



Wednesday, February 25, 2004

## English as a second language program offered

Oakland University is accepting applications for its English as a Second Language (ESL) Endorsement Program for certified teachers. The cohort-program will be held at Troy High School with classes beginning in the spring.

The 20-credit program is approved by the Michigan Department of Education and sponsored by the **College of Arts and Sciences** and **School of Education and Human Services**. The ESL endorsement is beneficial not only to educators with students for whom English is a second language but also to professionals working in international corporations and organizations, in cultural exchange agencies, and in curriculum development programs. All courses in the ESL Endorsement Program may be applied toward OU's Master of Arts in linguistics degree.

According to the 2000 census, 18.4 percent of school-age children in the United States, or nearly one out of every five, speak a language other than English at home. Locally, statistics obtained from Oakland Schools indicate that more than 100 languages are spoken by residents in Oakland County. OU's ESL Endorsement Program prepares educators to understand and address linguistic and cultural challenges that students experience when English is not their native language.

For more information, visit the **Department of Linguistics** Web site or contact Linda Hubarth at (248) 370-2175 or [hubarth@oakland.edu](mailto:hubarth@oakland.edu).

### SUMMARY

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