



Felician University School of Education

The mission of the Felician University School of Education is to foster competent, caring, and compassionate educators to serve a diverse population, promote a collaborative spirit, encourage self-reflection and emphasize life-long learning. Our faculty provides the kind of support needed to inspire students to learn, to believe in themselves as learners and as teachers, and to continuously endeavor to grow intellectually and spiritually as human beings.

Our commitment is to the underserved, to first generation college students, and to students who have not been nurtured by or received the approbation of their teachers. This was the character of Saint Francis of Assisi, our primary philosophical and spiritual guide, who kissed and washed the wounds of lepers, and who went to the Crusades to foster peace and unity among people of different beliefs. Francis is the patron saint of ecology because he respected the dignity of all of creation. Felician University is a recognized Hispanic serving institution, minority serving institution, and is a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) at the United Nations.

The core values of Respect for Human Dignity, Compassion, Transformation, Solidarity with the Poor, Justice and Peace, permeate all School of Education activities including our partnerships, which are founded on the Franciscan value of service to others. School of Education faculty volunteer to provide high quality professional development workshops for teachers in our partner schools. Almost half of our teacher candidates work in high needs schools after they graduate.

The School of Education works closely and collaboratively with the rest of the University, especially the School of Arts and Sciences. Communication is ongoing and meetings with departments where our students have subject area majors are held frequently to revise courses and plans of study to meet new requirements and the needs of our students. Because dialogue occurs frequently, faculty pay close attention to student needs. The entire University actively participates in the preparation of teachers at Felician University.

The traditional undergraduate and the Bachelor for Working Adults (BWA) Teacher Education programs are clinically rich. Students in the undergraduate program are required to complete extensive field experiences in varied settings throughout their course of study (urban, suburban,

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private, public, charter school, general and special education). Beginning in the second semester of their freshman year, undergraduate School of Education students spend the full day every Tuesday in a field setting: six semesters of fieldwork totaling at least 360 hours in real classrooms before clinical practice (student teaching).

Adult BWA students, many of whom already work in schools as paraprofessionals, take field courses in compressed 9 week schedules. They complete a total of 180 hours in real classrooms before they enter clinical practice (student teaching).

Students in the Post-Baccalaureate Program, the Teacher Education Certification (TEC) Program, complete two semesters in the field, 120 hours in real classrooms before entering clinical practice (student teaching).

The Felician University School of Education received State approval to offer an undergraduate Early Childhood Program leading to P-3 instructional certification in December 2016. At the graduate level, the State approved the Teaching English as a Second Language Program (ESL) in 2015.

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