ESL Endorsement or Approval

This convenient online program enables licensed teachers to obtain the credentials they need to provide effective instruction in English as a Second Language (ESL). The program is ideal for teachers who are either currently employed or planning to teach in an ESL program.

Earn a credential that’s in high demand
Our country’s learning communities have never been more diverse. More than 30% of Chicago-area students speak a language other than English at home—and school districts increasingly are requiring teachers to obtain ESL credentials. This program helps committed teachers to make today’s classrooms more inclusive to English-language learners. You’ll master advanced teaching strategies to support multilingual students. You’ll gain a deep understanding of the foundations of linguistics, acquire methods for assessing English-language learners, and explore the subtleties of multiculturalism and its profound impact on your students and their world.

A program designed for the busy teacher
This program is affordable and flexible. You’ll take one course at a time, completing each course online in sessions lasting 7.5 weeks. The courses are offered asynchronously, which means you can work the program efficiently into your schedule—you won’t need to log onto your computer at set times. The coursework includes 100 hours of field experience. The ESL approval takes 9 semester hours to complete; it allows teachers with an LBS I endorsement to work with English language learners who hold an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). The ESL endorsement takes 18 semester hours to complete; it applies to the full range of ages that you’re endorsed to teach.

“The academic programs at Dominican are convenient and efficient, and the resources and support of the School of Education are amazing. You know from start to finish that each of your professors is deeply invested in your success as a teacher.”

Shmouni Danha
School of Education Graduate
The fast track to your master's degree
With all the demands of classroom and home, who has time to earn a master’s degree? You do. Upon completing your endorsement coursework, you can earn your Master of Arts in Education at Dominican by adding just four additional courses (12 additional semester hours). To qualify for this exceptional opportunity, you’ll need to hold a valid Professional Educator License (PEL), have completed at least half of your endorsement classwork at Dominican, and have earned a GPA of 3.0 or higher in your endorsement classwork (with no grade lower than C). This program ensures that your excellent work on your endorsement sets you up efficiently for further academic achievement.

Outstanding preparation for a purposeful career
The School of Education at Dominican University is committed to fostering the values of scholarship, leadership and service among teacher candidates and their students. The course of study emphasizes the acquisition of professional expertise, the expansion of personal insight, and the fostering of a deep appreciation of human diversity. We recognize that with knowledge comes responsibility. A teacher trained in the Dominican tradition is prepared—in the words of the university’s founder, Father Samuel Mazzuchelli—“to go where the work is great and difficult,” and to strive to create a more just and humane world.

“[I] can’t tell you the number of times the principals who hire our teachers have told me that Dominican alums are the best prepared—in terms of the basics of teaching, knowing content and even interacting with colleagues and parents.”

Ben Freville
School of Education Faculty

Our goal: your success

Accreditation
Dominican University’s School of Education is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. NCATE standards are performance-based, focusing on the ability of teacher candidates to demonstrate the knowledge of the subject matter and professional skills necessary to help all students learn. Institutions must provide evidence that teacher education programs include qualified faculty and a commitment to preparing teachers to use educational technology.

A Great Academic Reputation
In “America’s Best Colleges”—the influential study by U.S. News & World Report—Dominican ranks #1 on the list of “Best Value Schools” in Illinois. It ranks #11 among the 165 regional universities in the Midwest. The bottom line: The Dominican Experience is a powerful, affordable investment in your future as a teacher.

Learn More!
Please contact:
Office of Graduate Enrollment
gradinfo@dom.edu