

Proper Placement Considerations

Ensuring that an appropriately prepared and endorsed teacher is assigned to teach in Michigan's classrooms is critical to student achievement. Similar to when teachers align curriculum (the specific, technical process being used to develop lessons, deliver instruction, and evaluate student learning growth and achievement), aligning a course to the teacher has many facets. The [Quick Reference: Courses That Can Be Taught](#) document is a valuable resource for teacher placements.

Administrators and teachers should also apply and align the following considerations before assigning teachers or developing courses:

1. **CERTIFICATION**/endorsement and corresponding preparation program of the teacher: What is the endorsement held by the teacher to be assigned? Did the preparation program for that endorsement cover the content being taught? How does it align with the other Cs?
The current list of [Michigan endorsement areas and program standards](#) can be found on the Michigan Department of Education's (MDE) website.
2. **CURRICULUM** or **CONTENT** of the course: What is being taught? What content expectations or standards are being met? How does it align with the other Cs?
The [Michigan grade level content expectations](#) should be referenced for more specific alignment.
3. **CREDIT**: What is the intended Michigan Merit Curriculum Credit? How does it align with the other Cs?
4. **CONTEXT**: Does a grant fund the program and require a specific certification or endorsement (e.g., special education, Title I, career and technical education)? How does it align with the other Cs?
5. **CODE**: What code will be used for reporting (e.g., Registry of Educational Personnel, Teacher Student Data Link)? How does it align with the other Cs?
6. **COURSE TITLE**: What is the name of the course? Why was this name chosen? How does it align with the other Cs?

Proper course alignment would look like this:

Example A – The teacher holds the Social Studies (RX) 6-12 endorsement. The course curriculum covers aspects of world history & geography and is being offered for a social studies credit. The course is reported on the REP as Social Studies (000RX) and is called “World History & Geography”.

Example B – The teacher holds the Visual Arts Education (LO) K-12 endorsement. The course uses a graphic arts program to create art visuals for the school yearbook. The course is offered as an elective and reported on REP as Art Education (000LX). The course is called “Yearbook”.

Improper course alignment would look like this:

Example C – The teacher holds the English (BA) endorsement. The course curriculum covers the study of literature within the science fiction genre. The course is offered for an elective credit. The course is reported on the REP as Science (000DX) and is called “Science Fiction”.

Example D – The teacher holds the Physics (DE) 6-12 endorsement. The course curriculum covers science and math concepts, incorporating technology utilizing STEM education programs. The course is offered as a 4th credit of math and is reported as Math (000EX) on the REP. The course is called “STEM”.

