

Bilingual and Diverse Teachers Conference



Western Oregon
UNIVERSITY
College of Education

Saturday, May 17, 2025
8:30am-2:30pm
RWEC Building, WOU Campus

8:30-9:00: Refreshments, Welcome, and Introductions (RWEC 101)

9:00-10:00: Keynote Address (RWEC 101)

Building Resilience by Connecting to our Roots and Community

***Carlos Obed Texidor
Maldonado, Ph.D., Assistant
Professor of Rehabilitation and
Mental Health Counseling at WOU***

We will explore how to build resilience amid difficulties and learn practical self-care strategies grounded in the lived experiences of Latine students and educators from immigrant backgrounds. We will discuss how to care for our well-being while building community support in the face of ongoing social, political, and educational challenges. Together, we will reflect on how our cultural strengths and shared experiences can be sources of resilience and healing.



10:10-11:00: Breakout session 1

11:10-12:00: Breakout session 2

These sessions will be repeated in Breakout Sessions 1 and 2:

RWEC 102

Incorporating play inquiry in elementary classrooms

Incorporación de las practicas lúdicas en las aulas de primaria

Maricela Xuncax Lazo, 3rd Grade Dual Language Teacher, Beaverton School District

We will explore strategies that encourage all students to express themselves and think critically about academic content while using art and manipulatives.

Exploraremos estrategias que estimulen a todos los estudiantes a expresarse y a pensar críticamente sobre contenidos académicos mientras utilizan el arte y los manipulativos.

(Note: This session will be presented in English and Spanish)

RWEC 104

Strategies to promote oral language development in the classroom

Estrategias para promover la práctica oral en el aula

Jeanette Betancourt, Middle School Dual Language Teacher, Corvallis School District

Oral practice is very important in a classroom. In this session we will share some strategies and daily routines to promote oral language skills and improve vocabulary development.

La práctica oral es muy importante en el aula. En esta sesión vamos a compartir algunas estrategias y rutinas diarias para promover las habilidades del lenguaje oral y mejorar el desarrollo del vocabulario.

(Note: This session will be presented in English and Spanish)

RWEC 106

TBA

RWEC 107

TBA

12:00-1:15pm: Lunch at Valsetz Dining Hall (Free Vouchers Provided)

1:30-2:15pm: Participant UnConference, led by *Lourdes Salazar, Graduate Assistant, Bilingual and Diverse Teacher Scholars Program, WOU* (RWEC 101)

2:15-2:30pm: Book Giveaway (RWEC 101)

We look forward to your participation!

¡Esperamos su participación!

Parking is free on campus on Saturdays!



Questions?

Contact Dr. Maria Dantas-Whitney at dantasm@wou.edu