

Assessment and Treatment Considerations in Multicultural Populations for Speech-Language Pathologists

by Ana Paula G. Mummy, MS, CCC-SLP

Course Description:

The U.S. Census Bureau reports there are more than 54 million individuals in the United States who speak a language other than English at home (American Community Survey, 2007). Due to this ever-increasing linguistic and cultural diversity in the U.S. population, speech-language pathologists are faced with challenging issues as the many variables that impact communication are intensified. Speech-language pathologists can no longer use merely the English language and America's cultural standards to assess the communication competency of those from other language and cultural backgrounds. This program is designed to enable speech-language pathologists to incorporate a new working knowledge as it relates to bilingualism in the assessment and treatment of multicultural populations. The material presented will allow participants to make appropriate placement and therapy decisions with greater confidence and expertise.

Instructional level: Intermediate

Course Objectives:

Participants will:

1. Understand bilingualism and common phenomena as they relate to speech/language pathology.
2. Learn how to obtain comprehensive and reliable data for decision-making, including the use of interpreters and translators in both the assessment and intervention processes.
3. Be able to determine acceptable cultural, phonologic, grammatical, and pragmatic differences that do not constitute a disorder.
4. Know how to develop appropriate intervention goals and determine optimal modes of service delivery for bilingual populations.

Course Outline: (for full day option 2)

8:00-8:15	Introduction
8:15-9:30	I. Overview of Bilingualism <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Forms of Bilingualismb. Common Phenomenac. Levels of Proficiency (BICS vs. CALP)
9:30-9:45	<i>Morning Break</i>
9:45-11:15	II. Assessment of the Bilingual Child or Adult <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Establishing Valid Referralsb. Training and Working With Translators/Interpretersc. Working Knowledge to Be Obtained by the SLP

- d. Effective Data Collection
- e. Interpretation of Findings and Decision-Making
- 11:15-12:15 *Lunch Break*
- 12:15-1:45 **III. Intervention**
 - a. Basics to Culturally Appropriate Intervention
 - b. Developing Appropriate Goals
 - c. Determining Optimal Modes of Service Delivery
 - d. Bilingualism in the Classroom/Collaboration With Teachers
- 1:45-2:00 *Afternoon Break*
- 2:00-3:00 **IV. Case Studies – Discussion**
- 3:00-3:30 Final Questions & Open Forum for Real-Life Cases

Speaker Biography:

Ana Paula G. Mummy, MS, CCC-SLP is a trilingual speech/language pathologist who has worked in a variety of settings for over eight years. She has developed many therapy tools for both English-speaking and Spanish-speaking children of all ages. Ana Paula is also a workshop presenter, the author of *Articulation Strategies That Work!*, an instructional book/CD/DVD set for correcting sounds frequently in error among school-age children, and the author of two online courses dealing with multicultural issues. Ana Paula currently works as a school-based SLP and also provides consulting and contract services for school districts needing assistance with bilingual populations. In the words of one of her colleagues, “*Ana Paula is passionate about the young people she serves, and she has developed numerous tools and activities to assess and meet their needs. She has always been ready and willing to assist her peers. The development of her website, products, and training seminars is a testimony to her commitment to high quality resources for the SLP community. SLPs and other educators will appreciate the wealth of knowledge Ana Paula possesses and so generously shares.*”