



College of Education
Office of the Dean

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Teaching, Learning, and Foundations

The Department of Teaching, Learning, & Foundations has been ranked one of the top teacher candidate preparation programs in the state. We strive to advance the scholarly preparation of pre-service and practicing teachers by providing quality instruction that exemplifies the best teaching practices for children from birth through age fourteen. Teacher candidates are able to expand their knowledge through course work, action research, and substantial field experiences. All programs consist of three semesters of integrated coursework and field experience prior to student teaching.

Early Childhood

The B.S. in Early Childhood Education leads to teacher licensure with an Early Childhood (birth through grade 2) endorsement. Graduates are employed as teachers in pre-primary and primary classrooms as well as private preschool centers.

AAS Degree plus 60 Hours of EIU Coursework Candidates who have work experience in an early childhood setting and have an AAS degree in Early Childhood from an accredited community college are eligible for this program.

Elementary Education

The Elementary Education curriculum prepares candidates to teach reading, writing, science, mathematics, social studies, critical thinking skills and problem-solving strategies to elementary students from grades one through six.

Middle Level Education

The Middle Level Education curriculum prepares candidates to teach adolescents transitioning from childhood to young adulthood, placing primary focus on grades five through eight. Teacher candidates earn an entitlement in middle grade literacy/ language arts and a subject area of their choice (middle grades mathematics, middle grades social science or middle grades general science).

Career and Technical Education

Candidates enrolled in the Career and Technical Education prepares candidates to teach business education, family and consumer sciences, and technology classes to learners grades 5-12. While most of the candidates will work with learners at the secondary level, it is possible that candidates could be employed in middle school level settings.

Secondary Education

The Secondary Education, combined with a content area, prepares candidates to teach grades 9-12. Currently, English, History; Mathematics; and Science (Biology, Chemistry, Earth Science, and/or Physics) are the secondary education programs options. Candidates have an advisor in the content area who will guide them in completing content area coursework along with instructional pedagogy courses in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Foundations.

PK-12/K-22 Programs

Art

At EIU Art Education, we are proudly committed to equipping tomorrow's teachers with contemporary knowledge, transformational experiences, and a community of peers and faculty that share a love of art and teaching. In our program, candidates are challenged to reach their highest potential, and to develop their own voice and practice as an artist and educator.

Music

With a long history of both teacher education and a vibrant music program, EIU has earned recognition for preparing outstanding music teachers. Students gain immediate experience through observing and teaching in music classrooms during each semester of enrollment and all concentrations lead to the same licensure, with broad-based preparation in all areas of music education. However, each of the following concentrations has unique professional development experiences, designed to help the prospective teacher achieve his/her professional and musical goals. EIU offers three concentrations for music education students to choose from Instrumental Music, Vocal/Choral Music, and General Music. Candidates can choose the concentration that best meets their interests and teaching goals.

PE

The mission of the Physical Education Teacher Education (PETE) Program is to graduate entry-level professional physical educators who possess a personal and professional commitment to physical education, and will demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions to promote learning in the area of physical education. The PETE Program is one of the top programs for physical education majors in the state of Illinois.

Special Education

The Department of Special Education prepares personnel for the Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBSI) which permits candidates to provide instruction to learners with mild to severe exceptionalities K-22. For candidates who want to work with young children with exceptionalities (Birth to Grade 2), candidates can acquire a letter of approval for early childhood special education. At the conclusion of a candidate's program, the candidate would be eligible to work with learners with exceptionalities ages Birth-22. The Department of Special Education also offers entitlements in general education. With additional coursework, candidates may seek additional entitlements in early childhood and elementary education.

World Language

The American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) nationally recognizes the World Language programs. Candidates will take language and culture courses in Spanish, French, or German resulting in both linguistic and cultural proficiency. In addition to language courses, candidates will take education courses in the College of Education. Experienced faculty will guide and advise candidates when preparing for the ACTFL Oral Proficiency Interview (OPI) and Illinois Content Area Test for licensure.

Interdisciplinary Studies

Since 1973, the B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies has been serving adult learners, helping them meet their goal of earning a bachelor's degree. Technology has allowed us to expand beyond Illinois, by offering this adult focused degree-completion program completely online.

Course Flexibility We know everybody, including you, has a unique set of circumstances under which they're trying to earn a degree. That's why we offer online courses offered in 16 and eight-week schedules.

Credit Transfer The IDS degree program can accept up to 100 semester hours in transfer from regionally accredited colleges and universities, including as many as 80 hours earned at a community college, and credits for prior learning such as military training.