Workload:

Please be aware that this course is **not** self-paced. Students are expected to meet *specific deadlines* and *due dates* listed in the **Class Schedule** section of this syllabus. It is the student's responsibility to keep track of the weekly course schedule of topics, readings, activities, and assignments due.

- Instructor Support:

Students may schedule a one-on-one meeting to discuss course requirements, content or other course-related issues. Those unable to come to a Mason campus can meet with the instructor via telephone or web conference. Students should email the instructor to schedule a one-on-one session, including their preferred meeting method and suggested dates/times.

- Netiquette:

The course environment is a collaborative space. Experience shows that even an innocent remark typed in the online environment can be misconstrued. Students must always re-read their responses carefully before posting them, so as others do not consider them as personal offenses. *Be positive in your approach with others and diplomatic in selecting your words.* Remember that you are not competing with classmates, but sharing information and learning from others. All faculty are similarly expected to be respectful in all communications.

- Accommodations:

Online learners who require effective accommodations to insure accessibility must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services.

Learner Outcomes or Objectives

This course is designed to enable students to do the following:

- Make instructional decisions about how *to* apply sheltered instruction strategies into classroom lessons.
- Recognize the difference between a content objective and a language objective in order to

- clarify how ELLs are supported academically and linguistically.
- Identify the importance of a standards-based UBD model so that we can compare and contrast the benefits of a lesson before and after following backwards planning.
 - Analyze different models of Co-teaching and discuss their potential effectiveness within our own collaborative settings.
 - Explore WIDA ELD standards and Can-Do Descriptors and how they support ELs' language development and academic achievement at the same time.
 - Implement ELD standards through the use of MPIs into lessons.
 - Analyze linguistic & cultural backgrounds to incorporate students' home language usage in the classroom.
 - Understand that there are different language demands (language tasks and functions) and therefore multiple opportunities in different content areas to provide regular opportunities to practice and apply new language and content knowledge in English.
 - Know a variety of research-based differentiation strategies, reflecting on which strategies would work best with PWCS EL's profiles (EL types, ELP levels, learning styles) and tell why.
 - Select instructional strategies to scaffold texts, assignments, & activities for the range of ELs' proficiency levels.
 - Understand that collaboration is necessary between content teachers, special educators, and ESOL teachers.
 - Analyze information about the service provisions for dually identified students.
 - Define and discuss how 'cooperative learning' aligns to the theory of Vygotsky's social interaction and SIOP's component of verbal interaction in order to gain a sense of why cooperative learning is necessary for second language acquisition.
 - Extend our understanding of the need to focus on all tiers of vocabulary for ELs and know how to apply our knowledge to authentic text.
 - Explore culturally responsive reading strategies and discuss their potential effectiveness with ELs.
 - Determine and apply the types of writing (i.e. text types) required for core content areas.
 - Use the WIDA writing rubrics to formatively evaluate authentic samples of ELs' writing that are representative of grade-level clusters and text types to determine students' levels of proficiency.
 - Categorize supplementary materials in order to support content and language objectives and the four language domains: reading, writing, listening and speaking.

This course is designed for both general educators who want to improve their teaching skills for working with EL students and for ESOL teachers desiring to refresh their knowledge and skills to better meet the needs of the growing EL population in Prince William County Public Schools.

This is a graduate-level course. Please plan on 2-3 hours per week for reading and 2-3 hours per week for written assignments.

Professional Standards

Upon completion of this course, students will have met the following professional standards.

- National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, Core Proposition 2
- **TESOL standards 1.b., 2.a., 3.a., b., c., 4.a., 5.a**
- For a complete description of the TESOL/CAEP Standards, please go to the following website:
https://www.tesol.org/docs/default-source/books/2018-tesol-teacher-prep-standards-final.pdf?sfvrsn=23f3ffdc_6.
- WIDA English Language Development Standards
 For a complete description of the WIDA English Language Development Standards, please go to the following website:
<https://wida.wisc.edu/teach/standards/eld>.

Required Textbook:

- Echevarria, J. & Graves, A. (2014). *Sheltered content instruction: Teaching English language learners with diverse abilities with video-enhanced Pearson text access card package*, fifth edition. Pearson Education, Inc. ISBN-13: 978-0133831610 ISBN-10: 0133831612
- Fenner, Diane Staehr & Snyder, Sydney (2017). *Unlocking English learners' potential*. Corwin. ISBN978-1-5063-5277-0

Optional Textbooks:

- Rojas, V.P. (2013). *ELs' Instructional 'Look Fors' protocol: Cultural/responsive classroom indicators*. PWCS
- Rojas, V.P. (2007). *Strategies for success*. Alexandria: ASCD ISBN978-1-4166-0383-2
- American Psychological Association 7th Edition. (2020). *Publication manual of the American Psychological Association*. Washington, D.C.: American Psychological Association.

Course Performance Evaluation

Students are expected to submit all assignments on time in the manner outlined by the instructor (e.g., Blackboard, VIA, hard copy).

- **Assignments and/or Examinations**

Reading -Annotated Bibliographies (20 points, due February 17, 2024):

Choose four (4) articles based on topics that interest you from your reading in the course text *Sheltered Content Instruction: Teaching English Language Learners with Diverse Abilities* by Echevarria and Graves. This is a Performance-Based Assessment.

Lesson Plans Portfolio (30 points; due March 2, 2024): Students create a portfolio of three lesson plans with a rationale designed to address the needs of their students as well as the curriculum objectives for the subject area they are teaching. This is a Performance-Based Assessment.

The Final Project/Research Paper (40 points due March 15, 2024) is a written paper of about 8-10 pages (double-spaced) on an approved topic (research and practical applications) from course content. The goal is to conduct in-depth research on a topic in *Teaching English Learners (ELs) with Sheltered Content Instruction* that you find intriguing and to develop research skills through literature review and case studies. This is a Performance-Based Assessment.

Other Requirements

Attendance and participation are expected. Missing more than three classes will result in a one- letter-grade penalty for the final grade. This is ten points of the final grade.

Assignments turned in after the due date will not receive full credit unless acceptable prior arrangements have been made with the instructor. Late assignments will be assessed a 10% penalty for each week they are late.

All written assignments will adhere to APA documentation format. In-text citations include the author's last name and the year of publication, plus the page number for any direct quotations. The References page lists all in-text citations alphabetically by author's last name.

Assignments overview:

Participation	10 points
Bibliographies	20 points
Lesson Plans Portfolio	30 points
Final Project/Research Paper	40 point

Points earned on each project will be added for the total point score.

- **Grading**

At George Mason University course work is measured in terms of quantity and quality. A credit normally represents one hour per week of lecture or recitation or not fewer than two hours per week of laboratory work throughout a semester. The number of credits is a measure of quantity. The grade is a measure of quality. The university-wide system for grading graduate courses is as follows:

Grade	GRADING	Grade Points	Interpretation
A+	=100	4.00	Represents mastery of the subject through effort beyond basic requirements
A	94-99	4.00	
A-	90-93	3.67	
B+	85-89	3.33	Reflects an understanding of and the ability to apply theories and principles at a basic level
B	80-84	3.00	
C*	70-79	2.00	Denotes an unacceptable level of understanding and application of the basic elements of the course
F*	<69	0.00	

See the University Catalog for details: <http://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/grading/>

Professional Dispositions

See <https://cehd.gmu.edu/students/policies-procedures/>

Course Schedule

Note: Faculty reserves the right to alter the schedule as necessary, with notification to students.

	Class Topics and Schedule	Text Readings from Echevarria, J. & Graves, A
01/25	4:30 - 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work Topic: Introduction and Sheltered Instruction & Techniques Zoom 4:30 – 6:00 pm Asynchronous work: Introduction	Read Chapter 3: Sheltered Instruction in the Content Due: 02/29/2024 Reflect on personal practice: Indicate which of the features of the SIOP Model of sheltered instruction in Figure 3.2 on pp.52-53 are not part of your teaching repertoire and which ones you use frequently.
01/30	4:30 - 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work Topic: Sheltered Instruction & Techniques Zoom 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Asynchronous work: Standards Based Planning	
02/01	4:30 - 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work. Topic: Sheltered Instruction & Techniques NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: WIDA	Reflect on personal practice: Consider the language development of your students. What do you view about content and language objectives? Why are both important?
02/06	4:30 - 7:30 PM Online course work. Topic: Differentiation NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: Differentiation	Reflect on personal practice: Read Chapter 7: Differentiated Instruction
02/08	4:30 - 7:30 PM online course work Topic: Supplemental Materials NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: Suppl Materials and Academic Vocabulary	Read Chapter 2: Theoretical and Historical Select one instructional approach with which you are familiar from the text and identify the theory that influences this approach.
02/13	4:30 - 7:30 PM online course work Topic: Academic Vocabulary NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: Academic Vocabulary	
02/15	4:30 – 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: EL SWD Annotated Bibliographies Due 02/17 Upload assignment to Blackboard	

Course Schedule

	Class Discussions	Readings
02/20	4:30 - 7:30 PM online course work Topic: Cooperative Learning NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work Home Language & Opportunities for Language Practice	Reflect on personal practice: Ponder the following statement made by a teacher: "I tried to learn Spanish in college, but it's just too difficult. I don't know how anyone learns to speak a second language." Be prepared to discuss the ramifications for students and teachers if this type of statement is <i>acceptable</i> or be prepared to discuss the ramifications for students and teachers if this type of statement is <i>unacceptable</i> .
02/22	4:30 - 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work Topic: Co-teaching Part 1 Zoom 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Asynchronous work: Scaffolding	
02/27	4:30 - 7:30 PM Live Lecture plus online course work Topic: Co-teaching Part 2 Zoom 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. Asynchronous work: Reading Comprehension and Reading Fundamentals Lesson Plan Portfolio Due 03/02 Upload Assignment to Blackboard	
03/05	4:30 - 7:30 PM online course work Topic: Reading Methods NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: Reading Methods	
03/07	4:30 - 7:30 PM online course work Topic: Writing NO ZOOM SESSION Asynchronous work: Writing Types, Writing Steps and Progressive Rubrics	
03/15	Final Research Paper Due 03/15 Upload Assignment to Blackboard	Last day to accept late assignments.

Core Values Commitment

The College of Education and Human Development is committed to collaboration, ethical

leadership, innovation, research-based practice, and social justice. Students are expected to adhere to these principles: <http://cehd.gmu.edu/values/>.

GMU Policies and Resources for Students

Policies

- Students must adhere to the guidelines of the Mason Honor Code (see <https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/honor-code-system/>).
- Students must follow the university policy for Responsible Use of Computing (see <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/responsible-use-of-computing/>).
- Students are responsible for the content of university communications sent to their Mason email account and are required to activate their account and check it regularly. All communication from the university, college, school, and program will be sent to students **solely** through their Mason email account.
- Students with disabilities who seek accommodations in a course must be registered with George Mason University Disability Services. Approved accommodations will begin at the time the written letter from Disability Services is received by the instructor (see <https://ds.gmu.edu>).
- Students must silence all sound emitting devices during class unless otherwise authorized by the instructor.

Campus Resources

- Support for submission of assignments to Tk20 should be directed to tk20help@gmu.edu or <https://cehd.gmu.edu/aero/tk20>. Questions or concerns regarding use of Blackboard should be directed to <https://its.gmu.edu/knowledge-base/blackboard-instructional-technology-support-for-students/>
- **Notice of mandatory reporting of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking:** As a faculty member, I am designated as a “Responsible Employee,” and must report all disclosures of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and stalking to Mason’s Title IX Coordinator per University Policy 1202. If you wish to speak with someone confidentially, please contact one of Mason’s confidential resources, such as Student Support and Advocacy Center (SSAC) at 703-380-1434 or Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) at 703-993-2380. You may also seek assistance from Mason’s Title IX Coordinator by calling 703-993-8730, or emailing titleix@gmu.edu.
- For information on student support resources on campus, see <https://ctfe.gmu.edu/teaching/student-support-resources-on-campus>

For additional information on the College of Education and Human Development, please visit our website <http://cehd.gmu.edu/>.

Assignment details:

Reading - Annotated Bibliographies (20 points, due February 17, 2024): Choose **four (4)** articles based on topics that interest you from your reading in the course text *Sheltered Content Instruction: Teaching English Language Learners with Diverse Abilities* by Echevarria and Graves. Each Annotated Bibliography should include the article citation in APA style, a one paragraph summary of the content, and a one to two paragraph reflection to personal practice. Each Annotated Bibliography should be a maximum of one-page double spaced. The Annotated Bibliographies should be of good academic quality and integrity and adhere to APA standards. Guidelines and an example of an Annotated Bibliography is provided in class. The entire assignment consisting of four (4) articles should be submitted as one document in Blackboard.

Criteria / score	Beginning	Developing (Limited evidence)	Competent (Clear evidence)	Accomplished (Clear, convincing , substantial evidence)
	0-1 point	2 points	3 points	4-5 points
Fully interacts with the topic with discussion and relevant examples.				
Evaluates, reflects and connects the topic(s) to personal observations and perspectives with sufficient detail.				
Writes clearly with few stylistic errors.				
Presents accurate, relevant and concise information.				

Lesson Plans Portfolio (30 points; due **March 2, 2024**): Students create a portfolio of lesson plans designed to address the needs of their students as well as the curriculum objectives for the subject area they are teaching. The portfolio will include **three (3) complete lesson plans that demonstrate an understanding of teaching English Learners with Sheltered Instruction**. One of the three lesson plans should focus on differentiation as addressed in class. Each lesson plan should follow the template provided (UbD) and **include an introductory rationale** (maximum of 1 page double-spaced) that references the course readings to the development of the lesson plan.

Criteria/ score	Beginning	Developing (Limited evidence)	Competent (Clear evidence)	Accomplished (Clear, convincing , substantial evidence)
	0-1 point	2 points	3 points	4-5 points
Clearly identifies targeted student population, making reference to their instructional needs				
Identifies language and content objectives that are linked to lesson activities				
Supports rationale for lesson plan with citations from readings				
Incorporates scaffolded, high-quality, teacher-made materials into the lesson plan				
Writes clearly with few stylistic errors				
Presents accurate, relevant and concise information.				

Final Project/Research Paper (40 points; due March 15, 2024)

The Final Project/Research Paper is a written paper of **about 8-10 pages (double-spaced) on an approved topic** (research and practical applications) from course content. The documenting and referencing sources must **follow APA style**. You may select one of the topics we cover in this course that is of your interest. The **goal is to conduct in-depth research on a topic in *Teaching English Learners (ELs) with Sheltered Content Instruction* that you find intriguing** and to develop research skills through literature review and case studies.

Research Paper Rubric

Criteria/score	Emergent 0-1 point	Developing 2 points	Proficient 3 points	Accomplished 4-5 points
Depth of Analysis	Paper does not address the assignment.	Paper does not address some aspects of the assignment.	Paper fully meets the parameters of the assignment but does not exceed them,	Paper goes beyond the assignment to explore the implications of arguments or evidence in new contexts or in particularly thoughtful, insightful, and/or original ways.
Grasp of Readings	Paper misrepresents the authors' arguments, evidence, and/or conclusions.	Paper represents the authors' arguments, evidence and conclusions accurately though not sufficiently clearly.	Paper represents the author's arguments, evidence and conclusions accurately	Paper represents the authors' arguments, evidence and conclusions accurately, fairly and eloquently.
Thesis Paragraph	Thesis paragraph does not have a discernable central argument	Thesis paragraph identifies a central argument that is demonstrable, though not stated sufficiently clearly.	Thesis paragraph clearly Identifies a demonstrable central argument.	Thesis paragraph clearly and eloquently identifies a demonstrable and nuanced central argument.
Evidence	Evidence used does not clearly support the main argument. Three or less references are included.	Connection between argument and evidence is not clearly articulated in all cases. A minimum of 4 references are included.	Evidence used to support the central point is well chosen, though not particularly rich or detailed. A minimum of references are included.	Evidence used to support the central point is rich, detailed and well chosen. A minimum of six references are included.
Reflection	Provides a written reflection	Discusses the research process and connects the topic to personal observations and perspectives with sufficient detail.	Includes analysis of issues in field experience setting with sufficient detail.	Provides synthesis of research with personal observations and perspectives.
Conclusion	Provides a conclusion	Provides a conclusion that logically follows the argument	Articulates a conclusion that communicates and synthesizes the research.	Thoughtfully interprets the research and its significance to the content area.
Organization	Organization of the paper as a whole is not logical or discernable.	Organization of the paper as a whole can only be discerned with effort.	Organization of paper as a whole is logical and apparent, but transitions between paragraphs are not consistently smooth.	Organization of paper as a whole is logical and quickly apparent.
Mechanics	Paper contains many spelling, grammatical, and/or word usage errors; does not follow standard conventions for citation of sources	Paper contains spelling, grammatical, and/or word usage errors; approaches standard conventions for citation of sources	Paper is organized and neat with few spelling, grammatical, and/or word usage errors; consistent use of standard conventions for citation of sources.	Paper is neat, organized, and professional in presentation; all grammatical and citation conventions followed.