WORKFORCE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT

All of my professors and instructors are experts in their field, and there was not a single class that was not applicable to what I am doing today.

Lauren Bonner, alumni

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Workforce Education and Development program areas provide both teaching and non-teaching majors that prepare students to become business, family/consumer, and technical educators at the secondary level, or student/staff development personnel.

WHY WMU?

Business Education prepares educators to teach management, marketing and accounting in secondary schools.

Family and Consumer Sciences Teacher Education includes health, life skills, nutrition, sewing, personal finance and child care.

Industrial Technology Education prepares educators in the areas of automotive, welding, construction trades, drafting and electronics.

Occupational Education Studies serves students with technical training from Michigan community colleges who desire to become certified teachers.

Workforce Education and Development is a non-teacher certification option that prepares professionals at the baccalaureate level to provide technical training, staff development and career guidance at postsecondary institutions.

The WFED program allows qualifying students to begin accumulating credits toward completion of a M.A. while enrolled as undergraduates.

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

- Hands-on learning
- Opportunity to "learn while you earn" through supervised on-the-job experiences for WMU credit
- Study with nationally-recognized professors
- Meet career and technical education students and teachers from related occupations
- Graduates are in high demand
- Pre-intern and intern teaching experiences before graduating
- Participate in career and leadership development organizations
- All majors are approved State Board of Education and Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation

CAREER POSSIBILITIES

- Business and industry trainer
- Community college instructor
- Technical institute/college instructor
- Local and state government trainer
- Non-profit staff developer
- Technical curriculum developer
- Career assessment developer
- Instructional coordinator
- Training and development manager
- University/college career advisor
- Social and community service manager

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

- Future Teachers of Color
- Western Student Education Association

STUDY ABROAD
The Workforce Education and Development System in Germany study abroad program discovers and explores Germany's highly-developed apprenticeship system, which serves as a model for most European countries. Participants visit several vocational schools and their partner businesses, observing various teaching and learning styles.