

DWC MISSION



One heart, many faces

It's been said that the world comes together at Divine Word College and the fall 2022 student body certainly exemplifies that notion. The 106 students enrolled come from 20 different countries.

Among them are SVD candidates and Divine Word Missionaries who are already in vows. There are also priests and seminarians from various dioceses and other religious orders. Women account for just over half of the enrolled students. Most of them are religious sisters and they represent 16 different religious congregations from around the world.

DWC STUDENT CITIZENSHIP

Benin	Cameroon
China	Democratic Republic of Congo
El Salvador	Haiti
Indonesia	Kenya
Korea	Mexico
Mozambique	Myanmar
Nigeria	Papua New Guinea
Philippines	Rwanda
Togo	Uganda
United States	Vietnam

Language program granted specialized accreditation



An ESL class taught by senior instructor Daniel Gheorghe (right)



This fall, the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program at Divine Word College was granted specialized accreditation by the Commission on English Language Program Accreditation (CEA) for the maximum initial period of five years. The grant of CEA accreditation is certification that the college's ESL program meets the highest professional standards in the field. DWC Associate Professor of ESL Dr. Mark Garton served as the Accreditation Coordinator. He worked closely with Dr. Seo Hyun Park, Director of the Intensive English Language

Institute, and Fr. John Szukalski, SVD, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs, to provide leadership on this multi-year effort. In addition, many of the college's ESL instructional faculty were involved in the planning and implementation of ESL program improvements, and contributed to the successful self-study and site visit.

"By taking part in the ESL program at Divine Word College, students are linguistically ready for higher education in the United States," said Dr. Seo Hyun. Sr. Nhi Thao Thi Nguyen, LHC-GV is from Vietnam and entered Divine Word College in August 2020 to learn English. She completed the ESL program in May 2021 and is currently enrolled in Divine Word's undergraduate program pursuing a bachelor's degree.

"The thing I liked most was that I was so shy to speak English in the beginning, but taking ESL classes enabled me to find confidence that had been hidden inside myself for a long time. I received a lot of encouragement from my professors. They are so friendly and their teaching methods are very effective. I am so grateful to them," she said. When Sr. Nhi returns to Vietnam, she plans to teach English to the religious sisters in her congregation, as well as people in her community who are poor and in need. She also hopes to serve as an interpreter for her congregation when dealing with international issues and people from other cultures.