Education for Cultural & Linguistic Diversity (ECLD)
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The increasing ethnic and linguistic diversity of our society creates opportunities and challenges that impact schools, communities, and workplaces. Two different minors are available for UVM students who want to develop skills to work in culturally and linguistically diverse communities.

Benefits and Learning Outcomes

- Enhanced cross-cultural communication skills and culturally sustaining practices
- Experience working with ELL (English Language Learner) communities
- Appreciation and understanding of cultural and linguistic diversity
- Awareness of the intersection of immigration and educational policies
- Exploration of language delivery models
- Learning the benefits of family, school, and community partnerships
- Understanding of migration and immigration issues

I am learning a lot of new information about refugee families in my coursework, and ways that I can better collaborate with families who may have language barriers.

Mikayla LeBlanc ('19)

Did you know?

⇒ English language learners (ELLs) are the fastest-growing student population group – nearly 1 in 4 students is an ELL.
⇒ There were more than 4.6 million ELL students in public schools during the 2015-16 school year, yet only 78,000 teachers dedicated to addressing their needs.

Choose Your Minor:

Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (18 credits)

is for all UVM majors who want to develop cultural competency skills working with culturally and linguistically diverse communities in a variety of professional and community settings. Interdisciplinary coursework includes a variety of electives in Communication Sciences and Disorders, Cultural Anthropology, Higher Education, Human Development, Linguistics, Social Work, and Sociology.

Education for Cultural and Linguistic Diversity – Endorsement (21 credits)

is for Education majors pursuing an additional teaching certification in their licensure program to work with English language learner students (ELLs). Required coursework includes a practicum working in a local school. Students learn to address cultural and language learning needs, create culturally responsive lessons and curriculum, understand distinctions between language-based disabilities and language needs, and navigate state policies and program planning for ELL students.

*Some classes will fulfill D1 and D2 requirements for students.

Core Courses for Both Minors

*ECLD replaces the former EDTE prefix

- ECLD 056 (D1) Language Policy, Race, & School
- ECLD 102/202* Bilingual Education & Policy
  *Undergraduate students take ECLD 102
- ECLD 205 Home, School, & Community Collaboration

The classes are really interesting, learning about diversity and different cultures. I once was an ELL student, and I love traveling and learning about different cultures.

Julia Salo ('19)