

PURSUING THE DREAM: DIALOGUES OF CULTURE, LANGUAGE AND IDENTITY

***Don Hones* ESL/ Multicultural Education, UW-Oshkosh**

In this poster presentation, I share a new course developed for second-year UW Oshkosh students will be engaged with young people in the Oshkosh Area School District to support the district's Growing Readers program of literacy development. This course is part of the university's Quest III program, which engages students in community learning. Our undergraduate students are majority white, and there are few non-white students at present going into teaching. Thus, this course serves as a place to support undergraduates as they consider the impact of race, socio-economic status, and other factors on schooling experiences, assisted by course readings, discussions, and one-on-one interactions in the field with culturally, linguistically, and socioeconomically diverse students in the Oshkosh Public Schools. An additional goal of this course is to promote the idea of career paths through higher education to public school students as they build relationships with university students through conversations and writing on themes of culture, language, and identity. This course is scheduled to be offered for the first time in the 2022-2023 academic year.

