

SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY

Chicago, Illinois

2003-2004 Title II Report

Mission:

Saint Xavier University's primary purpose is to develop and sustain challenging undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs of study, marked by superior teaching. The University also supports research and artistic expression, and sponsors selected programs of direct service to metropolitan Chicago. Emphasizing its Catholic heritage and purpose, Saint Xavier University continues to build upon the ideals of its founders and sponsors, the Sisters of Mercy, who in 1846 established an academy defined by intellectual rigor, service to the poor, encouragement of religious faith, and a special interest in women and children. Consistent with this tradition, Saint Xavier University upholds high academic standards, respects freedom of personal religious expression, and honors commonly accepted standards of academic freedom.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The School of Education of Saint Xavier University offers baccalaureate programs leading to certification in Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, and, in conjunction with the School of Arts and Sciences, Secondary certification in Art, Biology, English, History, Social Science, Mathematics, Music, and Spanish. Candidates holding baccalaureate degrees in other fields may pursue initial certification in these approved programs through an Individualized Master's degree program. Master's degree programs leading to advanced certification in Educational Administration, Curriculum and Instruction, Multicategorical Special Education, and Reading are also available. The University offers a program in English as a Second Language/Bilingual Education, as well as a Master of Arts in Teaching and Leadership Program designed for in-service educators who wish to enhance their teaching and leadership skills.

Student Characteristics:

The following data are descriptive of the 3062 students who constitute the **undergraduate population**: 76% are full time students; 69% are of traditional age; 33% are members of a minority group; and 85% receive financial aid.

The **graduate** population consists of 2519 students; 17% are members of a minority group; 35% receive financial aid; 72% are part-time students; and 73% are enrolled in the School of Education.

Admission Requirements:

Admission to an education program is a 3-stage process. Students must declare their intent and pass the Illinois Test of Basic Skills. In stage 2 and upon enrollment in an initial foundations course, students must begin the preparation of a professional portfolio containing artifacts and reflections, a student essay, and clinical observation forms. A minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 must be maintained and faculty members' assessments of professional dispositions must be acquired. After successful completion of this stage, students are admitted and designated a *teacher candidate*. In stage 3, students add to their portfolio, obtain additional disposition assessments, accumulate 100 clinical hours, and successfully complete all professional courses with a minimum grade of C and a cumulative GPA of 2.5. Students then apply to student teach and, if accepted, are assigned a student teaching placement.

Accreditation:

Saint Xavier University is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. All programs offered by the School of Education are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education and all programs leading to initial certification are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE).

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION



Conceptual Framework:

Graduates of the School of Education strive to have, at their center, a sense of integrity that supports, permeates, and connects their work as scholars, professionals, and citizens committed to social responsibility. The nurturing of this integrated self is supported by programs that require the acquisition of knowledge and the application of that knowledge through active participation in scholarly, professional, and civic arenas.

Best Practices:

The School of Education provides:

- A sequenced program structure, aligned with state and national standards, that supports a clear and deliberate transfer of education theory to instructional practice
- Class sizes that permit strong support and authentic assessment of teacher candidates' growth in the knowledge, skills, and dispositions required for effective instruction
- A professional portfolio development process that provides formative feedback throughout the candidate's program
- Extensive candidate participation in assigned diverse clinical settings supervised by university faculty and classroom-based practitioners
- An articulated, disseminated, research-based conceptual framework that guides program design, implementation, and assessment.
- Selected programs at the graduate level that enable candidates to complete a program sequence in a cohesive cohort group, pursuing professional goals through a shared academic experience

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Programs that are recognized by: **Association of Childhood Education International, National Association for the Education of Young Children, Council for Exceptional Children, National Science Teachers Association, National Association of Schools of Music, American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, and International Reading Association**
- Extensive involvement in the P-12 community through external partnerships and faculty consultation
- Co-sponsorship of the Barbara Vick Early Childhood and Family Center with the Chicago Public Schools
- Graduate Program in Community Agency Counseling and School Counseling
- Provision of diagnostic and support services to children and families through the S.T.A.R. Learning Academy and the Merwick Academy

**Program Information for Saint Xavier University
2003-2004**

S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2003-2004	262
S.2 Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2003-2004	239
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	10
➤ 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	20
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	34
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	7/1
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	30
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	16
S.7 Average total number of hours required	480