

MILLIKIN UNIVERSITY

Decatur, Illinois

2003-2004 Title II Report

Mission:

In 1901 James Millikin envisioned a university in which "the scientific, the practical and industrial shall have a place of equal importance, side by side with the literary and classical." Millikin University has a long history of blending theory with practice to prepare graduates who have a foundation of liberal studies, grounded in practical realism. Likewise, the mission of Millikin's teacher education programs emphasizes a blend of theory and practice. Its mission is to prepare beginning teachers who are committed to excellence in teaching and learning. We seek to provide practical and theoretical knowledge, attitudes and skills that will enable our students to journey toward excellence in learning and teaching throughout their professional lives.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Millikin University offers undergraduate baccalaureate degrees in the following areas: Early Childhood Education; Elementary Education; K-12 Specialist Programs in Art, Music, and Physical Education; and Secondary Education Programs in English, Math, Science (designations in Biology and Chemistry), and Social Science (designation in History). In addition, Millikin offers a School Nurse Program.

Student Characteristics:

Approximately 85% of Millikin students are Illinois residents. The majority of the students are of traditional college age. Minority students, including international students, represent 13.6% of the student population. Among students entering Millikin in Fall 2003, the average ACT score was 23.2. Approximately 20% of the total enrollments are first generation college students.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education: Applicants must have 1) completed 30 credits, including one education class at Millikin; 2) earned C+ or better in composition courses; 3) earned a 2.5 cumulative GPA; 4) passed the Illinois Basic Skills Test; 5) completed Phase I of the Candidate Portfolio; 6) received a positive recommendation from their major department; 7) been accepted by Committee on Teacher Education Programs.

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must 1) continue to earn a 2.5 cum. GPA, earn a 2.7 GPA in major field coursework, and earn a 2.5 GPA in core education courses; 3) complete Phase II of the Candidate Portfolio; 4) pass the Illinois Content Area Test; 5) complete 100 internship hours and 6) receive a positive recommendation from their major field department.

Accreditation:

Millikin University is accredited by the North Central Association of Schools and Colleges. Its teacher education programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Teacher Education Vision:

When we prepare teachers who are journeying toward excellence, those future teachers will direct their own students toward excellence, thus continuing a cycle of learning and teaching. The Teacher Education Unit at Millikin is committed to preparing candidates for lifelong teaching-learning journeys as professional educators who (1) engage in active learning; (2) create communities of learning; (3) facilitate learning for others and (4) collaborate with others in teaching and learning.

Best Practices:

- Candidates are involved in school field experiences from their freshman through senior years.
- Candidates seeking secondary certification complete majors in their arts or sciences disciplines. Elementary education majors complete 15 credits of study in an arts or sciences discipline. Early Childhood education majors complete coursework in early childhood special education.
- Candidates become actively involved through videotaped microteaching lessons in several of their courses and through working with students in schools through clinical activities and multiple internship experiences.
- Candidates complete internships in their student teaching classroom during the semester prior to student teaching; thus, candidates have an opportunity to interact in their student teaching schools and classrooms and to become acquainted with their cooperating teachers and their students.

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- A microteaching lab designed for teacher education students facilitates practical, hands-on learning experiences and provides opportunities for students to try out new strategies and methods prior to using them in actual classrooms.
- "Blocks" of coursework and clinical experiences allow candidates to move from theory to practice in area schools and apply concepts in actual teaching environments. Faculty observe clinicals and collaborate with area teachers.
- A teacher education program grant from the James Millikin Estate funds innovative projects, an education professorship, workshops, and scholarships.
- Graduates have been awarded numerous teaching awards, including Teachers of Excellence, Outstanding Teacher, Teacher of the Month, and National Board Certification.
- Millikin graduates in teacher education programs have strong placement records.

**Program Information for Millikin University
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	145
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	95
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	4
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	12
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	21
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	4.5/1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	12
S.7 Average total number of hours required	480