ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) K-12 major is designed to prepare educators to meet the unique needs of multilingual learners in K-12 schools. The TESOL K-12 major is available for all interested students who are also seeking PK-3 teacher certification. Graduates of this program will be eligible to teach all subjects to PK-3 students in self-contained classrooms as well as in ESL K-12 classrooms. No minor is required. This undergraduate major qualifies graduates for the Michigan English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement.

“This program not only taught me about multilingual learners, but it taught me how to be a culturally responsive person.”

Mailey Fayling, student

The WMU teacher education unit is 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 2019-20.
WHY WMU?

→ Program completion meets coursework and clinical experience requirements for the Michigan PK-3 Elementary and K-12 ESL endorsements.
→ Provides a comprehensive program to meet the needs of culturally and linguistically diverse students in K-12 schools based on current theory and research.
→ Prepares educators to collaborate and engage in dialogue with content area and general education colleagues to better serve the academic and linguistic needs of multilingual learners.
→ Equips educators with knowledge of effective instructional methodologies to address multilingual learners’ academic and linguistic needs.
→ Develops educators who can analyze and modify instructional materials and assessments depending on students’ English proficiency.

WHO SHOULD APPLY?

Pre-service teachers who:

→ Are currently enrolled in the Elementary Education PK-3 program.
→ Would like to learn about second language acquisition theories and teaching methodologies.
→ Are interested in becoming ESL teachers in K-12 schools.
→ Desire to teach in schools with a significant population of multilingual learners.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

In addition to completing all of the coursework required for the Elementary Education PK-3 program, students will complete a planned program of study consisting of 24 credits of coursework for the TESOL K-12 major. An overall program grade point average of 3.0 or better is required to continue in this bachelor’s program.