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

Academic Year: 2001-02    Testing Period: 7/01 – 6/02    Number of Program Completers 1: 56

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Assessment</th>
<th>#Taking Praxis II</th>
<th># Passing Praxis II</th>
<th>Ave. Pass Rate (%)</th>
<th>OH Pass Rate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Knowledge</td>
<td>Professional Knowledge (520)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Learning and Tchg (K-6) (522)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>90%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Principles of Learning and Tchg (5-9) (523)</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>***</td>
<td>92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principles of Learning and Tchg (7-12) (524)</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>99%</td>
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Academic Content Areas

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Bluffton College 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, 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.

Contextual Information

Student Teaching Information

Number of students in supervised student teaching in academic year 2000-01 ........................................ 64
- Full-time faculty in professional education ........................................ 8
- Part-time faculty in professional education but full time in the institution ...... 0
- Part-time faculty in professional education, but not otherwise employed by the institution ................................................................. 12

Total faculty student teaching supervisors .................................................. 16
Student teacher/faculty ratio .................................................................. 4:1
The average number of student teaching hours per week required ............... 40
The total number of weeks of supervised student teaching required ............ 10
Average total number of hours required .................................................. 400
Bluffton College Teacher Education  
**Educators Nurturing Communities of Learning and Respect**

Bluffton College offers 15 baccalaureate programs leading to state teacher licensure and a master of arts in education program designed for both secondary and elementary teachers. All of the 15 teacher education programs offered by Bluffton College are approved by the Ohio Department of Education.

**Best practices**

- Classroom placements and field experience throughout the teacher preparation program support early student learning and development.
- Bluffton College requires 12 credit hours of reading instruction for all early and middle childhood and intervention specialists majors.

**Distinctive programs and resources**

- The Lion and Lamb Peace Arts Center of Bluffton College partners with the education department to provide peace and conflict resolution programs and resources for education students and public school teachers and students.
- Bluffton College is one of only 10 programs in the state of Ohio offering a TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) minor. The certification prepares students to teach English in this country or abroad and for graduate work in TESOL.
- The Career Development Center offers extensive programs specifically designed for education students. Education students at Bluffton have excellent success rates in employability.

"We consider superior teacher preparation to be a distinctive of Bluffton College. Our program is grounded in a unique mission that guides our high quality classroom instruction, practical training and individual attention for students. Approximately 35% of our graduates earn degrees in education and go on to successful careers in teaching and administration. These graduates are in high demand by employers and they tell us Bluffton has prepared them well.”

— Lee Snyder, president

**Praise for the teacher preparation program**

“Bluffton College has done an exceptional job of preparing me to be a teacher. The excellent faculty provides their students with real life experiences and practical information and truly prepared me for the educational profession.”

— Jamie Evans, teacher  
Shawnee Middle School  
2000 BC graduate

“Dr. Gayle Trollinger, mentor grant coordinator from Bluffton College, has been instrumental this year in the development of the Allen County Mentor Program in Lima City and Allen County schools. The Bluffton College connection is a critical component in the entry year program as schools look more closely at teacher performance and move into licensure.”

— Nancy Wood Allison  
supervisor of instruction Lima City Schools

“When I am looking for a placement for a student teacher, the first question I am asked is ‘Where is the student teacher from?’ The Bluffton College student teachers are always easily placed. They are well prepared, possess a good work ethic, and are focused on the teaching experience.”

— Tom Schaaf, principal  
Bath Elementary School  
1973 BC graduate

**Partnerships**

The education department is committed to creating community partnerships that further excellence in student learning.

- Two Ohio Board of Regents grants of $9,000 each have been awarded to Bluffton College arts and science professors who work with education department faculty members to retool classes for teacher candidates to better prepare them for classroom instruction.
- Making Connections enhances middle school math instruction in partnership with Lima City Schools, $67,000 funded by Ohio Board of Regents
- PEER (Professionals Enhancing Educational Relationships) supports mentors for entry level teachers. This program is offered in partnership with the Lima City Schools and funded by the Ohio Department of Education.
- Inquiry-based teaching supports summer curriculum development in mathematics and science courses to create model classes in collaboration with teacher education, two $9,000 grants funded by Ohio Board of Regents

**Bluffton College at a glance**

Bluffton College has a total of 1110 students, of which 749 are residential students; approximately 89 percent are Ohio residents. Six percent of all students are minority students. The average ACT score for first-year students in the fall 2002 was 22.8.