Program Overview

Becoming a teacher for social justice is a developmental journey, a journey we will take together.

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, coordinated studies program grounded in cooperation and collaboration (link to pg. 2 in catalog).

Our program takes the time needed to prepare to be an effective teacher for today’s classrooms.

**Cohort Model, Six Quarters, Fall Start Only**

* Candidates in the 2017–19 cohort will take courses at [The Evergreen State College Tacoma](http://www.evergreen.edu/tacoma/).
* Candidates in the 2018–20 cohort will take courses 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 experiences in classrooms will begin in your first quarter.

* Year one: three quarters of daytime coursework with weekly classroom observations and interactions
* Year two: fall and spring student teaching quarters, winter daytime coursework

The program is a total of 96 quarter credits. There are no evening, 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, ~~full-time~~ 16 credit interdisciplinary program per quarter, much like Evergreen undergraduate programs. There are no separate courses. ~~All teaching candidates learn together with a group of faculty, meeting three days a week.essen~~tial

### Learning the basics

As a learning community, all candidates study 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’ll 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 world views, and for discussing readings covering the larger social issues involved in teaching in a democratic, multicultural society.

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

### Weekly in-classroom field experience

During your coursework, you’ll be placed in a classroom for a weekly field experience. Over time, you will become increasingly involved work with students. After a period of observing and interacting in classrooms at all levels, you’ll spend the rest of the school year in a single classroom. Your mentor teacher will provide you with increasing levels of responsibility in the classroom, including planning and teaching a unit to the class.

Back in the seminar setting, you can talk through the issues you encountered with your PK-12 students. ~~with your fellow teaching students and faculty~~.

| Typical Year One Schedule |
| --- |
| **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** |
| Workshops & Seminar9 am–4 pm | Practicum9 am–2 pm | Workshops9 am–1 pm | Workshops & Seminar9 am–4 pm | No Scheduled Classes |

You will receive a narrative evaluation from your faculty at the end of the year. This will provide a level of descriptive feedback and assessment that cannot be summarized in a letter grade. You will receive detailed information about your strengths, areas for growth, and credits earned. Find out more about [narrative evaluations](http://evergreen.edu/evaluations/) at Evergreen.

## Year Two: Practice and Preparation

### Student teaching

In your second year, you’ll take on two student teaching assignments. Each assignment will be at a different grade level in a different school, both matching your endorsement areas. . Part of our commitment to social justice is to prepare you teach all students to learn. As such, one assignment will be in a diverse setting, which will include ethnically and socioeconomically diverse studentsGenerally, 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 ~~end of the school year~~ early June.

Most student teaching takes place in a 40-mile radius the Olympia campus: Thurston County, Mason County, Pierce County, or Lewis County. The 2017-2019 Tacoma cohort may include placements in south King County.

One of your faculty members from year one will become your student teaching supervisor. You’ll meet with them to discuss issues that arise and to improve your skills. They’ll observe your teaching so they can provide effective feedback to reinforce your strengths and improve areas that require growth.

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’ll spend Winter quarter creating a Master Project and a Professional Growth Plan.

* 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 Professional Growth Plan is a Washington state requirement for your teaching career. It includes specific areas that you want to improve in your teaching.

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

### Photo of Phyllis teaching?

### Certification and Employment

~~At the same time,~~ During fall you’ll ~~working on~~ submit your Teacher Performance Assessment (Ed-TPA) ~~for submission during Fall of year two~~. This portfolio includes video and essays to show your skills in planning, instruction, and assessment. It is a formal documentation of work that you will already be doing in the classroom. The Ed-TPA is scored by outside evaluators as required by state law for certification. You will find that the quality of our program will prepare you well for this assessment.

During winter, you’ll prepare for the 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 placement rate for the past several years has been over 90%**.

During spring, ~~Over the course of year two~~, you’ll ~~work with our office to~~ complete all ~~the necessary paperwork~~ all forms with guidance from our office ~~in order to~~ ~~become certified as a teacher in Washington State~~.to obtain your teaching certificate as quickly as possible after graduation.

Your future classroom awaits you!