

TEACHER EDUCATION PROGRAM

Theoretical and Conceptual Framework

Saint Louis University's Bachelor of Arts in Education program aims to develop reflective teacher candidates who are educated in the liberal tradition and committed to service, inquiry, and value-centered learning. The program also seeks to prepare students who seek a sound education background and develop leadership qualities, including risk-taking, civic responsibility and ethical character.

The main objective of SLU's education programs is to prepare dedicated, reflective scholar-practitioners who exhibit the knowledge, skills and dispositions embedded in the school's conceptual framework. The shared values that guide the School of Education include social justice, *cura personalis* (care for the whole person), excellence, integrity and trust, respect, engagement and participation. Students are prepared to be reflective educators who can implement educational programs consistent with their areas of expertise.

The School of Education's mission and values, along with Ignatian pedagogy and Bronfenbrenner's ecological systems theory, provide the foundation and conceptual frame for the program. From these foundational perspectives, five compass themes — sense of identity, sense of purpose, sense of context, sense of inquiry and sense of praxis — provide key learning outcomes and are the driving force of the curriculum.

Program Hallmarks

The Bachelor of Arts in Education program:

- Provides a program unique to Saint Louis University that is grounded in Jesuit and Catholic values
- Offers a unified undergraduate teacher education program with all concentration areas integrated into one program
- Focuses on equity guided by inquiry for the purpose of advocacy
- Embeds early and frequent field experiences supporting student discernment and preparation for application
- Integrates teacher learning communities (TLCs) throughout the program
- Engages students in a year-long internship/student teaching experience for all certification areas

Concentrations

Saint Louis University's Bachelor of Arts in Education program offers the following concentration areas:

- Early childhood (birth to grade 3)
- Elementary (grades 1 to 6)
- Special education for mild/moderate disorders (kindergarten to grade 12)
- Middle school (grades 5 to 9)
 - Language arts
 - Mathematics
 - Science
 - Social science
- Secondary (grades 9 to 12)

- English
- Mathematics
- Social sciences

Program Highlights

The School of Education provides a well-rounded liberal arts background to enhance students' educational experiences.

- Students enter a tight-knit community of faculty and peers committed to innovative learning, diversity and the intellectual ideas of the Jesuit tradition.
- Students are prepared to practice *cura personalis* — care for the whole person — and work for social justice in their communities.
- Students will graduate prepared to collaborate with families, build classroom communities, have high expectations for all students and advocate for social change.

Leadership

Benton Brown, Ph.D.

Assistant dean for teacher education

Programs

- Education, B.A. (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/education/undergraduate-programs/education-ba/>)
- Education, Minor (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/education/undergraduate-programs/education-minor/>)
- Teaching, B.A. (Online) (<https://catalog.slu.edu/colleges-schools/education/undergraduate-programs/teaching-ba-online/>)