

English Language Learners and the Common Core

To successfully acquire both proficiency in English and content area knowledge, many English language learners (ELLs) require additional time, instructional support, and aligned assessments. In this course, you'll explore instructional and assessment strategies teachers can apply to their classrooms to support ELLs' reading, writing, speaking, and listening skills as they work to acquire knowledge and skills aligned with the Common Core State Standards. Through video examples, in-depth readings, and downloadable applications, you'll learn practical ways to help your ELLs attain rigorous grade-level expectations for literacy and mathematics, preparing them for college and careers.

Course Objectives

After completing this course, you should be able to

Module 1

- Understand that English language learners in the United States are a very diverse group of students.
- Examine the literacy shifts of the new Common Core and the implications for ELLs in the mainstream classroom.

Module 2

- Understand what research says about effective instruction and learning in a second or additional language.

- Understand how language skills in a native language can translate to English comprehension.

Module 3

- Scaffold instruction so ELLs at any language development level can meet or exceed the content standards while practicing and using the language and literacies of the content domain.
- Understand how language competencies are gained through the various stages of language development.

Module 4

- Differentiate between assessment for learning and assessment of learning.
- Describe various means for assessing students formatively.
- Use assessment as a tool to both inform and further instruction and allow students to show what they know in differentiated ways.

Module 5

- Understand how CREDE's Five Standards of Effective Pedagogy can guide classroom strategies to reinforce listening and speaking.
- Understand how instructional conversation offers ELLs more classroom opportunities to speak and ultimately improve their reading and writing skills.

Module 6

- Understand the interactions of the “culturally responsive teacher.”
- Assess equity in instructional practices in their classrooms.

Course Syllabus

Module 1	Who are English Language Learners? Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: How Common Core State Standards Can Help English Language Learners• Video: Passion, Practice, and Persistence Check for Understanding 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Using ELLs' Native Languages to Scaffold Academic Vocabulary• Video: The Diverse Experiences of English Language Learners• Reading: EL—The Demographic Imperative Check for Understanding 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Profile for English Language Learners• Module Journal
Module 2	What Teachers Need to Know Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video: Challenges of the Common Core• Video: Levels of Proficiency and the Common Core Standards• Reading: Understanding Principles for Language Development Is Key to Helping ELLs Meet Common Core Challenges• Reading: EL—Building on the Common Core Check for Understanding <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Application: Making Learning Meaningful Module Journal
Module 3	High Levels of Support for High Levels of Literacy Module Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reading: EL—Closing the Vocabulary Gap

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Video: Matching Instructional Methods to Student Needs • Reading: EL—Teacher Skills to Support English Language Learners • Reading: Strategies to Help Students Deal with Complex Language • Video: Nonverbal Communication <p>Check for Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application: Numbered Heads Together: Promoting Student-to-Student Discussion Among English Language Learners <p>Module Journal</p>
<p>Module 4</p>	<p>Assessment for Learning</p> <p>Module Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Using Formative Assessment to Help English Language Learners • Reading: EL—Formative Assessment that Empowers • Video: Gaining Independence Through Assessment <p>Check for Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application: Formative Assessment for Understanding <p>Module Journal</p>
<p>Module 5</p>	<p>Developing Listening and Speaking Strategies</p> <p>Module Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reading: Engaging ELLs Through Instructional Conversation • Reading: EL—How to Start Academic Conversations • Video: Coteaching to Support ELLs • Video: Encouraging Students to Use Resources <p>Check for Understanding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application: Practicing Academic Conversations <p>Module Journal</p>

Module 6

Culture

Module Welcome

- Video: Embracing Student Differences
- Reading: EL—The Culturally Responsive Teacher
- Video: Put Yourself in Their Shoes
- Reading: The Intersection of Culture and Language
- Video: Personal Formative Assessment

Check for Understanding

- Application: Widening the Cultural Vision of the Classroom

Module Journal

Resources

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