

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

***Mission:***

Lewis University, guided by its Catholic and Lasallian heritage, provides 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.

***Teacher Preparation Programs:***

The Lewis University COE prepares teachers for elementary and special education, as well as secondary teachers in the fields of English/language arts, mathematics, science (designations in biology, chemistry, or physics), and social science (designations in history or psychology). Each of these programs 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 Educational Leadership are offered to prepare school administrators, regular and special education teachers, reading and literacy specialists, and technology professionals for positions in public or private schools.

***Student Characteristics:***

Lewis University has an enrollment of approximately 5065 students; 3593 of these students are undergraduates. A total of 49% of the undergraduates are traditional college age and 19% live on campus. The average ACT score for entering freshmen in 2005 was 22. The COE has an enrollment of approximately 835 students. Of these, 54% attend full time; 21% are considered members of a minority group; 20% are male and 80% 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 to enroll in introductory education courses. Successful completion of 45 hours of coursework, including a clinical course and passing the Illinois Basic Skills Test (IBST), is then required. Graduate candidates must hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution, pass a writing examination, and pass the IBST. All candidates must be approved by the COE Academic Affairs Committee. Admission to Student Teaching: Upon completion of all general or professional coursework and diverse field experience requirements plus passing the appropriate Illinois State Board of Education content test, candidates may be admitted to student teaching upon 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 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 re: pedagogy, technology, and assessment strategies.
- Association – communication and collaboration with students, colleagues, and other professionals to develop learning communities.
- Fidelity – moral and ethical behavior in all personal and professional activities; a dedication to the education profession.
- Justice – support for the needs of diverse learners; commitment to change in the learning community to promote equity and equal access for all.
- Wisdom – reflection on research and best practice, as well as moral, ethical, and professional values in order to enhance student achievement.

***Best Practices:***

- Reflective practice to build learning communities.
- Collaboration with students, colleagues, and local schools.
- Differentiated instruction; multiple pedagogical techniques.
- Critical and creative thinking skills.
- NCATE/ISBE Standards-based instruction.

***Notable Features and Accomplishments:***

- Combined special education/elementary education certification option.
- Extensive involvement in P-12 communities.
- Exemplary field-based master's program in elementary education.
- Advanced programs offered via cohort or traditional models.
- The COE is the recipient of federal grants through the Associated Colleges of Illinois, including grants to recruit and prepare minority teachers.

<b>Program Information for Lewis University</b> <b>2005-2006</b>	
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2005-2006	<b>409</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2005-2006	<b>126</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ <b>S.3A</b> Full-time faculty in professional education	<b>13</b>
➤ <b>S.3B</b> Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	<b>12</b>
➤ <b>S.3C</b> Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	<b>9</b>
<b>S.4</b> Total faculty student teaching supervisors	<b>34</b>
<b>S.5</b> Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	<b>4:1</b>
<b>S.6A</b> The average number of student teaching hours per week	<b>35</b>
<b>S.6B</b> The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	<b>16</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>560</b>