

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

At Illinois Wesleyan University, professional teacher education is grounded in the liberal arts and social justice mission of the University. Studies in the liberal arts, sciences, and humanities bring historical, philosophical, social and cultural context to the educative endeavor. The teacher's challenge requires the same spirit of inquiry, creativity of thought, skillful communication, and strength of character expressed in the university mission. As we educate future teachers, we aim to enable them to think critically and creatively about the processes and prospects of education, the place of education and the role of the teacher in a diverse and democratic society.

In particular, our mission is to educate candidates who are committed to social justice in their classrooms and schools so that the democratic ideals of equity and opportunity are realized for all students. This mission, in turn, necessitates that the university's commitment to diversity be embraced by teacher educators and future teachers alike. Given that the student population is becoming increasingly diverse while teachers remain overwhelmingly white, female, and middle class, teachers are challenged to work with students from a wide range of cultural, ethnic, and linguistic origins, abilities, and socio-economic backgrounds. Thus, we strive to prepare teachers who understand, appreciate, and are responsive to students from diverse backgrounds, and who have the knowledge, skills and dispositions to foster learning among all children regardless of culture, ethnicity, language, class, gender and/or ability.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

- Elementary (grades K-9) with optional middle school endorsement.
- Secondary (grades 6-12): Social Science/History, English, Natural Science (Biology, Chemistry, Physics), and Mathematics, with optional middle school endorsement.
- Foreign Language (French and Spanish).
- Music (K-12).
- middle school endorsement (grades 5-8).

Student Characteristics:

Student enrollment at IWU during the 2007-2008 academic year was 2,094. Women (1213) outnumbered men (881). Minority students included African Americans (110), Asian Americans (86), Hispanic Americans (63), and American Indians (8). 55 students were non-resident aliens. 45 percent of the entering class ranked in the top 10 percent of their high school class. The average composite SAT was 1242, and the average ACT composite was 28. 54 students completed the Teacher Education Program in 2007-2008 of which 22 were Elementary Education, 13 Secondary Education, 1 Foreign Language, and 18 Music Education.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program:

- Attend Teacher Education Information meeting.
- Demonstrated professionalism in the field.
- Passing score on the ISBE Basic Skills Exam.
- Cumulative, major, and professional education grade point averages of 2.75.
- Satisfactory application essay.

Admission to Student Teaching:

- Demonstrated competency in the field.
- Passing score on the ISBE Content Area Exam.
- Cumulative, major, and professional education grade point averages of 3.0.
- Satisfactory application essay.
- Major advisor recommendation.

Accreditation:

Illinois Wesleyan is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The Teacher Education Program is accredited by the Illinois State Board of Education which has adopted the standards of the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. The IWU School of Music is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music.

Teacher Education Vision:

Reflective, Resourceful and Responsive Teacher-Scholars committed to social justice for all students.

Best Practices:

- First year and continuing field experiences with diverse student populations embedded in professional education coursework, culminating in a 16 week term of student teaching.
- Attention to inclusion of students with special needs embedded in all professional education coursework.
- Technological proficiency development embedded in all professional education coursework.
- Emphasis on reflection and inquiry throughout the curriculum.
- Secondary certification candidates complete majors in their disciplines.
- Elementary candidates complete minors in select disciplines.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Promise and Potential Partnership with local middle school matches tutor-mentors with students.
- SEA Pen Pal Partner program with fourth graders in Des Plains, Illinois.
- Urban Education Student Teaching in Chicago opportunity.
- Senior research seminar.
- Digital Senior Portfolios.
- Annual *Inquiry into Teaching and Learning Conference* (Student Research).

Program Information for Illinois Wesleyan University 2007-2008	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2007-2008	46
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2007-2008	56
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	5
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	0
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	5
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	10
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	5:1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	35
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	16
S.7 Average total number of hours required	560