# MiT Program Overview

Becoming teacher for social justice is a journey that takes time, practice and reflection.

Evergreen’s Master in Teaching (MiT) program explores the central question:

How can public education meet the needs of the diverse peoples who live in our democracy?

Join a supportive, learning community of 40 teacher candidates and three faculty members in an interdisciplinary program leading to teacher certification.

We learn together in an environment of cooperation and collaboration. (link to pg. 2 in catalog).

**Cohort Model, Fall Start Only**

* Candidates in the 2017–19 cohort will meet for class at [The Evergreen State College Tacoma](http://www.evergreen.edu/tacoma/) (link).
* Candidates in the 2018–20 cohort will meet for class at the Olympia campus.

This full-time program integrates essential teaching skills and rich intellectual explorations on the nature of teaching, learning, and schooling. Your practical experiences in classrooms will begin in the first quarter.

* Year one: three quarters of daytime coursework with weekly classroom practicum experiences, including observation and interactions with K-12 students
* Year two: fall and spring student teaching quarters, winter daytime coursework

The program is a total of 96 quarter credits. There are no night, weekend, or summer quarter courses.

When you successfully complete the program, you will have earned both a Master's degree and ~~a~~ recommendation for the Residency (first) Teacher Certificate for Washington State with your [endorsement](http://www.evergreen.edu/mit/endorsements.htm)(s). The MiT program meets all Washington State standards for beginning teacher competence (link to http://program.pesb.wa.gov/standards/standard-5/teacher/teacher-benchmarks) and is approved by the Professional Educator Standards Board (link). The quality of our program is recognized by teachers and principals throughout Washington State and beyond.

## Year One: Setting the Foundation

All your coursework is taken in a single, 16 credits per quarter, interdisciplinary program, much like Evergreen undergraduate programs. There are no separate courses.

### Learning the basics

As a learning community, all candidates study together essential topics such as:

* learning theories,
* social/historical/philosophical foundations of education
* educational research
* classroom management
* models of teaching
* differentiated instruction and
* academic literacy

You will also take part in workshops focusing on instructional strategies specific to your endorsement. Weekly, smaller seminars are used for reflection on one’s values and worldviews, and for discussing readings covering the larger social issues involved in teaching in a democratic, multicultural society.

You will learn curriculum planning, teaching methods, and assessment. You will develop your skills to work effectively with your future students and their communities. You will consider what it means to be a professional, and what you personally need to become a good teacher.

### Weekly in-classroom field experience

During the first year, you also will be placed in a K-12 classroom for a weekly field experience. Over time, you will become increasingly involved working with students. After a period of observing classrooms at all levels, you will spend the rest of the school year in a single classroom. You will have increasing levels of responsibility in the classroom, including planning and teaching mini-units to the class.

During year one, candidates should anticipate being in class on campus or in a K-12 classroom four days a week.

You will receive a narrative evaluation (link to narrative evaluation page) from your faculty at the end of the year. The evaluation provides descriptive feedback and assessment about your strengths and areas for growth that cannot be summarized in a letter grade.

## Year Two: Practice and Preparation

### Student teaching

Part of our commitment to social justice is to prepare you to ensure all students learn. Thus in your second year, you will take on two student teaching assignments. Each assignment will be at a different grade level in a different school, both matching your endorsement areas. One assignment will be in a diverse setting, which will include ethnically and socioeconomically diverse students.

Generally, fall placements will be with the same school and teacher as your first year practicum.

* Fall student teaching lasts from mid-August until just before Thanksgiving.
* Spring student teaching lasts from mid-March until early June.

Evergreen’s MiT Field finds you appropriate mentor teachers in public schools in Thurston County, Mason County, Pierce County, or Lewis County within 40 miles of the Olympia campus. The 2017-2019 Tacoma cohort may include placements in south King County.

Your mentor teachers provide you on-going guidance, and one of your MiT faculty becomes your student teaching supervisor. Your supervisor observes your teaching to identify areas of strength and areas requiring growth. You meet with your supervisor after observations to discuss issues that arise and strategies to improve your skills.

Learn more about [how student teaching works](http://www.evergreen.edu/mit/student-teaching.htm).

### Master project and professional growth plan

In between your student teaching quarters, you will spend winter quarter creating a Master Project and a Professional Growth Plan (PGP).

* Your Master Project is a research and writing project. Candidates present their projects at an event open to the public and attended by Evergreen’s Professional Educator Advisory Board.
* Your PGP is a Washington state requirement for your teaching career. It includes areas you want to target for professional growth and activities you will engage in.

Your faculty will give you a narrative evaluation every quarter during year two.

### Certification and Employment

During fall quarter student teaching, you will submit your Teacher Performance Assessment (edTPA). This portfolio includes video and essays to show your skills in planning, instruction, and assessment. The edTPA is scored by outside evaluators as required by state law for certification.

During winter quarter year two, you will prepare for a job search by crafting a strong resume, collecting letters of recommendation, and participating in mock interviews and job fairs. You may begin applying for teaching jobs as soon as February. Hiring offers are usually contingent upon graduation and certification. **Our hiring rate has been over 90% for the past several years**.

After finishing spring quarter student teaching, you will complete all forms to obtain your teaching certificate as quickly as possible after graduation.

Your future classroom awaits you!