

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

The mission of Hebrew Theological College is to offer quality academic and professional training programs for the advancement of scholarship. These programs are offered in accordance with the principles of Orthodox Judaism. In addition to preparing students for formal roles as educators, HTC endeavors to provide its students with broad cultural perspectives and a strong foundation in Liberal Arts and Sciences to facilitate a creative synthesis of general and Jewish knowledge.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

HTC offers programs leading to a Bachelor of Arts in Judaic Studies with a second major in Education. HTC programs lead to State Teaching Certificates in Elementary Education and Special Education in the area of Learning Behavior Specialist I.

Student Characteristics:

Students in the education major are mostly between the ages of 19-25, with some returning professionals ages 30 and above. Seventy-five percent of the students are Illinois residents and 67% are full-time. Students are diverse in terms of socio-economic status and geographical background as well as special needs.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to the Department of Education:

1. Cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher at the time of application.
2. Proficiency in oral English as evidenced by a grade of "B" or higher in an approved speech course or by passing the Oral Proficiency Examination offered by the Department of Education.
3. Proficiency in written English as evidenced by a grade of "B" or higher in an approved writing course or by passing the Written English Language Competence Exam offered by the Department of Education.
4. Proficiency in reading as evidenced by a grade of "B" or higher in an approved literature course or by passing the Vocabulary and Comprehension sections of the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE).
5. Proficiency in math as evidenced by a grade of "B" or higher in an approved math courses or by passing the Computation and Application sections of the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE).
6. Two letters of recommendation from HTC course instructors.
7. An interview with the Chairman of the Department of Education.
8. Successful completion of the Test of Basic Skills.

Accreditation:

Hebrew Theological College is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association. All of HTC's teacher preparation programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

- To provide the highest quality training to our students to help them reach their fullest potential as professional educators and to instill in them a lifetime love of learning and desire for knowledge
- To train each teacher to be an Effective Communicator, Critical Thinker, Proactive Educator, and Moral Practitioner

Best Practices:

- Comprehensive structured clinical experiences in diverse settings integrated throughout the teacher preparation program
- Emphasis on proactive approach to classroom management and teaching
- Focus on critical thinking and effective communication skills
- Integration of technology into curriculum, including the use of LIVETEXT in all education courses.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Establishment of Blitstein Institute Curriculum Library
- Addition of new Special Education Curriculum and Technology Library
- Faculty implemented comprehensive student review committee to assess knowledge, skills, and dispositions of teacher candidates.
- Implementation of standards-based, electronic portfolios for teacher candidates.
- Successful completion of ISBE 5th year review
- Almost 100% job placement for teacher graduates
- Students consistently scoring above national norms on tests of basic skills and certification subject areas, as well as the Assessment for Professional Teaching.
- Hired LIVETEXT Coordinator to integrate and facilitate the use of Livetext in the unit assessment system.
- Hired Clinical Experience Coordinator to organize placements and monitor performance of candidates in the field.

Program Information for Hebrew Theological College 2007-2008	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2007-2008	3
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2007-2008	3
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	1
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	2
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	2
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	7
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	1
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	2:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	30
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	15
S.7 Average total number of hours required	450