The Mission of the Teacher Education Program is to prepare highly effective educators within an environment of sensitivity, reflection, and faith.

Description of the Statement: Effective educators demonstrate knowledge in their respective fields, sensitivity to students’ diverse learning needs, reflection in scholarship and inquiry, motivation of their students’ becoming life-long learners, and a careful examination of their worldview and integration of the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23).

Teaching is one of the most exciting and fulfilling professions available, yet it also is one of the most demanding in terms of preparation. As professional standards and expectations rise, you’ll need the best training available to prepare you for success in the educational environment of the 21st century.

The Teacher Education Program at Union University offers exceptional preparation in a context of Christian commitment. With small classes and individual attention from faculty, Union seeks to help each student achieve at the highest level possible.

Union University is receiving increasing recognition for its program in Teacher Education, for a variety of reasons:

- Gifted faculty who take a personal interest in students
- Programs which meet all state standards and national standards for the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)
- An excellent record of placing graduates in quality teaching positions, in TN and around the world
- State-of-the-art facilities and technology for teaching the effective use of the latest instructional technology
- An outstanding program of practical training and field experience beginning in the first year of preparation
- A commitment to help teacher candidates cultivate a Christian worldview as they move into the education profession

“The program has prepared me for the classroom academically, professionally, and spiritually. [It] pushed me to expand my own learning, to develop my knowledge of the field of education, and to view my teaching as my ministry. I am emboldened to be an effective teacher, to make learning meaningful for my students, and to demonstrate the love of Christ in my classroom and school community.”

- Stephanie Clemons (‘10)
Areas Of Endorsement

• Business Education (7-12)
• Biology (7-12)
• Chemistry (7-12)
• Business Technology (7-12)
• Early Childhood Education (PreK-3)
• Economics (7-12)
• Elementary (K-6)
• English (7-12)
• English as a Second Language (PreK-12)
• French (7-12)
• Government (7-12)
• Health (PreK-12)
• History (7-12)
• Library Information Specialist (PreK-12)
• Marketing (7-12)
• Mathematics (7-12)
• Middle Grades (4-8)
• Music Education - Vocal/General (K-12)
  - Instrumental (K-12)
• Physical Education (K-12)
• Physics (7-12)
• Spanish (7-12)
• Special Education - Modified (K-12)
  - Comprehensive (K-12)
• Speech Communication (7-12)
• Theatre (K-12)
• Visual Art (K-12)

“More than anything, I have such great respect for my professors at Union, knowing that their love for students and passion for the subject matter are rarities indeed. Because of the focus on developing the ‘whole student,’ I had the foundation to not only continue my education in graduate school but also stand firm in what I believe to be truth.”
- Stephanie Lee (’98)

“Having entered Union’s education program later in life as a second career, I appreciated how the program fit around my family and work life.”
- Holly Hester (’08)

“I stepped off a plane into a classroom of fifth graders from twelve different countries, four different religions, and extremely varied ability levels. I felt like I had been given a foundation of solid educational principles that I was able to build upon both in my years teaching in Africa as well as when I returned to the states. The preparation I received at Union has been invaluable in my teaching career.”
- Bethany A. Oshel (’04)

Student Organizations
• The Student Tennessee Education Association is made up of teacher candidates and is affiliated with the National Education Association and the Tennessee Education Association.
• Kappa Delta Pi is a national honorary education society for teacher candidates who have a minimum GPA of 3.5.

The Teacher Education Program at Union University will effectively prepare you for Leadership in tomorrow’s diverse educational settings.