

The Distinctiveness of CUNE's Education Program: A Foundation of Faith

CUNE's Education Department is distinct in our approach to teacher preparation because we merge professional standards with our deeply held foundations of Christian Lutheran faith and beliefs about God and our students. Our professors embody and intentionally model these skills and dispositions so that Education students can be well-equipped to teach their own future students....

The Learner and Learning

Our Education Department believes every individual has value and has been crafted uniquely by God with gifts and potential to fulfill His plans.

You formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am wonderfully made; wonderful are your works! (Psalm 139:13-14)

See how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children, and that is what we are! (1 John 3:1)

Therefore, our pre-service teachers are equipped to...

- Understand the variety of backgrounds, learning, and developmental patterns between individuals
- Develop high expectations for their students, providing support for them to meet those expectations
- Help students fulfill their potential and maximize their learning

Content

Our Education Department believes God is the Creator, the Maker of all truth. All knowledge belongs to Him, and true wisdom is only gained in right relationship with Him.

For the Lord gives wisdom; from His mouth come knowledge and understanding. (Proverbs 2:6)

He will be the sure foundation for your times, a rich store of salvation and wisdom and knowledge; the fear of the LORD is the key to this treasure. (Isaiah 33:6)

Therefore, our pre-service teachers are equipped to...

- Communicate content knowledge in a manner that is accessible to all learners
- Guide learners in using content knowledge to propose new understanding, solve problems, and imagine possibilities
- Serve the Church and world by leading students in critical thinking and in making connections between knowledge and real-world issues

Instructional Practice

Our Education Department believes that God has a purpose for each individual in this life and for eternity. God calls teachers to facilitate learning and equips them with what they need to accomplish that.

Christ himself gave...teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up. (Hebrews 4:11-12)

God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work. (2 Corinthians 9:8)

Therefore, our pre-service teachers are equipped to...

- Empower all students to reach their potential and learn the skills that they will need
- Provide engaging instruction through effective classroom strategies in order to maximize and individualize learning
- Engage learners through feedback and assessment so that students can succeed

Professional Responsibility

Our Education Department believes that teachers serve God by serving their students in collaboration with families and communities. The vocation of teaching calls lifelong learners who continually strive to improve.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. (1 Peter 4:10)

In humility, value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but... to the interests of others. (Philippians 2:3b-4)

Therefore, our pre-service teachers are equipped to....

- Recognize that they have been blessed with gifts to serve and that their efforts are meant to minister to others, not just to serve themselves
- Serve in community with others to learn and grow together
- Demonstrate Christian leadership by modeling ethical behavior, contributing to positive change and advancing the profession