

Ed Lim
Filipino Teacher
Bonita Vista H.S., Miramar College
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TITLE:
Filipino, Pilipino, Tagalog: Status of Filipino Classes in the U.S.

DESCRIPTION:
Since 1975, Filipino has been taught in the U.S. in more than 20 public schools, and 29 universities/colleges across 8 states. This session presents the history and data of Filipino classes, and the struggle to develop a CSET: Filipino Exam to certify "highly qualified" teachers in light of NCLB.

KEYWORD:
Culture

CONTENT:
With more than 90 million speakers, Filipino is one of the top 15 most spoken languages in the world. In San Diego County, Filipino has the fourth highest enrollment in world/foreign language classes. This presentation will present the history of Filipino classes in the U.S. from the beginnings in 1975, the population of Filipino Americans and Filipino speakers, the eight U.S. states where it is taught, the struggle to develop a CSET: Filipino Exam in order to certify "highly qualified" teachers in light of NCLB, the evolution of the name of the national language, and the status and challenges of Filipino classes today.

A History of Filipino Classes (7th - 12th Gr.) in California:

- Spring 1975 The first Filipino class (then called Tagalog) was offered at Montgomery High School in Chula Vista, CA, and was taught by Margarita Quizon. This was verified by Dr. Reynaldo Monzon who was a student in that class. Filipino was offered continuously until it died in 1987 due to lack of enrollment.
- 1987-88 No Filipino classes were offered in California.
- 1988 Evangeline "Lina" Lopez-Delute started a Filipino program at Bell Junior High (now Bell Middle School), and this began a wave of Filipino class offerings in San Diego County schools, and California.
- 2001-02 By 2001, there were 17 schools across 6 school districts that now offer Filipino, including districts from the San Francisco Bay Area, Los Angeles County, and San Diego County.
- No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 – A federal law mandating that all teachers be "highly qualified." The problem for Filipino teachers was that there were no exams nor college courses for them to prove that they were indeed "highly qualified," even though they were native speakers. Thus, this threatened all Filipino classes in public education.
- 2002-Present This threat mobilized Filipino Americans led by FILAMEDA, CTFLC & FAEAC. Even though Filipino had been taught in CA since 1975, Filipino was not officially counted by the CA Dept. of Education.
- Sept. 2005 Assembly Bill 420 was signed into law, in light of NCLB. A Filipino teacher exam must be created in California.
- Nov. 2006 1st time - CSET Filipino Exam was now available, providing a way to certify "highly-qualified" teachers for CA's Filipino classes.
- 2006-07 1st time - Filipino classes are now officially counted by the CA Dept. of Education (CBEDS code: 2227 Fil. 1st/2nd Yr.; 2228 Fil. Adv.).

Enrollment in California Filipino Classes (7th – 12th Gr.):

Sources: Filipino language teachers in CA, CTFLC, CA Dept. of Education

Filipino Classes	No. of Stdts				No. of Classes	Schools	
	1st Yr	2nd Yr	3rd Yr	4th Yr			Total
2001-02					2,260	76	17
2002-03					2,340	81	19
2003-04					2,622	88	20
2004-05					2,933	94	21
2005-06					3,076	94	22
2006-07					3,110	95	24
2007-08					3,250	103	22
* From 2001-2008, data was collected directly from Filipino language teachers throughout California. From 2008 and later, official California Dept. of Education numbers are used.							
2008-09					2,705	86	21

Official Enrollment in California Filipino Classes (7th – 12th Gr.):

Sources: California Department of Education

Filipino Classes	No. of Stdts		Schools
	Total	Classes	
2006-07*	1,001	35	13
* 1 st year Filipino language students were counted. Hence, a number of school districts did not know about the new codes – 2227, 2228.			
2007-08	2,532	87	22
2008-09	2,705	86	21

2008-09 Filipino Classes±:

Grades 7-12:	21	all in CA
Community College:	8	CA, HI
College/University	21	CA, HI, NY, IL, OR, AZ, MI, PA, WI
Minor in Filipino/Fil. Studies	2	Univ. of Hawai'i – Manoa, CSU East Bay
B.A.	1	Univ. of Hawai'i – Manoa

Current and Future Needs:

1. Use “Filipino” consistently as the name of the language.
2. A national Filipino language teacher association, much like other languages.
 - 2.1 Recommend quality books for learning Filipino (i.e. Caldecott/Newberry Awards).
3. A national Filipino test for students in lieu of A.P. Filipino. (German and other languages have one).
4. A textbook that can be adopted by the state Dept. of Education.
5. Support and buy quality Filipino books/instructional materials from authors, publishers and booksellers.

Resources:

Lim, Ed (2008). Lim Filipino-English English-Filipino Dictionary. Lulu.com. 978-0-557-03800-8 [*Note: The digest version is better because it is updated periodically.]

Dataquest website, California Department of Education