

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

***Mission:***

Judson University was founded in 1963 as an evangelical Christian institution. The mission of the teacher education department is to prepare quality educators committed to Christian principles, dedicated to the betterment of society, who facilitate effective teaching and learning experiences and who will provide positive leadership in education environment in our nation and around the world.

***Teacher Preparation Programs:***

Judson University offers seven baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher certification. Programs include Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education-Business, Marketing and Computer Education; English, Math, Physical Education, Science-Biology and Chemistry, Social Science-History, Visual Art and K-12 Specialists in Music, Physical Education and Visual Art.

***Student Characteristics:***

Most undergraduates are of traditional college age. A high percentage of the students attend full-time and are from the State of Illinois. Approximately ten percent of education majors are minority students.

***Admissions Requirements:***

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Students must pass the ICTS Basic Skills competency exam in reading, writing and mathematics. Candidates must have completed a practicum experience and have a cumulative 2.75 GPA. All professional, major, and concentration courses must be C or higher. Candidates must have a portfolio with artifacts to support at least four Illinois standards, satisfactory references from one faculty member, and two character references from an external source (non-Judson employee.)

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must have a cumulative 2.75 GPA with all professional, major, and concentration courses having a C or higher. Candidates must have completed a total of at least three practica experiences with satisfactory recommendations to support competency for entering the education profession. Additionally, candidates must have a portfolio component with artifacts supporting all twelve of the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards. All candidates who begin student teaching after October 1, 2004 will need to successfully complete a Content Area exam prior to the start of their student teaching experience.

***Accreditation:***

Judson University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. All of the University's teacher preparation programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

***Teacher Education Vision:***

The theoretical framework for the Teacher Education Division is "Partners Pathfinding for Professional Excellence." Throughout the program, partnerships are developed among faculty and students, students and public school teachers, and between students... "Pathfinding" is a term that has been coined to describe the School of Education's efforts to work with students from many different background and entry points into the program, devising the best means from them to achieve teacher certification. The Teacher Education program exists to prepare entry-level professionals with successful completion of the program resulting in a professional license to teach. Finally, the School of Education has a longstanding reputation for excellence. High standards are expected of students to ensure this reputation continues.

***Best Practices:***

- Candidates are required to produce a portfolio as they proceed through coursework and practica experiences.
- Authentic and performance assessments are practiced throughout the program.
- Practica experiences are in diverse settings.
- Judson University enjoys an outstanding reputation with the local school districts.

***Notable Features and Accomplishments:***

- All professors have teaching experience in public schools.
- Students from Judson University are recruited by local school districts.
- Many graduates of the Judson University program have become principals and administrators in the immediate area.
- Students enjoy small class sizes.
- Due to the size of the university there are outstanding opportunities for student/faculty interaction.
- All professors are active in professional organization.

<b>Program Information for Judson University</b> <b>2007-2008</b>
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2007-2008	<b>169</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2007-2008	<b>73</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	<b>7</b>
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>5</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>3</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>16</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>10</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>7.3</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>40</b>
<b>S.6B</b> The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	<b>11</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>440</b>