

Education Department

Updated April 2013

Mission Statement

The education department of Southwestern Illinois College will provide students the foundational skills and experiences essential to enter a four year institution as pK-12 preservice teacher candidates. We are committed to the ongoing assessment of our students, as well as the certificates and degrees offered to them. Our primary goal is to create a lifelong, continuous learning community where everyone is empowered to learn, encouraged to teach, and invited to serve as good stewards in local and global communities.

Educational Goals

The Education Department at Southwestern Illinois College will graduate students able to:

1. Identify the central philosophical concepts, methods of inquiry, and the political, social, and organizational structures of the discipline of teaching in public schools. **(IPTs#1 – Teaching Diverse Students, IPTs#2 - Content Area and Pedagogical Knowledge)**
2. Compare and contrast how individual students grow and differ in their intellectual, personal, social, and cultural approaches to learning. **(IPTs#1 – Teaching Diverse Students, IPTs#2 - Content Area and Pedagogical Knowledge, IPTs#3 – Planning for Differentiated Instruction, IPTs#4 – Learning Environment)**
3. Describe instructional planning and design based upon clear understanding of pedagogical knowledge, professional standards, and expected curriculum goals. **(IPTs#2 - Content Area and Pedagogical Knowledge)**
4. Examine the difference between self-motivation and group motivation and recognize the behaviors necessary to create an open learning environment that encourages excellence, honesty, fairness, understanding integrity, respectful social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation. **(IPTs#3 – Planning for Differentiated Instruction, IPTs#4 – Learning Environment)**
5. Identify a variety of instructional strategies used to encourage students' successful development of critical thinking, problem solving, and performance skills. **(IPTs#3 – Planning for Differentiated Instruction, IPTs#5 – Instructional Delivery)**
6. Demonstrate knowledge of effective written, verbal, non-verbal, and visual communication techniques. **(IPTs#6 – Reading, Writing, and Oral Communication)**
7. Identify various formal and informal assessment strategies available to gather data in order to nurture high standards of academic achievement. **(IPTs#7 - Assessment)**
8. Reflect on how individual choices and actions affect students, parents, and other professionals in the learning community. **(IPTs#8 – Collaborative Relationships)**
9. Identify teaching as a profession requiring both personal and public accountability. **(IPTs#7 – Assessment, IPTs#9 – Professionalism, Leadership, and Advocacy)**
10. Explain the role of lifelong learning as integral to the work of a professional educator. **(IPTs#9 – Professionalism, Leadership, and Advocacy)**

**IPTs = Illinois Professional Teaching Standards (updated 2013)*

Submitted by: Caroline Adams

Division: Liberal Arts Division

Date Reviewed: 5-6-2013

Status: Accepted

Submitted by Dr. Caroline B. Adams, Education Coordinator, April 2013