

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science

wmich.edu/teaching/academics



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The elementary education program is designed to prepare candidates to excel as teachers in today's mosaic of schools and classrooms. WMU graduates can be eligible for Michigan's initial teaching certification in PK-3 and 3-6 grade bands. Earning a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in elementary education allows novice educators to teach all subjects PK-6 in self-contained classrooms. This program does not require a minor.

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**It was at WMU
that I found my
love for teaching
and my passion
for learning.**

■ Brianne Hayes, alumna



The WMU teacher education programs are **accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)**.



Michigan school principals ranked **99% of new teachers prepared at WMU as “effective” or “highly effective”** in 2020-21.

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WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
College of Education
and Human Development

KEY FEATURES

- In coursework and experiences leading to Michigan PK-3 and 3-6 teacher certification, WMU candidates will work with diverse communities on and off-campus to continually deepen a commitment to anti-racist, anti-bias, and inclusive instruction.
- Students begin required coursework upon entry to the University, whether as an incoming freshman or as a transfer student.
- In addition to coursework, students are immersed in schools and field experiences each year of the program, working with children in urban, suburban, and rural schools to apply theory into practice.
- Students will complete 17 "pre-education" courses, achieving an overall GPA of 3.0 or better to be admitted to the professional level courses.
- Students will complete 16 "professional-level education" courses, achieving a CB or better in each course.
- As the last semester of the program, students will complete a full-time internship within a partner school.

CERTIFICATION AREAS

Graduates of this program will be eligible to teach all core subjects to PK-6 students in a self-contained classroom:

- Integrated Science
- Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Social Studies

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Teaching grades PK-6 in all subjects

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Future Teachers of Color
- Kappa Delta Pi International Honor Society in Education
- Western Student Education Association

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Accredited by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the National Association for the Education of Young Children.
- Passing scores on relevant MTTC subject area tests are required to earn teacher certification in the State of Michigan.
- Part-time clinical experiences begin the first year. A full-time internship occurs during the last semester of the program.



STUDY ABROAD

Students may have the opportunity to complete part of their student teaching experience in **New Zealand**, which is known worldwide for its innovative approaches to teaching literacy.

Additionally, the college offers short-term, education-related study abroad opportunities in **Ireland, Nepal, and Peru**. These faculty-led programs allow students to learn about educational systems outside of the United States.



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