



Curriculum and Instruction

Department of Curriculum and Instruction
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SERVICES

KEY STRENGTHS

- Education is one of the largest programs at ACU, involving approximately 600 students each year.
- We are committed to integrating our faith into every aspect of the program. Teacher Education at ACU is distinctly Christian.
- The student-to-faculty ratio in the Department of Education is 17 to 1.
- More than 80 school districts from across Texas and several other states participate in a job fair each year in Abilene to recruit our graduates for teaching positions.
- A research project involving 877 four-year institutions placed ACU seventh in the nation in preparing teachers who went on to earn the doctorate in education.
- School administrators who hire graduates regularly report on the high quality of their preparation.
- Each undergraduate student seeking teacher certification will participate in an internship at a professional development school in the Abilene area prior to student teaching.
- Students complete a rigorous program of academic preparation in their content field.
- Students have multiple and varied opportunities to participate in field experiences.
- Our pass rate on all levels of the TExES Pedagogy and Professional Responsibilities State Certification Exam is 99 percent.
- Up-to-date research concerning processes of teaching and learning is incorporated into professional education classes.
- The department is a charter member of the Big Country Center for the Professional Development and Technology and the Abilene Teacher Center.
- Several schools in the Abilene Independent School District serve as professional development schools for the teacher education program.
- ACU's teacher education program is approved by the Texas Education Agency and the Texas State Board for Educator Certification and is a member of the Texas Association of Colleges for Teacher Education and the Association of Independent Liberal Arts Colleges of Teacher Education.

- All students take a full 3-hour course in Special Education.
- All students certifying in Early Childhood through Fourth Grade are prepared in English as a Second Language.
- Undergraduate students make research presentations at state and national conferences.
- Students in ACU's teacher education program serve the schools and children of the Abilene community through mentoring and tutoring.
- Professors are committed to the individual student and to forming supportive relationships with them.
- Faculty members author teaching materials, publish articles and papers, present research at state, regional and national conferences, serve as officers in state and national professional organizations and conduct numerous workshops and seminars for teachers and administrators.

DEMOGRAPHICS

- There are approximately 600 students working toward teacher certification at ACU.
- ACU produces approximately 100 new teachers every year.
- Nearly 100 percent of graduates who seek teaching positions are employed in education-related fields within 12 months of graduation.

DEGREE OFFERED

- Bachelor of Science

MAJORS AND CERTIFICATIONS OFFERED

- Elementary School Level (age 3 through grade 4)
 - Generalist, Special Education
- Middle School Level (grades 4-8)
 - English Language Arts and Reading, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Special Education
- High School Level (grades 8-12)
 - English/Language Arts and Reading, History, Life Science, Mathematics, Physical Science, Social Studies, Spanish, Special Education
- All-Level (age 3 through grade 12)
 - Art, English as a second language, Health, Music, Physical Education, Special Education, Theatre Arts

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- Adult education teacher
- Christian education teacher
- Early childhood teacher
- Educational consultant
- Elementary teacher
- High school teacher
- Middle school teacher
- Preschool teacher
- School principal
- Special education teacher
- Tutor

STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Scholarships available

- Several scholarships are awarded by the Department of Education each year to upper-division students.
- ACT/SAT Academic Scholarships

Please consult with your admissions counselor for details on these and other scholarships available to you.

FACILITIES

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction is housed in the newly renovated Education Building. All classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art technology.

The Curriculum and Materials Lab contains PC and MAC computers, a color laser printer, color scanners, children's literature, curriculum resources and other equipment for students to use in producing instructional materials.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Karyn McGlothlin Henley, class of 1974; author of the best-selling *Beginner's Bible*, which has sold 2.9 million copies and been translated into 17 languages. More recently, she has published *God's Story* (Tyndale), a chronological verse-by-verse Bible for children who have graduated from the preschool Bible storybooks. Other publications include *My First Hymnal* (Sparrow), *Snip & Tell Bible Stories* (Group Publishing), and *Great God, Grateful Child* (Allen Thomas).

Dr. Virginia Mosier, class of 1973; executive director of career and technology education with Abilene Independent School District in Abilene, Texas.

Hubert Pickett, class of 1977; personnel director, Abilene ISD, Abilene, Texas; member, ACU Board of Trustees.

Laura Zengerle Huddleston, class of 2003; teaching English at Shaanxi University of Technology with ELIC, (English Language Institute, China) in the city of Hanzhong in Shaanxi Province, China.

Zach Pruitt, class of 2002; principal of Rasor Elementary in Plano, Texas.

Jessica Howard, class of 2005; teaches middle school reading in Las Vegas, N.M., a city that she describes as "a mission field." She partners in ministry with her husband, Lantz, who serves as youth minister of the Bright Angel Church.

Mara Ashley, class of 1981; founder and director of Pacific Horizons School, American Samoa.

Rachel Willis, class of 2006, **Jevanna Kasinger**, class of 2005, **Laci Bills Newhouse**, class of 2005; These three alums teach in Mesquite ISD and were chosen in 2007 for the "First Class Teacher Award" – an award to recognize the best new teachers in the district.

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Faculty members have written and received three Teacher Quality Grants for the purpose of training high school chemistry teachers.
- Faculty members have presented at numerous national conferences, including The National Council of Professors of Educational Administration, The International Council for Exceptional Children, the National Council for Teachers of Mathematics, National Association for the Education of Young Children, and Childhood Education International.
- **Lloyd Goldsmith** is co-author of *Principal's Guide to School Budgeting*, published by Corwin Press.
- **Dana Hood** is co-author of the book *Let All the Children Come to Me: A Practical Guide Including Children with Disabilities in Your Church Ministries* (David C. Cook) and *I Will Change Your Name: Messages from the Father to a Heart Broken by Divorce* (Leafwood Press).

FACULTY

Dennis Cavitt, 2007, *instructor*; B.A., Pepperdine University, 1980; M.S., ACU, 1987; M.Ed., Tarleton State University, 2000; 20 years in special education in Texas public schools as an educational diagnostitian, school psychologist, special education coordinator and special education director.

Edward L. Coates, Ed.D., 1972, *professor*; B.A., Lipscomb University, 1956; M.A., Middle Tennessee State University, 1962; Ed.D., The University of Tennessee at Knoxville, 1970; seven years in public schools as a teacher, coach and curriculum coordinator.

Julie Douthit, 2004, *instructor*; B.S.Ed., University of North Texas, 1990; M.Ed., University of North Texas, 1990; 12 years in public and private schools as elementary and pre-school teacher.

Lloyd Goldsmith, Ed.D., 2001, *associate professor*; B.S., Texas A&M University, 1972; M.S., Corpus Christi State University, 1974; M.S., Texas A&M University, 1985; Ed.D., Baylor University, 1990; 30 years as a teacher, assistant principal and principal.

Myra Holmans, 2001, *instructor*; B.S., ACU, 1965; M.S., Texas Tech University, 1968; 28 years in public and private schools, three years at Texas Tech University.

Dana Kennamer Hood, Ph.D., 1994, *associate professor, Chair of Curriculum and Instruction, Director of Teacher Education*; B.A., ACU, 1981; M.Ed., ACU, 1988; Ph.D., The University of Texas at Austin, 2001; seven years in private schools as teacher and curriculum director.

Ronnie McQueen, 1998, *instructor*; B.S.Ed., ACU; M.S., University of North Texas; 15 years public school teacher, three years coordinator/supervisor, four years curriculum specialist for small business.

Donnie C. Snider, Ed.D., 2003, *associate professor*; B.S., Southwestern Oklahoma State University, 1974; M.Ed., University of Central Oklahoma, 1978; Ed.D., University of Oklahoma, 1997; 29 years of public school experience; 10 years as a teacher, eight years as an assistant principal and principal, 11 years as an assistant superintendent and superintendent.

Sam Stewart, Ed.D., 2007, *instructor*; B.A., Harding University, 1977; M.S., Arkansas State University, 1985; Ed.D., William Howard Taft University, 2007; 19 years of experience in public schools in Arkansas and Alaska as a teacher, counselor, principal and superintendent.

Stephanie Talley, 2007, *instructor*; B.S., ACU, 1993; M.Ed., ACU, 2006; 14 years in public schools teaching kindergarten, first and fifth grades.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

About the Department

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