

**CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION**

**Mission:**

The mission of the Augustana Education Department is to guide and nurture the professional development of pre-service teacher candidates by providing them with experiences that enable them to • purposefully explain and redefine the process of learning, • actively develop the ability to generate and use a wide range of general and subject-specific methodologies for effective teaching, • critically investigate the ethical, historical, philosophical, political and social dimensions of schooling, ... thus developing thoughtful, innovative, engaging, and reflective practitioners.

**Teacher Preparation Programs:**

Augustana College offers the following 15 certification programs:

- ♦ Elementary Education (K-9) (optional Middle School Endorsement)
- ♦ Art, Music and Foreign Languages (French, German, Latin, Spanish) (K-12)
- ♦ Secondary Education (6-12) (including the Middle School Endorsement) in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science, Physics), and Social Science (Geography, History).

**Student Characteristics:**

Augustana is a college of the liberal arts and sciences related to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Augustana has an enrollment of 2500 men and women and a faculty of more than 160. The 12 to 1 student-faculty ratio gives students plenty of opportunity to pursue their academic work on a personal level. The college is classified as "selective".

**Admissions Requirements:**

Admission to Teacher Education Program: Candidates must pass the Illinois Basic Skills Test; must have completed 28 credits; have a 3.0 GPA; receive grades of C- or better in college writing, introductory psychology, and child or adolescent development; and receive advisor recommendations from their education and teaching field advisors.

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must pass the Illinois Content-Area Test; earn grades of C- or better in all education courses; must have earned at least 24 credits in their teaching field; have a minimum of 80 clinical hours; have the recommendations of the chair of the teaching field and of the Education adviser. The 3.0 GPA requirement for admission is still in effect.

**Accreditation:**

Augustana is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The College's Teacher Education Program is also accredited by the National Association of Schools of Music, the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, and the Illinois State Board of Education.

**Teacher Education Vision:**



Department of Education...where students

*Construct* knowledge,  
*Connect* new ideas with prior understandings, and  
*Reflect* on their professional and personal development  
as they prepare to meet the needs of all learners.

**Best Practices:**

- ♦ Connection with Practicing Professionals: panel discussions led by local teachers are held on campus at least 12 times a year.
- ♦ Connection with Schools: partnership with a local elementary school provides elementary education majors with opportunities to conduct hands-on science activities with 4th-6th grade students.
- ♦ Connection with Community: our students develop and teach "hands-on" science activities for elementary students at a local museum.
- ♦ Connection with Alumni: graduates return to campus to participate in a Beginning Teachers Workshop to share topics of interest with current students.
- ♦ Integration of Technology: elementary education candidates author and illustrate a book for children and produce an interactive, multimedia version.
- ♦ Integration of Technology: computers are available to student teachers for use in their classrooms.
- ♦ Field Experience: all candidates participate in the beginning of school orientation days during their student teaching year.
- ♦ Field Experience: field placements are made in urban, suburban, and rural schools and all full-time faculty provide supervision.

**Notable Features and Accomplishments:**

- ♦ An **ACTIVE**, constructivist teaching philosophy advocated and modeled in each course in the professional sequence:
  - Assessment through performance using a wide range of assessment methods.
  - Curricula that emphasize big ideas, depth over breadth, and interdisciplinary.
  - Teacher as guide/facilitator/coach and student as worker/independent thinker.
  - Interaction-instruction guided by teacher and student-generated questions.
  - Variety of teaching strategies utilized, even within a single class period.
  - Engagement of students in subject matter, with students becoming historians, scientists, mathematicians, authors, etc.
- ♦ Continuous NCATE accreditation since 1954.
- ♦ Education Club: A student-led organization that provides opportunities for tutoring at-risk and special needs students and mentoring local school students.

<b>Program Information for Augustana College 2006-2007</b>
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<b>S.1</b> Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	<b>79</b>
<b>S.2</b> Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	<b>74</b>
<b>S.3</b> Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	
➤ <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>2</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>7.4</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>12</b>
<b>S.7</b> Average total number of hours required	<b>480</b>