Bluffton University
Praxis II – Pass-Rate Data:
Regular Teacher Preparation Program

Academic Year: 2011-12
Number of Program Completers 1: 67
(report released spring 2013)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Assessment 2</th>
<th>Number Taking Assessment 3</th>
<th>Number Passing Assessment 4</th>
<th>Institutional Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate - Professional Knowledge</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate - Academic Content Areas (Math, English, Biology, etc.)</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggregate - Teaching Special Populations (Special Education, ILS, etc.)*</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* If fewer than 10 students take a test, the passage rate is not calculated due to confidentiality issues.

Bluffton University chooses to report all students who complete their teacher education program regardless of whether or not they have passed the Praxis II assessments. We believe this gives an accurate picture of the quality of our program, and we are proud of our students’ performance on these assessments. Those who do not pass Praxis II receive individualized and intensive, ongoing support as they prepare to retake the tests.

Prospective students are encouraged to determine how each teacher education program defines program completers and if their data represent all students or only those who pass the Praxis II assessments.

1. The number of program completers found, matched and used in the passing rate calculation will not equal the sum of the column labeled “Number Taking Assessment” since the completers can take more than one assessment.
2. Institutions and/or states did not require the assessments within an aggregate where data cells are blank.
3. Number of completers who took one or more tests in a category and within their area of specialization.
4. Number who passed all tests they took in a category and within their area of specialization.

At Bluffton University, we want you to discover the wonderful possibilities and challenges that face educators in today’s classroom. Our teacher education program nurtures communities of learning and respect. We address student learning through content knowledge and an ongoing teaching cycle of planning, teaching, assessment and reflection. Communities of respect are nurtured through the context of inclusive schooling, collaborative colleague, parent and student interactions, and classroom organization based upon respect for the individual student and the learning community.

When you major in education at Bluffton, you will receive individualized attention from faculty. You will be exposed to a wide range of licensure areas, field resources, field experiences in diverse settings and special facilities on campus that allow you to work directly with children. Our standards and expectations place Bluffton graduates among the best qualified in the nation, as reflected in student placements and diverse field experiences that will support your learning and development. For all early and middle childhood and intervention specialist majors, Bluffton requires 12 credit hours of reading instruction. You will leave Bluffton confident and well prepared for your first classroom!

**Distinctive programs and resources**

The Lion and Lamb: Peace Arts Center of Bluffton University provides peace and conflict-resolution programs and resources for education students and public-school teachers and students.

Bluffton is one of only 10 programs in the state of Ohio offering a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) minor. This endorsement prepares students to teach English in this country or abroad and for graduate work in TESOL.

The Career Development Center offers programs specifically designed for education students. Education students at Bluffton have excellent success rates in employability.

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Bluffton offers 15 baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher license or endorsement and a master of arts in education program designed for both secondary and elementary teachers. All teacher education programs offered by Bluffton are approved by the Ohio Board of Regents and accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

The secondary teacher

You may choose a licensure program in one of five academic areas: The areas in which an adolescent/young adult license (grades 7-12) may be sought are:

- Life sciences (includes biology)
- Integrated language arts (includes English, journalism, communication and drama)
- Integrated social science (includes history, political science, economics, sociology and psychology)
- Integrated mathematics
- Physical science

You will receive a teaching license by completing a major in a content area, licensure requirements for that area and professional education courses.

The multi-age teacher

You may choose a teaching licensure program in several areas that permit you to teach across a broader age range in specific content areas. Multi-age licensure programs are offered in the following areas:

- Music education (K through grade 12)
- Visual art (K through grade 12)

You will receive a license in these areas by completing a major in the content area, licensure requirements for that area and professional education courses.

The intervention specialist

You may receive a teaching license in the area of special education by completing course requirements for the intervention specialist program. This program will license you to teach students in kindergarten through grade 12 with mild/moderate specialized education needs. This includes children with learning disabilities, developmental disabilities and emotional/behavioral disabilities, as well as others with mild/moderate special needs.

Experiences in this program allow you to develop competencies needed in a variety of educational settings, with emphasis on inclusive practice. This program may be completed in tandem with an early childhood program. It is also available at the graduate level.

The middle level teacher

A license for teaching in the middle grades (grades 4-9) can be achieved by completing a middle childhood education major, including two areas of concentration in mathematics, social sciences, language arts and/or the natural sciences. Coursework leading to this license emphasizes the unique needs of the middle-grade learner, the teaching of reading and an interdisciplinary team approach to teaching. It also allows you to focus on the teaching of the two academic concentration areas of your choice, namely mathematics, social sciences, language arts and/or the natural sciences.

The elementary teacher

You may become licensed to teach in the early childhood setting, which includes preschool through grade 3, by completing an early childhood education major and an endorsement for teaching grades 4 and 5. Coursework leading to this license emphasizes all aspects of the child’s physical, social, emotional and cognitive growth, with special attention given to promoting a positive self-concept. This license prepares you to teach both typically developing young children and children with mild/moderate special needs.

Experiences in this program allow you to develop competencies needed in a variety of educational settings, with emphasis on inclusive practice. This program may be completed in tandem with an early childhood program. It is also available at the graduate level.

Endorsements

You may add an endorsement to your license in:

- TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages)
- Pre-kindergarten special needs (may be added to early childhood or intervention specialist licenses)
- Middle childhood generalist (may be added to middle childhood license)
- Reading (pre-kindergarten to grade 12) Teachers with current credentials may complete this endorsement.