Katherine Richardson Bruna

Major Courses

**Multicultural Education**
*(Undergraduate and Graduate)*

This course will provide teacher candidates and other professionals who will work in this multicultural society with an opportunity to explore issues related to cultural and linguistic diversity and educational and social equity. Generally, it will promote awareness of 1) how various dimensions of identity (race, ethnicity, class, gender, language, etc.) affect individuals’ educational experiences, academic outcomes, and socio-economic well-being, 2) how schooling plays an important role in reproducing or interrupting these effects, and 3) how approaches to school organization and curriculum planning and instruction can enhance success for all. Specifically, it will achieve the following objectives:

- situate cultural and linguistic diversity within program, state, and national educational agendas
- define and explain key paradigms and concepts in multiculturalism and multicultural education
- identify and illustrate essential components of multicultural education at the school and classroom level
- promote the articulation of a professional position on multicultural education and the establishment of an action plan for implementation
- develop competency in multicultural lesson planning

**Bilingualism, Bilingual Education, and U.S. Mexican Youth**
*(Undergraduate and Graduate)*

Given our nation’s increasing cultural and linguistic diversity, it is imperative that teachers and other education-related practitioners be familiar with issues related to educational policy and practice with bicultural and bilingual learners. This course has been developed to provide such familiarity. Using the experiences of U.S. Mexican youth as the focus of class readings and discussions, we will examine in what ways the policy environment, school program structure, and mode of classroom instruction work together to influence the establishment and attainment of biculturalism and bilingualism as key learning, teaching, and living goals in U.S. schools and society. Throughout the course, students will be encouraged to develop, describe, and defend their professional stance on bilingualism and bilingual education as well as understand their roles as teachers, researchers, and community members in enhancing the socio-educational experiences of youth from underrepresented cultural and linguistic groups.