

**Profile of
Donald Hones
Professor, Department of Teaching and Learning
University of Wisconsin Oshkosh
2024 Regents Teaching Excellence Individual Award Recipient**

Highlights from nomination materials:

- Ph.D., Curriculum, Teaching and Educational Policy, Michigan State University; M.A., Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL), University of Minnesota; M.A., Political Science, Duke University; B.A., Political Science, Hope College; faculty member since 1997.
- Professor of ESL and Bilingual Education, College of Education and Human Services; teaches and conducts research on English language acquisition among immigrants and refugee populations in northeastern Wisconsin.
- Work focuses on pedagogy scholarship, student learning, and evidence-based teaching practices; has published narrative studies on pedagogical practices of ESL teachers in the field, papers on how university faculty and public-school teachers can collaborate to create better outcomes for ESL students, and guidance for ESL educators on how to meet state standards for the K-12 curriculum.
- Developed and taught a course for second-year college students, “Pursuing the Dream: Dialogues on Culture, Language and Identity,” first offered in Spring 2023; UWO students were literacy tutors to elementary school students in an after-school program; some participating students co-authored a manuscript intended for publication in a scholarship of teaching of learning (SoTL) journal.
- Helped develop another recent project, the New Voices Summer English Project, for refugee and immigrant youth in Oshkosh; mentored UWO students as they worked with Congolese, South Sudanese, Afghani, and Pakistani children and supported these students’ academic growth by co-authoring an article about the project with two UWO students and two participating immigrant children.
- Earned a substitute-teaching license to substitute teach in high-need areas in Oshkosh-area public schools; has led study-abroad trips to Costa Rica and developed exchange programs for pre-service and in-service teachers.
- Has taught more than 5,000 students during his career at UW Oshkosh (the majority have gone on to be teachers, some have become school administrators, and several have earned doctoral degrees); has written and directed several multi-million-dollar federal grants and a growing list of scholarly publications.
- Select Awards and Honors: Wisconsin Teaching Fellow (2020-2022); John McNaughton Rosebush University Professorship (UWO, 2010); Distinguished Teaching Award (2008).

In Donald Hones’ own words:

- “The idea of a transformative educational experience between teachers and students greatly resonated with me and impacted my practice in the classroom and my research....In recent years, I have benefitted from research on social emotional learning and trauma-sensitive practices. I have witnessed how anxieties, depression, and trauma impact my own students, and the power of building a classroom community where all have a voice and where all feel supported in their learning.”

In the words of colleagues:

- “Dr. Hones is widely known as a student-centered instructor. He frequently advocates on their behalf and is a trusted and committed mentor.”—*Ed Martini, Provost and Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, UW Oshkosh*
- “[Dr. Hones’] excellence shines through when he shows compassion for a student in a difficult situation, gives his time mentoring students to keep them on a path to graduate, challenges the beliefs that students have about the U.S. education system in our courses, and when he engages UWO students in service-learning experiences in our community.”—*Eric Brunsell, Professor and Chair, Department of Teaching & Learning, College of Education and Human Services, UW Oshkosh*