

CONTEXTUAL INFORMATION

Mission:

Judson University was founded in 1963 as an evangelical Christian institution. The mission of the teacher education department is to prepare quality educators committed to Christian principles, dedicated to the betterment of society, who facilitate effective teaching and learning experiences, and who will provide positive leadership in education environments in our nation and around the world

Teacher Preparation Programs:

Judson University offers seven baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher certification. Programs include: Early Childhood Education, Elementary Education, Secondary Education (Business, Marketing and Computer Education, English, Math, Physical Education, Science (Biology, Chemistry), Social Science (History), Visual Art, and K-12 specialists in Music, Physical Education and Visual Art.

Student Characteristics:

Most undergraduates are of traditional college age. A high percentage of students attend full-time and are from the state of Illinois. Approximately 10% of education majors are minority students.

Admissions Requirements:

Admission to Teacher Education Program: students must pass a basic skills competency exam in reading, writing, and mathematics. Candidates must have completed a practicum experience and have a cumulative 2.75 GPA. All professional, major, and concentration courses must be a "C" or higher. Candidates must have a portfolio with artifacts to support at least four Illinois standards, satisfactory references from three faculty members, and one character reference from an external source (non-Judson employee).

Admission to Student Teaching: Candidates must have a cumulative 2.75 GPA with all professional, major, and concentration courses having a "C" or higher. Students must have completed a total of three practicum experiences with satisfactory recommendations to support competency for entering the education profession. Additionally, students must have a portfolio component with artifacts supporting all twelve of the Illinois standards. All candidates who begin student teaching after October 1, 2004 will need to successfully complete a content area exam prior to the start of their student teaching experience.

Accreditation:

Judson University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. All of the university's teacher preparation programs are approved by the State Teacher Certification Board and the Illinois State Board of Education.

Teacher Education Vision:

The theoretical framework for the Teacher Education Department is "Partners Pathfinding for Professional Excellence." Throughout the program, partnerships are developed between faculty and students, students and public school teachers, and between the students themselves. Pathfinding is a term that has been coined to describe the department's efforts to work with students from many different backgrounds and entry points into the program, and to devise the best means for them to achieve teacher certification. The Teacher Education program exists to prepare entry level professionals, with the successful completion of the program resulting in a professional license to teach. Finally, the Department has a long-standing reputation for excellence. High standards are expected of students to ensure this reputation continues.

Best Practices:

- Students are required to produce a portfolio as they proceed through coursework and practica experiences.
- Authentic and performance assessments are practiced throughout the program
- Practica experiences are in diverse settings
- Judson University enjoys a prodigious reputation with local school districts

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- All professors have teaching experience in public schools
- Students from Judson University are recruited by local school districts
- Many graduates of the Judson University program have become principals and administrators in the immediate area
- Small class sizes
- Due to the size of the university, there is excellent availability of professors for student interactions
- All professors are active in professional organizations

Program Information for Judson University 2006-2007	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2006-2007	142
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2006-2007	74
S.3 Number of faculty members who supervised student teachers:	9
➤ S.3A Full-time faculty in professional education	9
➤ S.3B Part-time faculty in professional education but full-time in the institution	0
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	15
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	14
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	5.2
S.6A The average number of student teaching hours per week	40
S.6B The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required	11-14
S.7 Average total number of hours required	440