

Faculty Sponsored Master's Projects

Title of Project: Case Studies in Bilingual Special Education

Project Advisor: Dr. Julie Esparza Brown

Description of Project: Master's candidates will collect data to construct case studies of bilingual students in special education programs to use in preservice special education coursework. Master's candidates will invite parents of bilingual (Spanish) children with disabilities (two to four families) to participate in the study. Researchers will obtain written consent from the parent to review their children's cumulative school records and special education records. Researchers will also request a copy of their children's current IEP. Using a framework provided by the Project Advisors, candidates will complete a case study from the above data. Candidates will also interview parents on their perspectives of the eligibility process and program in order to include their voices. The interviews will be audiorecorded and later transcribed. All confidential information will be redacted from materials. The completed case studies will be provided to half of the students enrolled in SPED 512: Diagnostic Assessment during Spring, 2012. The other half of the students will receive traditional lecture/discussion on the issues of bilingual special education during one class period. At the end of the instruction/case study review, a questionnaire will be administered to all students in order to answer the above research questions. The results will be analyzed by Master's candidates and a formal presentation will be presented to preservice special education licensure students and faculty.

Number of Participants: 4-6

Project Timeline: Winter 2012 - Spring 2012

Special qualifications or considerations: Approval of project advisor