

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 promotes professional standards in education by providing comprehensive programs that enable graduates to meet the diverse needs of all students. The knowledge, attitudes and skills acquired through the College's efforts serve as a foundation for the professional commitment and continuous professional growth of its graduates.

Teacher Preparation Programs:

The Lewis University College of Education (COE) prepares teachers for elementary and special education, as well as secondary teachers in the specialized fields of biology, chemistry, English, history, mathematics, physics 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 Ed.D. are offered to prepare school administrators, regular and special education teachers, reading and literacy specialists and technology educational professionals for positions in public and private schools.

All undergraduate and graduate school programs are designed to meet the Illinois Teaching Standards, as well as the individual Special Area Program (SPA) standards.

Student Characteristics:

Lewis University has an enrollment of approximately 5300 students, 3843 of whom are undergraduates. 65% of the undergraduates are traditional college age, while 28% live on campus. The average ACT score for first-time entering freshmen in 2006 was 22.3.

The College of Education has an enrollment of approximately 660 students. Of these, 277 attend full time. 17.6% are considered members of a minority group; 20.3% are male and 79.7% 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. After successful completion of 45 hours of coursework, including an introductory clinical course and passing the Illinois Basic Skills Test, candidates may be admitted to the Teacher Education Program. Graduate level teacher candidates must hold a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution; pass a writing examination and the Illinois Basic Skills Test prior to admission. A formal application and two letters of recommendation are also required from undergraduate and graduate teacher candidates for final admission approval by the COE Academic Affairs Committee.

Admission to Student Teaching:

Candidates who have successfully completed all general and professional coursework, 100 to 125 hours of clinical experience and who have passed their 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 College of Education 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 College of Education:

- **Knowledge** - a comprehensive understanding of academic content; insight into how individuals 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 positive 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 professional – recognizing and 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
- Differentiated instruction
- Cooperation and collaboration with students, colleagues and local schools
- Commitment to multicultural education and addressing the needs of underserved populations

Notable Features and Accomplishments:

- Combined special education/elementary education certification option
- Extensive involvement in P-12 communities
- Exemplary field-based masters program in elementary education
- Advanced programs offered via cohort or traditional models
- Leadership programs focusing on moral and ethical decision making at both the teaching and administrative levels
- English as a Second Language (ESL) endorsement program with Masters degree option
- The COE is the recipient of federal grants through The Associated Colleges of Illinois, including grants to recruit and prepare minority teachers

Program Information for Lewis University 2006-2007	
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S.1 Total number of students admitted into teacher preparation, all specializations, in academic year 2005-2006	406
S.2 Number of candidates in supervised student teaching in academic year 2005-2006	88
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	14
➤ S.3C Part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution	9
S.4 Total faculty student teaching supervisors	33
S.5 Student teacher/faculty ratio (Divide total given in S.2 by the number given in S.4)	12:1
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