

E-Learning Project Part 2: Design Blueprint

English Across America: Culture and Language in U.S. Regions

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EDTC 6358: Theory and Practice of E-Learning

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Course Title & Description

Title: *English Across America: Culture and Language in U.S. Regions*

Description:

This self-paced module introduces learners to regional variation in American English and the cultural and historical influences that shape how people speak across the United States. While many English courses emphasize standard grammar and vocabulary, this course expands learners' awareness of how language functions in real-world contexts.

Learners begin with a short introductory video and an interactive map that allows them to explore regional differences through audio and vocabulary examples. They then move through five lessons, each focused on a different region of the United States: the South, Northeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West Coast. Each lesson combines guided listening, short instructional videos, and interactive activities to help learners notice patterns in pronunciation, vocabulary, and cultural context.

The course concludes with a synthesis activity that brings all regions together, helping learners recognize patterns across accents and interpret authentic spoken language more effectively.

Instructional Goal

After completing the course, the learner will be able to recognize and interpret regional variation in American English by connecting language features to cultural and historical influences across U.S. regions.

Course Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcome #	Description
LO1	To demonstrate learning, the learner will identify region-specific vocabulary and pronunciation features in American English.

LO2	To demonstrate learning, the learner will explain how cultural and historical factors influence language use in different U.S. regions.
LO3	To demonstrate learning, the learner will analyze audio examples to recognize linguistic features associated with specific regions.
LO4	To demonstrate learning, the learner will interpret the meaning of regional language in authentic spoken contexts.
LO5	To demonstrate learning, the learner will compare language patterns across regions to describe key differences in American English.

Assessment Plan

Learning Outcome	Assessment Description	Feedback Method
LO1	Learners will complete dialog card activities and short quizzes identifying vocabulary and pronunciation features in each lesson.	Immediate feedback with correct answers and brief explanations
LO2	Learners will respond to discussion prompts explaining how cultural and historical factors influence language in each region.	Instructor or peer feedback through comments
LO3	Learners will complete audio-based practice and quiz items requiring recognition of linguistic features.	Immediate feedback with replay and correct-answer explanations
LO4	Learners will answer scenario-based questions interpreting regional expressions in context.	Immediate feedback with explanations
LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5	Learners will complete a final mixed-region audio challenge requiring identification of linguistic features, interpretation of meaning, and comparison across regions, followed by a	Automated feedback for objective items; rubric-based feedback for written analysis

	short written analysis connecting language to cultural and historical influences.	
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Course Activities Map

Module # & Title	Activities	Assessments with LO#
Module 1: Introduction to Regional Variation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch a 2–3 minute introductory video explaining regional language variation and course structure. 2. Explore an interactive U.S. map with hotspots featuring short audio clips and regional vocabulary examples. 3. Reflect on initial observations of how English varies across regions. 	Introductory knowledge check. LO1.
Module 2: The American South	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen to a short audio clip and note pronunciation or vocabulary features. 2. Watch a 3–4 minute instructional video explaining cultural and historical influences on Southern language. 3. Explore vocabulary and pronunciation using dialog cards. 4. Complete a practice activity identifying linguistic features. 5. Discuss how cultural and historical factors shape language in the American South. 	Lesson quiz – mix of multiple choice, matching, drag-and-drop, and short audio-based identification items. LO1, LO2, LO3.
Module 3: The Northeast	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Listen to a short audio clip and note language features. 2. Watch a video explaining the influence of immigration and urban culture on language. 3. Explore vocabulary and pronunciation using dialog cards. 	Lesson quiz – mix of multiple choice, matching, drag-and-drop, and short audio-based

	<p>4. Complete a practice activity.</p> <p>5. Discuss how cultural diversity influences language in the Northeast</p>	<p>identification items. LO1, LO2, LO3.</p>
<p>Module 4: The Midwest</p>	<p>1. Listen to a short audio clip and note language features.</p> <p>2. Watch a video explaining regional culture and communication style.</p> <p>3. Explore vocabulary and pronunciation using dialog cards.</p> <p>4. Complete a practice activity.</p> <p>5. Discuss how social norms are reflected in Midwestern language.</p>	<p>Lesson quiz – mix of multiple choice, matching, drag-and-drop, and short audio-based identification items. LO1, LO2, LO3.</p>
<p>Module 5: The Southwest</p>	<p>1. Listen to a short audio clip and note language features.</p> <p>2. Watch a video explaining Spanish and Indigenous influences on language.</p> <p>3. Explore vocabulary and pronunciation using dialog cards.</p> <p>4. Complete a practice activity.</p> <p>5. Discuss how cultural blending shapes language in the Southwest.</p>	<p>Lesson quiz – mix of multiple choice, matching, drag-and-drop, and short audio-based identification items. LO1, LO2, LO3.</p>
<p>Module 6: The West Coast</p>	<p>1. Listen to a short audio clip and note language features.</p> <p>2. Watch a video explaining the influence of media, youth culture, and technology on language.</p> <p>3. Explore vocabulary and pronunciation using dialog cards.</p> <p>4. Complete a practice activity.</p>	<p>Lesson quiz – mix of multiple choice, matching, drag-and-drop, and short audio-based identification items. LO1, LO2, LO3.</p>

	5. Discuss how contemporary culture influences language on the West Coast.	
Module 7: Conclusion – Language, Culture, & Identity	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Watch a 2–3 minute synthesis video connecting language, culture, and identity across regions. 2. Complete a mixed-region audio challenge identifying features and interpreting meaning. 3. Reflect on patterns across regions and personal takeaways. 	Final assessment. LO1, LO2, LO3, LO4, LO5.

Summary

This design blueprint outlines a structured, multimedia learning experience that builds learners' awareness of regional variation in American English. The course integrates guided listening, cultural context, and interactive activities to support comprehension of authentic language. Learning outcomes, assessments, and activities are intentionally aligned to ensure that learners not only recognize linguistic features but also understand the cultural and historical influences that shape them. The final assessment brings these elements together, allowing learners to demonstrate their understanding through analysis, interpretation, and comparison across regions.