

COMPETENCY-BASED ESL ENDORSEMENT



The Canyons Competency-Based ESL Endorsement Program addresses the critical need for equipping K-12 teachers with comprehensive knowledge and skills to effectively support multilingual learners (MLs). Aligned with the standards for Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and [Utah's Guidelines for a Competency-Based ESL Endorsement](#), the program emphasizes practical application beyond theoretical understanding to make a visible, positive impact on student learning outcomes.

Educators will engage in a comprehensive learning program designed to enhance their instructional skills, particularly in TESOL. This program is organized into a structured pathway that covers the five [TESOL Standards](#):

STANDARD 1: KNOWLEDGE ABOUT LANGUAGE

STANDARD 2: ELLS IN THE SOCIOCULTURAL CONTEXT

STANDARD 3: PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTING INSTRUCTION

STANDARD 4: ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

STANDARD 5: PROFESSIONALISM AND LEADERSHIP

To demonstrate competencies in all 5 of these areas, participants will undertake a series of steps:

1. **Pre-Assessment:** To begin, participants will assess their current knowledge and skills to address areas for improvement.
2. **Goal Setting:** With insights from the pre-assessment, participants will set specific, targeted goals for their professional development.
3. **Coursework:** Educators will engage in specialized coursework tailored to each of the TESOL Standards, deepening their understanding and mastery of essential concepts and practices.
4. **Student Case Studies:** By analyzing case studies, participants will gain a nuanced understanding of diverse student needs and how to address them effectively.
5. **Practical Application:** Participants will apply what they've learned from coursework and case studies in actual teaching experiences.
6. **Reflection:** During and after application, educators will reflect on their experiences and fulfillment of the goals they initially established, evaluating what worked and what could be improved.

As they progress through the program, educators will compile a digital portfolio of their work, culminating in a capstone presentation that showcases their growth and comprehensive understanding and application of the program's learning objectives. Delivered through Canvas modules and regular check-ins, the program offers a comprehensive instructional approach. It aims to empower educators to facilitate language acquisition through effective instructional strategies and best practices, ensure student access to grade level content, and promote cultural responsiveness among their students.