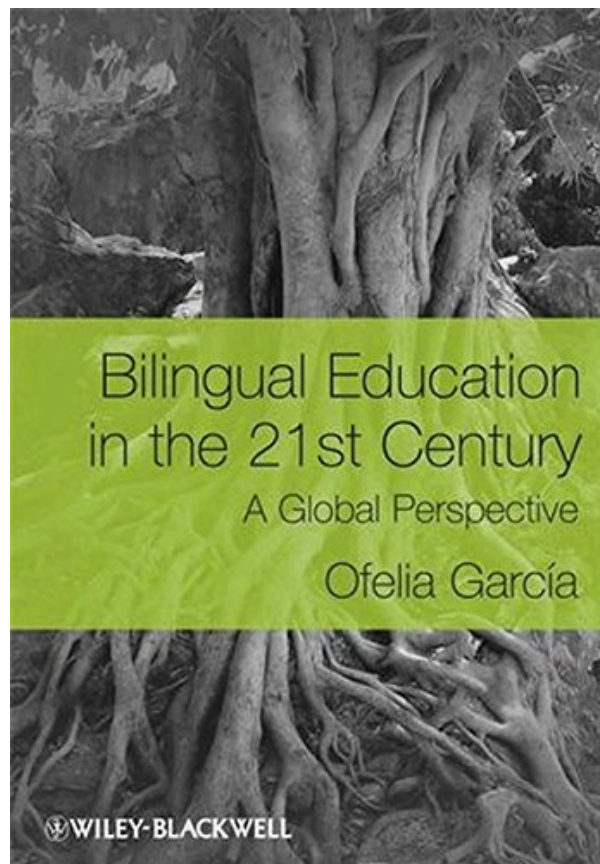
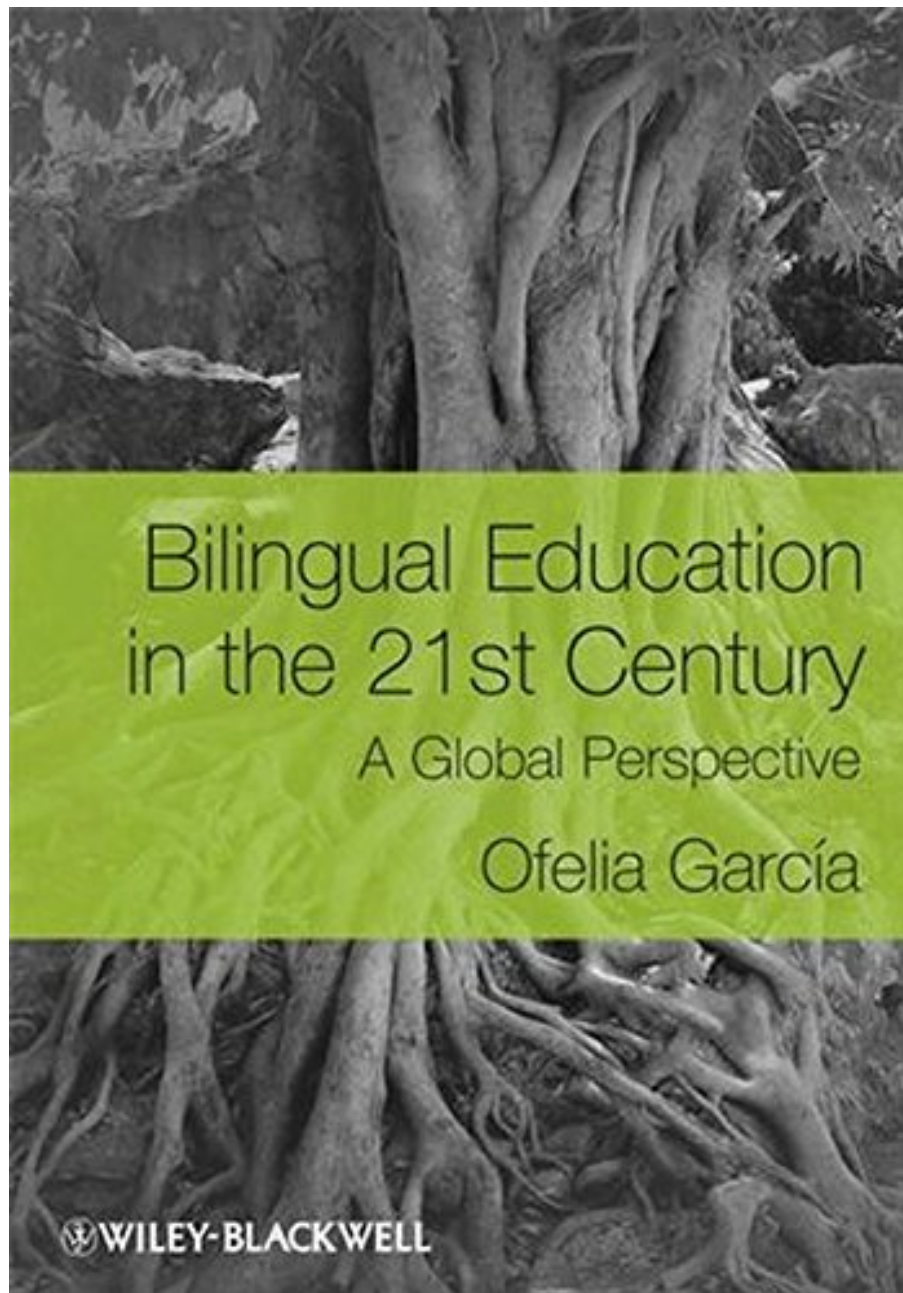


BILINGUAL EDUCATION IN THE 21ST CENTURY: A GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE BY OFELIA GARCÍA



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Review

“Aside from the conceptual issues highlighted above, the detailed discussions of multilingual education policy alone make the book worth buying for scholars of language in education issues.” (Journal of Linguistic Anthropology, 10 April 2012)

“Garcia concludes with a detailed examination of bilingual education practices and their intended outcomes, which should be mandated reading for curriculum specialists and school principals.” (Choice Reviews, June 2009)

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"This book will become a classic in the bilingual education literature. It provides a comprehensive overview of bilingual education at the levels of philosophy, policy, provision and practice. It has international relevance, global understandings and is suitable for a worldwide readership."

–Colin Baker, Bangor University

"Ofelia García writes with wisdom, heart, and an unshakable conviction that bilingual education is the best education for all children in today's world. A must read for educators everywhere."

–Nancy Hornberger, University of Pennsylvania

"Ofelia (and Hugo) have unemployed a lot of researchers. After this book, there is no need for another book on bi/multilingual education for a decade. With its creativity, new conceptualisations, enormous worldwide knowledge and unusual combination of path-breaking theory and insider knowledge about schools, this is, The Book on bilingual education."

–Tove Skutnabb-Kangas, University of Roskilde

From the Back Cover

Bilingual education has long been a controversial topic for communities, policy makers, and teachers. Misconceptions about what bilingualism itself is, and what bilingual education should do, have laid the

groundwork for a wide range of policies that don't always have a coherent vision for their students. In this wide-ranging and provocative book, García examines the history and current state of bilingual education programs throughout the world, offers a critical reading of the current conversations around them, and invites readers to imagine a new paradigm for the 21st century: one based on the idea of multilingual fluidity as a social and cultural imperative in a globalized world.

García examines languages and bilingualism as individual and societal phenomena, presents program types, variables, and policies in bilingual education, and concludes by looking at practices, especially pedagogies and assessments. Questioning assumptions regarding language, bilingualism and bilingual education, this book proposes a new theoretical framework and alternative views of teaching and assessment practices.

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Bilingual Education in the 21st Century examines languages and bilingualism as individual and societal phenomena, presents program types, variables, and policies in bilingual education, and concludes by looking at practices, especially pedagogies and assessments. This thought-provoking work is an ideal textbook for future teachers as well as providing a fresh view of the subject for school administrators and policy makers.

- Provides an overview of bilingual education theories and practices throughout the world
 - Extends traditional conceptions of bilingualism and bilingual education to include global and local concerns in the 21st century
 - Questions assumptions regarding language, bilingualism and bilingual education, and proposes a new theoretical framework and alternative views of teaching and assessment practices
 - Reviews international bilingual education policies, with separate chapters dedicated to US and EU language policy in education
 - Gives reasons why bilingual education is good for all children throughout the world, and presents cases of how this is being carried out
-
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 - 496 pages

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Most helpful customer reviews

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful.

Excellent and unique source for bilingual education

By Lingua28

This book is an excellent and the most updated source for students, academics or teachers in the field of bilingual/multicultural education. Its large scope from the basics and historical development of bilingual education to actual classroom practices and methodologies makes this book unique for both researchers and practitioners. The clear distinctions made between important concepts such as bilingual/bicultural literacy vs balanced literacy helps the reader grasp them easily.

The book is also unique and different from the previous sources in the field with its 'translanguaging' perspective. The author of the book, Ofelia García, has caught a perspective much-awaited in the bi/multicultural education field. The theories and all the information makes better sense with the overall perspective of translanguaging.

Not only bilingual education but also ESL researchers and practitioners will benefit greatly from this book. With its concise review of language teaching methodologies and theories of bilingualism, the book covers the foundations of the field of ESL and the smooth intersection of both fields. Thus, I strongly recommend the ESL professionals to own one copy.

Another strength of the book is that it reveals the myths about bilingual education in a systematic manner. Throughout the whole work, the reader is constantly educated in the field in terms of its various dimensions. At the end, the reader can clearly see why those myths are 'myths.' With this aspect, the book proves to be a valuable and easily comprehensible source not only for the people in the field but also for anyone interested

in education of minority students in dominant societies. Last but not least, the global perspective that the work displays is one of its most valuable aspects. By showing various successful models of bilingual education around the globe, the book enlightens the view of policy makers and administrators who shape the destiny of education for language minority students in the US. You find the answers to questions like 'What do other countries and peoples do to educate their language minority children? Why can't we have an efficient bilingual education system in the US while many other countries can? What can we do to improve our education system so that we cater for the needs of our students better?'

You should buy and read this book if you are a researcher, a teacher, or simply someone interested in language education in the US and the world. You should have your students read it if you are an academic in the field. You should read and study it if you are a student of bilingual education.

After this masterpiece, it will be hard to write a new book in the field for a long time.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

Excellent book for educators!

By HW

I found this book to be extremely insightful, well detailed and extremely useful as both a student of education and a teacher. It builds on history, social contexts, and research, and paves a new, hopeful direction for bilingual education. I enjoyed its blend of international research, US examples, and qualitative research and found the information to be both insightful and practical for my actual teaching. Especially in the current political climate, this book is extremely valuable for all in the field of education - teachers (of all students), teacher-educators, policy makers - and anyone interested in languages, bilingualism, and the diversity of our students.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

An Excellent Book

By Maryam Borjian

This is an excellent and comprehensive book for those interested in Bilingual/Multilingual Education. It examines the history and current state of Bilingual Education throughout the world and proposes a new direction for Bilingual Education in the 21st Century. It has both a theoretical and practical dimension. And so, can be beneficial both for scholars and practitioners. The book's appeal can also extend to all language educators. I used various chapters of this book in one of my TESOL courses and students found it very insightful and valuable. It is simply a must read book for educators around the world.

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