

VISION STATEMENT

ESL DEPARTMENT

April 23, 1999

By the year 2003, we can expect the following state mandates:

1. All incoming L2 (second language learning) students will have to be placed into ESL/English courses with a computerized and adaptive placement test.
2. L2 students who apply to IHEs (Institutions of Higher Education) and who do not pass these four-year schools English placement tests will be referred to community colleges.

The L2 student population at BHCC will continue to become more diverse: racially, ethnically, learning styles, and academic skills.

- We can expect more and younger refugees from Eastern Europe, East and North Africa, and South America. Those we have seen so far are quick learners, have had high levels of education in their native countries, and wish to pursue an academic track at BHCC.

These students will succeed.

- There will be more L2 students who graduate from local area high schools. Some of these high school graduates will have not only low level language skills but also weak academic reading and writing skills.
- There will continue to be more refugees/immigrants from all over the world who have low level language skills in L1 (first language) and L2 (second language).

Our biggest challenge will be to meet the needs of these last two groups so that they succeed in higher education.

By the year 2003, BHCC and the ESL Department will have the following services in place to successfully meet the needs of our L2 customers.

1. An International center, which in addition to other responsibilities, will organize and coordinate all services for L2 students: Recruitment, Enrollment, Advising, and Registration.

2. The three-semester master schedule: All students will be able to register for Fall, Spring, and Summer semesters at one time. All faculty members' names (full-time and adjunct) will be listed in the master schedule.

3. An academic ESL Department that specializes in preparing L2 learners for academic content courses at BHCC or other IHEs.
 - The 3 + 2 model: Three hours in class and two structured hours learning in the CSDL with software and tutors and/or the MAC learning with tutors.
 - The CSDL with its 25 networked computer stations will have seven (7) tutors assigned during peak operating times so that for every three students working on a computer there will be one tutor to guide and encourage them.
 - Almost all advanced level ESL courses will be paired with a college content course.

4. A general ESL Department that will offer a wide range of L2 instruction from literacy to preparation for academic ESL courses to ESL for life long learning.

5. More Certificate of Completion programs following the ESL/Electronics and ESL/Allied health models.