Education and Special Education Programs

PREPARE TO BE THE TEACHER GOD IS CALLING YOU TO BE.

Trinity Christian College’s teacher education program will prepare you for the rigors, challenges, and opportunities you will encounter in the classroom. You will graduate as a competent teacher, believing that all children can learn; understanding students of diverse populations and abilities; and meeting the demands of increasingly-rigorous, standards-based education. As a Trinity student, you will be encouraged and inspired to make a difference in your sphere of influence, to explore God’s world, and to discover your calling as a teacher.

Ashley Wierema ’12
Special Education teacher
Carl Sandburg High School
Orland Park, Illinois
Alyssa Slinkman '15
Orland Park, Illinois
Special Education/Elementary Education major

“Something that really sets Trinity’s education program apart is its opportunity for field experience. Before student teaching starts, education students will have had almost 300 hours of experience in the classroom. All along we are developing professional skills, networking, and learning what a textbook simply cannot teach. While Trinity’s education program is already strong, these opportunities put it over the top.”

YOUR CLASSMATES

Caleb Copeland ’14
Arlington Heights, Illinois
Chemistry Education major

“Coming out of high school, I really was not sure to what field of study I was being called. In my time at Trinity, I have seen that the education program brings a type of rigor and challenge that gives me not only the confidence to succeed in being a teacher, but also the knowledge of how well-prepared I am because of the program.”
PREPARING FOR YOUR PROFESSION

Your professional preparation for each licensure area includes three components in addition to the College’s core requirements.

Foundation courses give you a broad introduction to the field, and the professional courses further train you for successful teaching. But the best way to learn to teach is by teaching. Your hands-on classroom experience includes:

- 200 hours of field experience (teacher aiding)
- 90 additional hours of novice teaching
- A 16-week student teaching internship

You will participate in field experience, novice teaching, and internships in a variety of classroom settings: urban and suburban, domestic and international, multicultural, special education, middle grades, public and private. These experiences not only provide you with a well-rounded teaching experience but expose you to new education environments.

Having a more thorough understanding of the impact of family, community, and culture on K-12 students will help you develop the most relevant instruction for your future students.

HIGH SCORING

Student teacher interns score highest in professional dispositions and in knowledge and skills. (Scored by cooperating teachers)

ALUMNI SUCCESS

One-year alumni report that as a result of Trinity’s teacher education program, they are able to “create healthy and positive learning environments,” exceptionally well.

PROFESSIONAL TEACHERS

Employers rate one-year graduates of Trinity highest in “professionalism.”

OUR MISSION

The mission of the Education Unit at Trinity Christian College is to prepare teachers through critical thought in coursework and application in field and clinical experiences; to embody Christ-like servanthood; to cultivate relational peace, educational equity, and justice in diversity; to practice excellence in teaching; and to practice faithful professionalism.
YOUR PROFESSORS

The faculty in Trinity’s education department have all been where you’re going—the K-12 classroom. Your professors have many years of teaching and administration experience in schools across the country, and they integrate that experience into the curriculum. You will learn from these Christian mentors who care about you and your calling to teach.

Meet all the faculty at www.trnty.edu/mtf-meetfaculty.

WHERE DO ALUMNI TEACH?

CHICAGO

Marisa Albarran ’09
- International Baccalaureate Spanish teacher
- Bouchet International Academy in Chicago
- K-12 Spanish Education major, ESL endorsement

SUBURBS

Courtney Randle ’12
- 8th grade composition and literature teacher
- Viking Middle School in Gurnee, Illinois
- English Education major

ILLINOIS

Kevin Barron ’12
- Cross Category Special Education Teacher
- Columbia Central School, Steger, Illinois
- Special Education major

OVERSEAS

Holli Moote ’13
- Indonesia Music Department Head
- Sekolah Pelita Harapan
- Sentul City, Bogor, West Java
- Music Education major

For more information, please visit www.trnty.edu/academics/education or contact Dr. Rhoda Mattson at rhoda.mattson@trnty.edu or 708.293.4527.