

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and LaSallian heritage, provides to a diverse student population programs for a liberal and professional education grounded in the interaction of knowledge and fidelity in the search for truth. Lewis promotes the development of the complete person through the pursuit of wisdom and justice. Fundamental to its mission is a spirit of association which fosters community in all teaching, learning, and service. The College of Education (COE) promotes professional standards in education by providing comprehensive programs that enable graduates to build learning communities that meet the diverse needs of all students. The knowledge, attitudes, and skills acquired serve as foundations for professional commitment and continuous professional growth for candidates and graduates.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The Lewis University COE prepares teachers for elementary and special education, as well as secondary teachers in the fields of English, Mathematics, science (designations in biology, chemistry, and physics), and social science (designations in History and psychology). Each of these majors is offered at the baccalaureate and masters levels. In addition, graduate programs leading to a Master of Education, Master of Arts, Certificate of Advanced Study, or Doctorate in Moral and Ethical Leadership are offered to prepare school administrators, regular and special education teachers, reading and literacy specialists, and technology professionals for positions in public and private schools.

Student Characteristics:

Lewis University has an enrollment of approximately 4848 students; 3459 of these students are undergraduates. A total of 57% of the undergraduates are traditional college age and 26% live on campus. The average ACT score for first-time entering freshmen in 2004 was 21.62. The COE has an enrollment of approximately 981 students. Of these, 389 attend full time; 30% are considered members of a minority group; 31% of the COE students are male and 69% are female.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Undergraduate candidates must meet university entrance requirements and maintain a 2.75 GPA for 29 hours in order to enroll in the introductory teacher education courses. Successful completion of 45 hours of coursework, including an introductory clinical course and passing the Illinois Basic Skills Test, is also required. Graduate candidates must hold a baccalaureate degree from regionally accredited institution, pass a writing examination and the Illinois Basic Skills Test. Both must submit two letters of application for approval by the COE Academic Affairs Committee.

Admission to Student Teaching: Completion of all general and professional coursework, diverse field experience requirements, and passing scores on the appropriate Illinois State Board of Education content area test may be admitted to student teaching with final approval by the COE Academic Affairs Committee.

Accreditation:

Lewis University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The COE has been accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since 2000. All undergraduate and graduate certification programs are approved by the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

In keeping with the University's Mission, the LaSallian values serve as both the foundation and vision for all programs within the COE:

- **Knowledge** – a comprehensive understanding of academic content; insight into how people learn and develop; professional research and effective practice in the field using appropriate pedagogy; technology and assessment strategies.
- **Association** – communication and collaboration with students, colleagues, and other professionals in order to actively develop learning communities.
- **Fidelity** – moral and ethical behavior in all personal and professional activities; a desire and dedication to participate as a member of the education profession, respecting the integrity, diversity, truth, and value of all individuals.
- **Justice** – support for the needs of diverse learners; endeavor to effect change in the learning community to promote equity and equal access for all.
- **Wisdom** – reflection on research, best practice, as well as moral, ethical, and professional values to implement change to enhance student achievement.

Best Practices:

- Reflective practice to build learning communities
- Cooperation and collaboration with students, colleagues, and local schools
- Differentiated instruction
- Multiple and varied pedagogical techniques
- Critical and creative thinking skills
- NCATE/Illinois Learning Standards-based instruction

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- The COE provides a transitional elementary, special education, and combined regular/special education undergraduate and graduate program.
- Extensive involvement in P-12 communities exists through external collaboration and faculty consultation.
- An exemplary master's level teacher education program is offered through COE partnerships with area schools.
- Advanced certification in Reading/Literacy and Educational Leadership is offered in traditional or cohort models, on or off campus, and school sites.
- Lewis University is the recipient of a Title III Grant from the U.S. Department of Education for \$1.74 million over five years.
- The COE is the recipient of three federal grants, under the auspices of the Associated Colleges of Illinois, to aid in recruiting and preparing minority and male teaching candidates.

Program Information for Lewis University 2004-2005	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2004-2005	407
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2004-2005	134
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	8
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	13
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	16
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	37
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	4:1
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