# SYLLABUS for Distance Learning

**Course Title:** EDRE 4840.020 Linguistically Diverse Learners 3HRS  
**Department of:** Teacher Education & Administration  
**School of:** Education

## Instructor Information
- **Instructor Name:** Dr. Paula Mason  
- **Office Location:** Virtual  
- **Office Phone:** Google Voice: 469-454-8252 (call or text)  
- **Email Address:** Paula.Mason@untdallas.edu

## Office Hours
- **Office Hours:** By Appointment

## Course Format/Structure
- **Classroom Location:** Online  
- **Class Meeting Days & Times:** Online

## Course Catalog Description
- Designed to enhance the awareness and understanding of pre-service teachers regarding the linguistically diverse learner. Includes study of the language and learning needs of language minority students, the affective aspect of the immigrant and refugee experience, and the impact of that experience on academic and linguistic development. Students will explore how to make practical application of course content in both the regular and the English-as-a-Second-Language classrooms.

## Prerequisites
- Admission to Teacher Education, EDRE 4450/4820 (may be taken concurrently)

## Co-requisites
- LING 3060 (may be taken concurrently).

## Required Text

## Recommended Text and References

### Access to Learning Resources:
- UNT Dallas Library: (Founders Hall)  
  - phone: (972) 780-1616  
  - web: [http://www.untdallas.edu/library](http://www.untdallas.edu/library)  
  - e-mail: Library@untdallas.edu  
- UNT Dallas Bookstore: (Building 1)  
  - phone: (972) 780-3652  
  - web: [http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore](http://www.untdallas.edu/bookstore)  
  - e-mail: untdallas@bkstr.com

## Course Goals or Overview
- The current reality in public schools includes many linguistically diverse students who desire to live and learn successfully in the United States. Classroom teachers must be ready, willing, and able to meet the needs of these students in their instructional programs. Central to this mission is the development of language competency and literacy skills that are expected in contemporary society. Linguistically diverse learners present a wonderful opportunity for teachers to apply sound theory and exciting instructional applications that enrich their classrooms on many levels. This course will enable students to increase their awareness and understanding of linguistically diverse learners, the language processes they experience, and the best instructional practices to incorporate that facilitate the progress of this special population. The course emphasizes language and literacy, but much regard will also be given to the cultural aspects related to language and learning experiences in order to meet the needs of the whole child.
Learning Objectives/Outcomes: At the end of this course, students will be able to:

1. describe origins of linguistically diverse learners.
2. describe the refugee and immigrant experience and the impact on teaching and learning.
3. describe the nature of language and language learning.
4. discuss, compare and contrast language acquisition and language learning.
5. describe the features of the English language that may cause problems for linguistically diverse students.
6. identify major categories of linguistically diverse students.
7. discuss affective implications and strategies for developing cross-cultural sensitivity in the classroom.
8. identify techniques and instruments for evaluating language dominance and language growth.
9. identify sources of appropriate materials and activities for the linguistically diverse student in the ESL classroom and/or the content area.
10. establish effective learning environments that are supportive of ESL learners who come from diverse backgrounds.
11. provide instruction that reflects the interrelationships of reading, writing, listening, and speaking and facilitate learner’s abilities to construct and convey meaning in English.

NEW EDUCATOR STANDARDS
The content and objectives of this course are aligned with the INTASC Standards of the Department of Teacher Education, with the state of Texas ESL standards, and with the National Teachers of English for Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) standards.

INTASC STANDARD
The teacher understands and uses formal and informal assessment strategies to evaluate and ensure the continuous intellectual, social, and physical development of the learner.

TESOL Standard 4 Assessment
Candidates understand issues of assessment and use of standards-based measures with ESOL students.

TEXAS STATE Standards
State ESL Standard VI
The ESL teacher understands formal and informal assessment procedures and instruments (language proficiency and academic achievement) used in ESL programs and uses assessment results to plan and adapt instruction.

State Bilingual Standard IV
The bilingual education teacher has a comprehensive knowledge of the development and assessment of literacy in the primary language.
Online/Hybrid Course Outline
This schedule is subject to change by the instructor. Any changes to this schedule will be communicated via class email or Blackboard announcement.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Schedule</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Activities</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1 June 12-18</td>
<td>ELLs/Language Acquisition/Oral Language Chapters 1, 2, 5</td>
<td>Discussion Questions (DQs) Chapter Graphic Organizers</td>
<td>DQs due Wed &amp; Fri Assignments due Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 2 June 19-25</td>
<td>Beginning Reading &amp; Writing/Vocabulary Chapters 6, 7</td>
<td>Discussion Questions (DQs) Chapter Graphic Organizers</td>
<td>DQs due Wed &amp; Fri Assignments due Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3 June 26-July 2</td>
<td>Process Writing/Reading &amp; Literature Instruction Chapters 8, 9</td>
<td>Discussion Questions (DQs) Chapter Graphic Organizers</td>
<td>DQs due Wed &amp; Fri Assignments due Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4 July 3-9</td>
<td>Before During After Reading Strategies Chapters 10, 11</td>
<td>Discussion Questions (DQs) Chapter Graphic Organizers</td>
<td>DQs due Wed &amp; Fri Assignments due Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Week 5 July 10-14</td>
<td>Classroom Practices/New Literacies Chapters 3, 4</td>
<td>Chapter Graphic Organizers TK20 How-To Essay</td>
<td>Final Assignments due Friday, July 14</td>
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Course Evaluation Methods
This course will utilize the following instruments to determine student grades and proficiency of the learning outcomes for the course.

- Discussion Questions
- Chapter Mind Maps (graphic organizers)
- Big 5 Project
- How-To Essay

Grading Matrix:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activities/Assignments</th>
<th>Value (percentages)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discussion Questions</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chapter Mind Maps (graphic organizers)</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Big 5 Project</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How to Essay</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total:</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grade Determination
A = 90% or better
B = 80 – 89 %
C = 70 – 79 %
D = 60 – 69 %
F = less than 60%

Revised April 2016 supersedes all previous versions
University Policies and Procedures
Students with Disabilities (ADA Compliance):

Chapter 7(7.004) Disability Accommodations for Students

The University of North Texas at Dallas makes reasonable academic accommodation for students with disabilities. Students seeking accommodations must first register with the Disability Services Office (DSO) to verify their eligibility. If a disability is verified, the DSO will provide you with an accommodation letter to be delivered to faculty to begin a private discussion regarding your specific needs in a course. You may request accommodations at any time, however, DSO notices of accommodation should be provided as early as possible in the semester to avoid any delay in implementation. Note that students must obtain a new letter of accommodation for every semester and must meet/communicate with each faculty member prior to implementation in each class. Students are strongly encouraged to deliver letters of accommodation during faculty office hours or by appointment. Faculty members have the authority to ask students to discuss such letters during their designated office hours to protect the privacy of the student. For additional information see the Disability Services Office website at http://www.untdallas.edu/disability. You may also contact them by phone at 972-338-1777; by email at UNTDdisability@untdallas.edu or at Building 2, room 204.

Blackboard Learn Accessibility Statement:
The University of North Texas at Dallas is committed to ensuring its online and hybrid courses are usable by all students and faculty, including those with disabilities. If you encounter any difficulties with technologies, please contact our ITSS Department. To better assist them, you would want to have the operating system, web browser and information on any assistive technology being used. Blackboard Learn course management system's accessibility statement is also provided: http://www.blackboard.com/Platforms/Learn/Resources/Accessibility.aspx

NOTE: Additional instructional technology tools, such as Turnitin, Respondus, Panopto, and publisher cartridge content (i.e. MyLab, Pearson, etc.) may NOT be fully ADA compliant. Please contact our Disability Office should you require additional assistance utilizing any of these tools.

Course Evaluation Policy:
Student evaluations of teaching effectiveness is a requirement for all organized classes at UNT Dallas. This short survey will be made available to you at the end of the semester, providing you a chance to comment on how this class is taught. I am very interested in the feedback I get from students, as I work to continually improve my teaching. I consider students' evaluations to be an important part of your participation in this class.

Assignment Policy:
Assignments are due at the date and time indicated in Blackboard and the syllabus. In case of illness, an excuse will be required for work to be accepted late (no more than 3 calendar days). In case of a death in the family, obituary evidence will be required. Other extraneous circumstances such as accidents, inclement weather or epidemics will be dealt with on a case by case basis. A penalty of 10% per day will be taken on late assignments. Students who need help with Blackboard should contact the Student Help Desk at 972-338-5580 or UNTDistance@unt.edu.

TK20 MANDATORY COURSE REQUIREMENT:
This course requires the “How To” Essay to be uploaded the week before final exams and assessed by the instructor in the TK20 Assessment System. This will require a one-time purchase of TK20. Student subscriptions will be effective for seven years from the date of purchase. Please go to the following web link for directions on how to purchase Tk20, http://www.untdallas.edu/ehs/tk20. Announcements regarding training on use of the TK20 system will also be posted on this webpage.

Exam Policy:
Exams should be taken as scheduled. No makeup examinations will be allowed except for documented emergencies (See Student Handbook). NOTE: Online exams may be proctored on campus per instructor’s discretion.

Academic Integrity:
Revised April 2016 supersedes all previous versions
Academic integrity is a hallmark of higher education. You are expected to abide by the University’s code of Academic Integrity policy. Any person suspected of academic dishonesty (i.e., cheating or plagiarism) will be handled in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Academic Integrity at http://www.untdallas.edu/sites/default/files/page_level2/pdf/policy/7.002%20Code%20of%20Academic_Integrity.pdf for complete provisions of this code.

Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to, cheating, plagiarizing, fabrication of information or citations, facilitating acts of dishonesty by others, having unauthorized possession of examinations, submitting work of another person or work previously used without informing the instructor, or tampering with the academic work of other students.

Web-based Plagiarism Detection: Please be aware in some online or hybrid courses, students may be required to submit written assignments to Turnitin, a web-based plagiarism detection service, or another method. If submitting to Turnitin, please remove your title page and other personal information.

**Classroom Policies**

**Online Attendance and Participation:**
The University attendance policy is in effect for this course. Class attendance in the Blackboard classroom and participation is expected because the class is designed as a shared learning experience, and because essential information not in the textbook will be discussed in the discussion board. Online presence and participation in all class discussions is essential to the integration of course material and your ability to demonstrate proficiency.

Attendance for this online or hybrid course is considered when you are logged in and active in Blackboard, i.e., posting assignments, taking quizzes, or completing Discussion Boards. To maintain financial aid award eligibility, activity must occur before the census date of the session or term of the course. Refer to http://www.untdallas.edu/registrar for specific dates. If you are absent/not active in the course shell, it is YOUR responsibility to let the instructor know immediately, upon your return, the reason for your absence if it is to be excused. All instructors must follow university policy 7.005 covering excused absences; however, it is the instructor’s discretion, as outlined in the course syllabus, of how unexcused absences may or may not count against successful completion of the course.

**Inclement Weather and Online Classes:**
Online classes may or may not be effected by campus closures due to inclement weather. Unless otherwise notified by your instructor via e-mail, online messaging, or online announcement, students should assume that assignments are due as scheduled.

**Online “Netiquette:**
In any social interaction, certain rules of etiquette are expected and contribute to more enjoyable and productive communication. Emails, Discussion Board messages and/or any other forms of written communication in the online environment should use proper “netiquette” (i.e., no writing in all caps (usually denotes yelling), no curse words, and no “flaming” messages (angry, personal attacks).

Racial, ethnic, or gender slurs will not be tolerated, nor will pornography of any kind.

Any violation of online netiquette may result in a loss of points or removal from the course and referral to the Dean of Students, including warnings and other sanctions in accordance with the University’s policies and procedures. Refer to the Student Code of Student Rights Responsibilities and Conduct at http://www.untdallas.edu/osa/policies. Respect is a given principle in all online communication. Therefore, please be sure to proofread all of your written communication prior to submission.

**Diversity/Tolerance Policy:**
Students are encouraged to contribute their perspectives and insights to class discussions in the online environment. However, offensive & inappropriate language (swearing) and remarks offensive to others of particular nationalities, ethnic groups, sexual preferences, religious groups, genders, or other ascribed statuses will not be

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tolerated. Disruptions which violate the Code of Student Conduct will be referred to the Dean of Students as the instructor deems appropriate.

**Technology Requirements:** In order to successfully access the materials in an online or hybrid course, UNT Dallas advises that your computer be equipped with the minimum system requirements.

Blackboard Learn 9.1 is the platform software for this course. Blackboard Learn supports major web browsers such as Windows Internet Explorer, Apple Safari, Mozilla Firefox, and Google Chrome. However, since the latter two are updated continually, some recent versions may not be compatible. If you experience difficulty accessing or using components of the course, try using Internet Explorer. Also, no matter what browser you use, always enable pop-ups. For more information see:

- [http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements](http://www.untdallas.edu/dlit/ecampus/requirements)
- [https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom](https://blackboard.secure.force.com/publickbarticleview?id=kAB700000008Oom)
- [https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html](https://learn.unt.edu/bbcswebdav/institution/BrowserCheck/check_full.html)