ABOUT THE PROGRAM

This program offers a unique opportunity to earn both a teaching certification for grades 7-12 and a master’s degree within a co-located, 13-month program. Using dynamic and relevant curriculum with a focus on culturally responsive instruction, full-time faculty model learner-centered instructional practices. Candidates experience learning in a supportive cohort community of learners. A full-year internship provides candidates with extensive personalized support from mentor teachers as well as program faculty. Secondary education candidates can enter this program through two main pipelines: WMU pre-education undergraduate content degree with an education focus, or with a content degree from WMU or an outside accredited institution.

Through challenging, supporting, and encouraging us, the faculty genuinely care about creating the best possible teachers.

Nicole B., current student
PROGRAM STRENGTHS

- Increased emphasis on integration of pedagogy, methods and content-area skills
- Bachelor’s degree in subject area provides extensive content knowledge
- One-year intensive master’s degree format
- Yearlong, supervised internship experience from the start of the public school year in August through the end of the school year in June
- Cohort program of 25 or fewer students led by full-time faculty members utilizing a team teaching approach
- Structured co-teaching models with mentor teacher to increase support
- The College of Arts and Sciences provides the liberal arts core of the university, offering academic programs in the sciences, social sciences and humanities
- Our knowledgeable and supportive faculty will prepare candidates for a lifetime of innovating, adapting, learning and leading through immersive learning experiences

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution
- Completion of discipline coursework equivalent to a Michigan Department of Education approved secondary education initial certification program (Transcript evaluation will determine if additional discipline area coursework is required)
- Passing score on the Content Area Test (MTTC) for the appropriate secondary education discipline.
- For foreign language certification, passing score on the Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) of Advanced Low or higher
- An overall undergraduate grade point average of at least 3.0 (4.0 = A)
- Completion of ES 2000 or 7+ hours of teacher contact in a public school setting Completion of ED 3200 and ED 4200 or 30+ hours of student contact in a public school setting
- Written essay reflecting on experiences with students and teachers in the field
- Interview

EXAMPLE: Bachelor’s degree in English + 1-year master’s degree in secondary education = eligible for secondary education English licensure