

## DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 385 321

JC 950 394

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 TITLE Compton Community College General Education Associate of Arts/Certification, Bilingual Immersion Program for the California State University System.  
 INSTITUTION Compton Community Coll., Calif.  
 PUB DATE 95  
 NOTE 10p.  
 PUB TYPE Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.  
 DESCRIPTORS \*Associate Degrees; Bilingual Education; \*Bilingual Education Programs; Community Colleges; \*English (Second Language); \*Immersion Programs; Limited English Speaking; Two Year Colleges  
 IDENTIFIERS Compton Community College CA

## ABSTRACT

The Compton Community College (CCC) General Education Associate of Arts/Certification Bilingual Immersion Program (BIP) is designed to allow English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) or limited English proficiency (LEP) students to study subjects beyond ESL in a bilingual setting. Current ESL programs offer students no opportunity to take degree/transfer credit courses until they have achieved proficiency in English, usually a 3-year process. As a result, the majority of ESL students neither earn a degree nor transfer. The BIP would allow ESL/LEP students to earn an associate's degree while meeting California State University transfer requirements and mastering English. The transfer/degree credit classes would be taught by bilingual instructors, and course content would mirror that in an English-only classroom. To qualify for and remain in the program a BIP student would have to meet the following requirements: 60 units of degree applicable work with a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of "C" or better in all courses counted for the degree and major; all 60 units must be completed at CCC; in addition to ESL course work, each student must take a minimum of 2 courses per semester (12 units per year) and complete the program in a maximum of 5 years. Students must earn the 60 units in the following 6 areas: communication and the English language and critical thinking (12 units); natural science and mathematics (9 units); arts and humanities (9 units); social science (9 units); understanding and self-development (3 units); and counseling (6 units). The most important component of the program is locating qualified bilingual instructors. In order to achieve success with the BIP program a tutorial aspect will be included. The tutorial program will provide course assistance and teach students computer skills to enhance their success in the classroom and in the job market. (KP)

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***Compton Community College General Education  
Associate of Arts/Certification, Bilingual Immersion  
Program for the California State University System***

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Compton Community College  
General Education Associate of Arts/Certification,  
Bilingual Immersion Program for the California State University  
System

The Compton Community College General Education Associate of Arts/Certification Bilingual Immersion Program for the California State University System is designed for those English as a second language or limited English proficiency students.

The second largest department at Compton Community College is English as a Second Language. Unfortunately, 1500 Latino students can spend up to four years taking only ESL courses and simultaneously never be exposed to any other subject, much less, leave with a diploma or certificate. Moreover, due to the demand of employment and low income, they average close to five years of ESL courses or drop out of frustration.

The mission statement essentially would be to provide the opportunity for those ESL, limited English proficiency(LEP) or any other student interested in learning in a bilingual environment.

The focus is to provide ESL, LEP students the ability to be enrolled concurrently in an educational program that will expand their knowledge in college prep courses, ultimately leading to an Associate of Arts degree in general education, with the option of transferring to a California State University. Courses would be taught by qualified instructors(Master of Arts in subject area minimum, plus be bilingual and biliterate).

A pilot class in the history department(History of Mexico) was conducted in spring, 1995 by Julian S. Camacho, adjunct faculty, also director of institutional research. This experiment has resulted in both English only and limited English proficiency students obtaining the same quality of teaching and learning. First and second examination results indicate no vast difference among both students. For those LEAP students, in the examination, they are required to write in both Spanish and English to their best ability.

#### Office of Instruction

The Bilingual Immersion Program would be under the direction of the Vice-President of Instruction and would have a bilingual counselor for those students. Compton College currently has out of five counselors, two bilingual counselors. One counselor would be assigned to those students and would monitor the students on a semester by semester basis. Moreover, tracking and semester reports would be conducted by the Director of Institutional Research to monitor progress and provide student summaries to the Vice-President of Instruction.

#### Bilingual Immersion Program Structure

The education program would consist of the same structure as graduation requirements for the Associate of Arts Degree. Students would be required to see a counselor and arrange a curriculum plan appropriate for the school to which they intend to transfer. Due to the fact that 95% of our students transfer to

California State University, Dominguez Hills, three miles west of Compton Community College, the Bilingual Immersion Program is designed to meet California State University transfer requirements. There have been preliminary discussions with representatives from CSU, Dominguez Hills and the feedback has been extremely positive.

The student must meet the following requirements:

- a. A student must complete 60 units of degree applicable work with a cumulative grade point average of "C" or better (2.0) in all courses counted for the degree. ESL, math and English basic skills courses are not applicable.
- b. A student must achieve a grade point average of "C" or better (2.) in all course work that is counted for the major.
- c. All sixty units must be completed at Compton College.
- d. Each student must take a minimum of two courses per semester or four courses per year, equivalent to 12 units. Student must complete program in five years, if they have mastered English previously, they can take more courses and graduate beforehand.

Bilingual Immersion  
Five Year Program

1995	Fall	Spring	Total
Year 1	2 Courses-6 units	2 Courses-6 units	12 Units
Year 2	2 Courses-6 units	2 Courses-6 units	24 "
Year 3	2 Courses-6 units	2 Courses-6 units	36 "
Year 4	2 Courses-6 units	2 Courses-6 units	48 "
Year 5	2 Courses-6 units	2 Courses-6 units	60"

Area A- Communication in the English Language and Critical Thinking (12 units)

- (1) English 1A & 1C (English Only)
- (2) Speech 2or 3 (English Only)
- (3) Philosophy 3 (English Only)

All other classes will be taught bilingually unless indicated otherwise.

Area B- Natural Science & Mathematics (9Units)

- (1) Life Science 1  
Microbiology 1
  - (2) Geology 1  
Physical Science 4 (Concepts in Physical Science)
  - (3) Mathematics 7(Introduction to Statistics)  
Mathematics 27(Math for Liberal Studies)
- Non-Transferable/Basic Skills math courses will also be offered in preparation for math 7 and 27. They are as follows:
    - Mathematics 3(Elementary Algebra) one semester only
    - Mathematics 3A & 3B ( Same as math 3, however given in two semesters)
    - Mathematics 5 (Intermediate Algebra)

Area C- Humanities & Arts (9 units)

- (1) English 1B (English Only)
- 2) Ethnic Studies 1A

Philosophy 1A (Introduction to Philosophy)  
Philosophy 1B (Introduction to Philosophy)

- (3) Art 6 (Art Appreciation)  
Art 8A (Art History I)  
Art 8B (Art History II)  
Music 1 (Music Appreciation)  
Music 2 (History of Music)

Humanities 1 (Humanities Through The Arts)

Area D-Social Science (9 units)

- 1) History 3A & 3B (Political & Social History of US)  
History 2 (US History) and Political Science 2 (American Political  
Institutions)
- 2) Anthropology 2 (Cultural Anthropology)  
Economics 1 & 2  
Geography 2 (Cultural)  
History 5 (History of Latin America)
- History 14 (History of Mexico)  
This course was taught in English and Spanish-Pilot  
Class
- Psychology 1A ( General Psychology)
- Psychology 9 (Human Development)
- Sociology 1 (Introduction to Sociology)

Area E- Understanding and Self Development (3 Units)

- (1) Health Education 23
- (2) Psychology 2 (Elementary Physiological Psychology)
- (3) Nutrition 6

#### Area F- Counseling (6 Units)

- (1) Counseling 1
  - (2) Computer Information System 3
  - (3) Counseling 6  
If enrolled in Associate of Science degree program
- All Students Have The Option To Take Other Courses That Might Not Be Listed In the Bilingual Immersion Program: Such as Spanish 1, 2, 3, 4 in Humanities or Astronomy in Natural Science & Mathematics.

#### Bilingual Instructors

The most important component of the Bilingual Immersion Program is to identify instructors by the areas of study and that they meet minimum bilingual requirements established by Compton Community College, either through an undergraduate major, Master's degree or graduate work in Spanish or joint degree majors.

#### Ten instructors would be needed in the following subjects:

- Human Science(Lab Included)- 1 (Two Courses)



- Physical Science- 1 (Two Courses)
- Math- 1 (Five Courses)
- Social Science- 2 (Ten Courses)
- Art- 1 (Two Courses)
- Music/Humanities- 1 (Three Courses)
- Health Education/Nutrition- 1 (Two Courses)
- Counseling- 1 (One Course/Person Already Here)
- Computer Information Science- 1 (Two Courses)

Most courses except for math or human sciences(four units) would be three units.

#### Bilingual Immersion Tutorial Program

In order to achieve success with the Bilingual Immersion Program, there needs to be a support structure for those students, so they can obtain one on one tutorial assistance and simultaneously, learn computer information skills that will enhance their success in the classroom and in the job market. Outdated computer equipment has resulted in Latino students not having the necessary job skills needed to compete in the market and at the four-year university level. It is of no coincidence that many of our students are in poverty levels, according to the 1990 U. S. Census figures.

There are close to 2,000 Latino students out of a total of 5,000 at Compton College and we expect this number to increase according to the demographic trends of the district.

#### Importance of the Bilingual Immersion Tutorial Program

The tutorial program serves the purpose of a support structure for the bilingual immersion program, however to make sure that students take advantage of the centers, all students will be required to devote certain amount of hours to make sure they are progressing adequately.

#### Conclusion

For 1500 ESL students, it is unfortunate that they are in an educational program that requires three years of full time study with no degree or certificate in return, or even have the possibility of taking other courses that will lead to a degree. We at Compton Community College believe we can address this unfortunate scenario by providing the Bilingual Immersion Program. Though the length of the program indicates five years, essentially students will still leave with a degree in hand and be set upon a path of hope and success.