1787: Constitution is written with no reference to language; translated into German and Dutch and distributed in PA and NY

1817: New Mexico passes a law that recognizes and permits Spanish instruction in public elementary schools.

1839: Ohio passes the first law to officially allow Bilingual Education in schools (English-German Instruction)

1847: Louisiana passes a law to allow bilingual education (French-English instruction)

1889: The Bennet Act in Wisconsin and the Edwards Act in Illinois said that children from the age of 8-14 in both public and private schools must be instructed in English in reading, writing, arithmetic, and American History.

1906: The Nationality Act
   ○ This was Congress first language law requiring that all immigrants seeking to become a citizen should speak English. This law was "supposedly" to solve the bilingual education issue.

1923: By this time 34 states had laws that mandated English only instruction.
   ○ Meyer v. Nebraska
     ■ Extended protection of the Constitution to everyday speech and prohibited states from putting language restrictions. This changed public attitudes toward learning in other languages.

1931: Lemon Grove Incident of CA (Roberto Alvarez vs. the Board of Trustees of the Lemon Grove School District)
   ○ The United States' first successful school desegregation case. The Superior Court of San Diego County ruled that the local school board’s attempt to segregate Mexican children to a separate school was a violation of state laws.

1945: Mexican-American parents sue several California school districts, challenging the segregation of Latino students in separate schools.

1947: Mendez v. Westminster of CA
   ○ The California Supreme Court rules in the parents' favor in Mendez v. Westminster, arguing segregation violates children's constitutional rights.

1954: Brown vs. Ed Case
   ○ The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that school segregation based on race was unconstitutional. Although it did not specifically mention Hispanics or other ethnic minorities, the ruling stated that it applied also to others similarly situated.

1958: The National Defense Education Act
   ○ Provided aid to both public and private schools at all levels to advance the areas of science, math, and foreign language. This also provided aid to English as a Second Language program.
- **1960: Rebirth of Bilingual Education**
  - Cuban immigrants fleeing their country, requested bilingual schooling for their children. First program was open to both English and Spanish speakers at Coral Way Elementary School.

- **1964: Title VI of Civil Rights Act**
  - Prohibits any discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin.
  - Title VI: Important role in protecting the educational rights of language-minority students in the U.S.

- **1965: ESEA**
  - Elementary and Secondary Education Act is passed by President Johnson. Outlined and provided funds for educational programs that were considered essential for public education. Bilingual Education was one of their programs.

- **1967: ESEA Title VII**
  - Under the Title VII of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Bilingual Education Act became a federal statute. Provided federal funding for the Bilingual Education Act of 1968.
  - **Creation of the Brown Berets:** A community-based social justice organization that played a leading role in the Chicano Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s and 1970s. Members wore brown berets as a symbol of unity and resistance, which inspired the organization's third name. They joined Latino high school students in protest in Los Angeles in 1968.

- **1968: The Bilingual Education Act**
  - First federal law relating to bilingual education. Authorized $7.5 million to finance 76 projects serving 26,000 children. Supported education programs, train teachers and aides, develop instructional materials and encourage parental involvement.
  - **Latino high school students in Los Angeles stage citywide walkouts protesting unequal treatment by the school district.**
    - Prior to the walkouts, Latino students were routinely punished for speaking Spanish on school property, not allowed to use the bathroom during lunch, and actively discouraged from going to college. Walkout participants are subjected to police brutality and public ridicule; 13 are arrested on charges of disorderly conduct and conspiracy. However, the walkouts resulted in school reform and an increased college enrollment among Latino youth.

- **1969: Creation of The Young Lords Party**
  - Puerto Rican youth in Chicago form the Young Lords Organization to use direct action and political education to bring public attention to issues affecting their community, such as; slum housing, inadequate schools and rising unemployment. Some of the things the YLO did was create free breakfast programs for kids and
community health clinics. They later spread to NYC and worked with the Black Panthers.

- **1970:** The U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare issues a memorandum saying students cannot be denied access to educational programs because of an inability to speak English.

- **1972:** Serna v. Portales Municipal Schools
  - First case in which federal courts began to enforce Title VI of the Civil Rights Act.
  - “La Escuelita”: First bilingual institution in the state of Connecticut.

- **1974:**
  - EEOA (Equal Educational Opportunities Act): No state can deny education to an individual because of their race, color, sex or national origin.
  - Lau v. Nichols: The Supreme Court decided that the lack of supplemental language instruction in public schools for students with limited English proficiency violated the Civil Rights Act of 1964. This meant that students who do not understand English were not getting a meaningful education like they should.
  - Reauthorized Bilingual Education Act: Educational services expanded to include students of any socioeconomic status who had limited English-speaking ability (LESA). This defined Bilingual Education for the first time.

- **1975:** Lau Remedies: Required bilingual education in elementary and permitted the introduction of ESL programs in the secondary level.

- **1977:** Rios v. Read
  - Federal Court decision that a NY school district violated the rights of English learners. They were not giving them any cultural components.

- **1980:** English-as-Official-Language Movement
  - Goal was to adopt a constitutional amendment to make English the official language of the US.

- **1981:**
  - Castaneda v. Pickard: Schools must take "appropriate action" to educate language-minoritized students. Action must be based on sound education theory, produce results and provide resources (qualified teachers and appropriate materials, etc.). It did not mandate a specific program such as bilingual Education or ESL.
  - Idaho Migrant Council v. Board of Education: It mandated state agencies are empowered to supervise the implementation of federal EEOA requirements at local level.

- **1994:** California Proposition 187
  - Anti-immigrant school & community policy
    - Referendum (majority rule vote) wins
Law struck down as unconstitutional

- **1998: Official Language**
  - Twenty-five states make English their official language.

- **2000: Proposition 203**
  - In Arizona, this proposition banned bilingual education in that state. Limits school services for emergent bilinguals to a 1 year English only structured immersion program that includes ESL and content-based instruction exclusively in English. Waivers were impossible to obtain.
  - **2006:** Arizona Legislature passed HS2064, which reshaped the structured immersion programs into a 4 hour a day block of instruction specifically on English language development.

- **2001: No Child Left Behind Act**
  - Reauthorization to Elementary and Secondary Education Act by President Bush Jan 8, 2002
  - The No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) grew out of concern that the American education system was no longer internationally competitive—significantly increased the federal role in holding schools responsible for the academic progress of all students.
  - It put a special focus on ensuring that states and schools boost the performance of certain groups of students, such as English-language learners, students in special education, and poor and minority children, whose achievement, on average, trails their peers.
  - States did not have to comply with the new requirements, but if they didn’t, they risked losing federal Title I money.

- **2002: English Only Movements**
  - Massachusetts voted: 66% pass (amazing number for politics)
    - 2 out of 3 people voted for teaching english exclusively in schools
    - Lasted for 15 years

- **2006:** High school students, mostly but not exclusively Latino, stage walkouts in Los Angeles, Houston and other cities, boycotting schools and businesses in support of immigrant rights and equality. Schools issue suspensions and truancy reports to students who participate, and several students are arrested.

- **2010: Ethnic Studies Ban in Arizona (HB 2281)**
  - It was banned because the superintendent board said that it was the “privileging of one group over others, which is “unamerican.”
  - 2017 - unconstitutional
  - Precious Knowledge (recommended movie)

- **2015: Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).**
  - Goal is to prepare all students for success in college and career, while providing flexibility for some of NCLB's more prescriptive requirements.
○ Title III: Purpose is that it looks at their achievement on academic standards, taking the onus off standardized tests.

● **2017: Massachusetts Bilingual Education**
  ○ The state passed a bill that permitted school districts to reinstate a bilingual education option. Reversing language education policy.