WELCOME!
The English for Multilingual Students program welcomes local bilingual/bicultural students seeking to improve their language skills and English language learners from around the world. The EMS program is designed to equip English learners with language skills required for academic work at the college or university level. The Bakersfield College EMS program provides opportunities to build skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

What are students saying about BC EMS?
“I strongly feel that I wouldn’t be writing a thesis as part of my Masters requirements if I hadn’t had extraordinary and highly qualified professors who taught me well in the BC EMS department. Thank you Ms. Parent and Ms. McQuerrey for helping me build and shape the foundation of my skills in the English language.”
- Nancy Leon, Long Beach State University Graduate Student in Social Work

“The EMS program at BC is so good that it does not only prepare students to pass the English writing test required to graduate, but also to meet university writing levels.”
- Juan Duran, Long Beach State University Student (former BC student)

Contact Us
Visit our Website at:
www.bakersfieldcollege.edu/departments/?id=16
or
www2.bakersfieldcollege.edu/ems

Contact the EMS Department Chair, Jeannie Parent at:
jparent@bakersfieldcollege.edu

or

Contact the International Student Counselor, Shohreh Raman, at:
www.srahman@bakersfieldcollege.edu/international
Benefits of being bilingual
It pays to be bilingual! How can you improve yourself to compete successfully in our global workforce?

More job opportunities
According to a study carried out by the University of Florida, the University of Miami and the Florida Department of Education, Hispanics who are fluent in Spanish and English earn almost $7,000 more than their English-only counterparts.

According to another study, in the U.S. bilinguals earn 7 percent more than monolinguals.

The Los Angeles Unified School District pays bilingual teachers a bonus of up to $5,000 annually.

More confidence when writing/Speaking English
Do you understand the importance of being bilingual in our global, 21st century?

“Individuals who speak more than one language have the ability to communicate with more people, read more literature, and benefit more fully from travel abroad. Knowing a second language also gives people a competitive advantage in the workforce. These are some of the compelling reasons for parents to encourage the development of a second [or third] language with their children.” Kathleen Marcus, ERIC, Clearinghouse on Languages and Linguistics

More community and cultural connections
How can you feel more connected and empowered in our community?

Being bilingual will remove barriers in the workplace and in the community at large. With fluent English language skills, students will no longer be marginalized or stigmatized, but will be able to participate fully in the democratic culture in the U.S.

International social activities
EMS students can join the Intercultural Student Association, which meets weekly and hosts activities such as International Week, Cup of Culture, Thanksgiving Dinner, and the International Talent Show. Get involved!

Admissions/Placement
Students must take the COMPASS ESL placement test at the assessment center in order to be placed in the appropriate EMS course. This is a computerized test that, taken together with the Math portion, takes approximately 2 hours.

Courses
The EMS Department offers a wide variety of courses, such as Listening/Speaking, Pronunciation, Reading, Grammar/Writing, and Advanced Composition. Students can take classes simply to improve their English skills, work towards a degree, or transfer to a university. Classes are offered at all times - during the morning, afternoon, or even after work in the evening. Students can go online at www.bakersfieldcollege.edu to get the current schedule of classes.

Technology/Language Lab
A state of the art Multi-Media Language Lab serves EMS, American Sign Language, and Foreign Language students. It provides interactive web-based video, audio, and recording capabilities in private student carrels, so students can communicate and interact with one another or engage globally with foreign students. The privacy of headset/microphones promotes speaking ability and encourages students to talk freely and lose inhibitions as students feel more anonymous. Listening skills improve as students hear correct language patterns, and attention is heightened due to the excitement of using modern technology.

The Writing Center
The Bakersfield College Writing Center allows students to craft their writing in every stage of the writing process: from intervention and structure to style and mechanics. The Writing Center offers students the opportunity to work through their writing processes and improve on long-range and short-term writing tasks by participating in student-led, one-on-one sessions facilitated by a writing consultant who, along with the student, aims to identify strengths and weaknesses in the student's work with the goal of helping the student acquire life-long skills for writing independence. Contact the center by email at: writingcenter@bakersfieldcollege.edu By phone: 661/395-4435 or 661/395-4735

Faculty
Our faculty is highly trained and has lived or studied and taught abroad in countries such as Japan, Spain, Mexico, Guatemala, England, Sweden, France, Norway, Germany, France, and the Kuwait.