

# Biliteracy Development for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learners

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## CERTIFICATE OF BILITERACY

**THE NUMBER OF BILINGUAL STUDENTS IN U.S. PUBLIC SCHOOLS GREW 64% from 1995 to 2010**

- More schools are offering dual language, ESL, and world language classes Pre-K – 12.
- Texas has adopted the Seal of Biliteracy for high school diplomas.



The Certificate of Biliteracy is a post-baccalaureate certification for all educators: ESL teachers, dual language teachers, elementary teachers, middle and high school teachers, world language teachers, literacy coaches, administrators, and any educator invested in bilingual students' academic achievement.

### Courses for the Certificate Total=12 Credit Hours

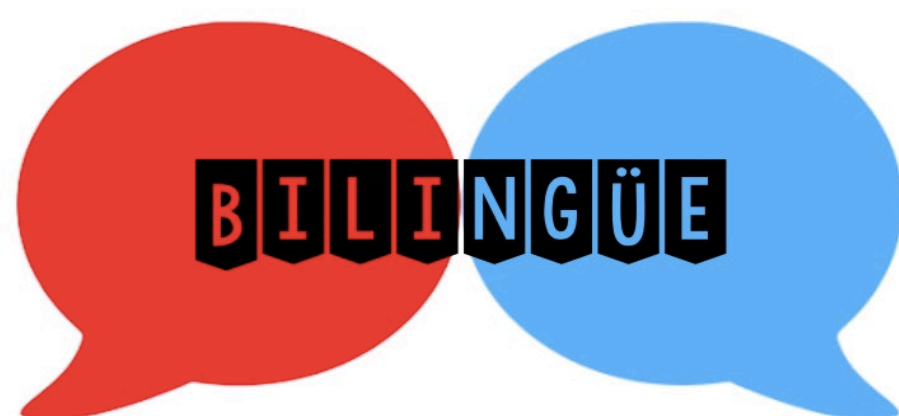
- READ 5423 Literacy Practice to Theory
- READ 5443 Literacy Assessment and Instruction
- READ 5503 Phono/Ortho Systems in Literacy
- READ 5453 Processes & Strategies for Comprehending Texts

## WHAT IS BILITERACY?

"The ability to read and write with high levels of proficiency in two languages through the appropriate and effective use of grammatical, syntactic, graphophonic, semantic, and pragmatic systems of the two languages" (Escamilla et al., 2014).

### BILITERACY is different from BILINGUALISM

- **Bilingualism** means the ability to speak fluently in two languages.



- **Biliteracy** denotes an individual's ability to speak, read, listen and write proficiently in two languages.
- Our research supports emergent bilinguals becoming highly proficient in all language domains in both English and Spanish.



## TEACHERS and SCHOOL

Teachers create targeted and purposeful opportunities to foster **cross-linguistic connections** through strategic instructional approaches.

### Translanguaging

- ❖ Bilinguals have one linguistic repertoire from which they strategically select features to communicate effectively and make meaning (García & Li Wei, 2014).
- ❖ Translanguaging pedagogy builds on ALL fluid language practices that bilingual students use to learn (Cummins, 2019).

### Cognate Awareness

- ❖ Cognates are words in two languages that share similar meaning, spelling, and pronunciation.
- ❖ Teaching cognate recognition supports biliteracy (Calderón & Slakk, 2018).

### Bridging

- ❖ Bridging is an instructional method which strategically guides emergent bilinguals to bring two languages together and identify similarities and differences.
- ❖ Emergent bilinguals make academic content connections between the languages.
- ❖ Learners engage in metalinguistic analysis of the two languages (Beeman & Urow, 2013).

## PARENTS and HOME

Parents are **key** to biliteracy development through native language use at home (Babino & Stewart, 2019).



**READ** with your child every day in your native language.



**TALK** with your child every day.

For oral language development, it is important that parents engage their children in meaningful conversation using the native language.



**NURTURE** a positive cultural identity in which your child values his/her native language in addition to English.