

# ELI MIGRANT WORKER OUTREACH AND EDUCATION PROGRAM



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## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

For over 20 years, the English Language Institute's Migrant Worker Outreach and Education Program has been connecting students at the University of Michigan with the migrant farmworker communities of southeast Michigan for language teaching, translation services, outreach, and cultural exchange. This innovative two-course sequence, a collaboration with the Residential College, Department of American Culture, and Program in Latina/o Studies, provides a challenging academic experience both in the classroom and in the field. Students first learn about issues facing migrant farmworkers in the U.S. and approaches to teaching English to diverse populations with mixed English proficiency. In the practicum, students take their academic skills directly into the community teaching English or working with agencies servicing the migrant community. Alumni of this program attest to the many ways that it honed their leadership and communication skills, enhanced their ability to think on their feet in unpredictable circumstances, and provided them with a savvy and sophisticated view of the rapidly changing national demographics.

## COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

### ELI 395/AMCULT 361/LATINOAM 361/RCSSCI 395/ LING 391/EDUC 395

#### Principles and Practices of ESL Teaching in Migrant Communities

*Offered in Winter Semester and Spring Half-Term\**

In preparation for working with the migrant population in ELI 396, students in this course explore the themes of "Language and Community" as they learn about the experience of migrant farmworkers in southeast Michigan. What is the economic, cultural, and historical context of migrant farm work in the US? Who are the workers? Where do they come from? How do they live? What is the history of migrant outreach and education efforts? As they investigate these questions, students also learn and practice the methods and techniques for teaching ESL to a mixed-proficiency, primarily Spanish-speaking population. These include conducting a basic needs analysis to identify learning objectives, drafting and revising lesson plans, and creating original teaching materials. Students participating in this course are eligible to work with migrant families in ELI 396. (3 credits)



### ELI 396/AMCULT 362/LATINOAM 362/RCSSCI 396/ LING 396/EDUC 396

#### Migrant Community Outreach and ESL Teaching Practicum

*Offered in the Summer Half-Term\**

In this summer half-term course, students either teach ESL to migrant farmworkers and their families or intern with an agency or organization servicing the health and legal needs of the migrant community. Students teaching at the camps meet regularly with instructor to design lesson plans and teaching materials. All students engage in intensive reflection on the experience in discussions and written assignments. Placement locations, dates and times vary depending on agency and student schedules. Some knowledge of Spanish preferred, but not required. Transportation to placements is available. Note: Enrollment is by permission of instructor. Pre-requisite: ELI 395/ELI 390/ELI 391 or previous ESL/language teaching experience. (2-3 credits)

*\*Students participating in the Spring/Summer courses are eligible for LSA scholarships. For more information visit: [lsa.umich.edu/scholarships](http://lsa.umich.edu/scholarships).*

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