In speaking with a COE Advisor, you will learn that every candidate will need to complete a 24 teaching field, as part of the degree program. Teaching Fields include language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Endorsements include Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) and Bilingual Education.

Your New Mexico teaching license will be a K-8 license, making you eligible to teach kindergarten through 8th grade. At the middle school level (6th-8th) you may only teach those subjects in which you have a teaching field. Since TESOL and Bilingual Education are not teaching fields, if you are considering a TESOL/Bilingual Endorsement, you will still need to select a subject-centered teaching field as part of the program.

The Bilingual Education and TESOL endorsements are highly desirable. Principals are often unable to fill available positions for which bilingually-certified, Spanish-speaking teachers are required. In addition, almost all classrooms in New Mexico serve children whose first language is not English, so a strong TESOL background is also a great advantage to those new teachers seeking jobs. We strongly encourage all students to consider pursuing a Minor in Bilingual Education or TESOL. Additional advisement on these endorsements/coursework is offered through the Language, Literacy & Sociocultural Studies Department: LLSS Faculty & Staff Contacts

At the middle school level, a teaching field in science or mathematics is much more likely to be needed than language arts or social studies. If you have a strong inclination to teach middle school, consider math and/or science as teaching fields.