Experience

Education at Illinois
THINK EDUCATION AT ILLINOIS.

Connect with transformative technology, research, teaching, and learning. Join great minds committed to changing the world through education.

THE EDUCATION AT ILLINOIS EXPERIENCE.

Imagine living and learning on an iconic campus, attending classes with students from around the globe, and belonging to a top-tier research university known for nurturing some of the most passionate, inventive, and committed graduates the world over.

State-of-the-art labs and classrooms, research opportunities with leaders in the field, funded study abroad and outreach opportunities—ILLINOIS sets the stage—the rest is up to you.

MAKE IT YOUR OWN.
UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS

Our programs equip you with the 21st-century knowledge and skills needed to lead in a variety of learning environments. With our focus on diversity, technology, in-depth field work and research, you will be prepared to succeed in your chosen profession.

I love that the College of Education is such a welcoming environment for all students. The faculty really want to see students succeed and will do anything to help them accomplish that.”

—Trey Harris

LEARNING & EDUCATION STUDIES MAJOR

CONCENTRATIONS:
• Applied Learning Science
• Digital Environments for Learning, Teaching & Agency
• Education Equality & Cultural Understanding
• Workplace Training & Development

MAJORS:
• Early Childhood Education
• Elementary Education
• Middle Grades Education
• Special Education

MINOR IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

• Biology
• Chemistry
• Geology
• English

• History
• Mathematics
• Physics

TEACHER LICENSURE PROGRAMS

MAJORS:
• Biology
• Chemistry
• Geology
• English

• History
• Mathematics
• Physics

CONCENTRATIONS:
• Early Childhood Education
• Elementary Education
• Middle Grades Education
• Special Education
OUR STUDENTS ARE IN DEMAND.

“The students from the University of Illinois are extremely well prepared and ready to continue their learning in the classroom. They are prepared, responsible, and professional.”

—Melissa Hirsch, assistant superintendent, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Northbrook | Glenview School District 30

“The University of Illinois candidates this year and in recent years have been outstanding. They are so knowledgeable, hardworking, and positive—all qualities I am very much looking for in new teachers. I’ve hired three University of Illinois students to fill classroom positions for the upcoming school year”

—Colette Bell, principal, Anne Fox Elementary School, Hanover Park, Illinois

“We have had many strong student teachers that take on leadership roles in their grade levels. I feel that they keep us on our feet about being honest and real about our practices and instruction.”

—Jonathan Kosovski, principal, International Prep Academy in Champaign

97% of our 2018 graduates with teaching degrees plus licensure are employed in the field of education

Amanda Fagenson is recognized by peers for her teaching skills

Because of her skill in the classroom, first year teacher Amanda Fagenson was selected as one of four Chicago Public Schools (CPS) educators to be observed in her classroom by peers and colleagues, including the chief executive officer of CPS, Janice K. Jackson. While many new teachers would feel nervous about this level of scrutiny, Fagenson was comfortable. The College of Education afforded her six opportunities to be observed as a student teacher giving her the confidence and experience to succeed in her own classroom.
How did Education major Shelana Martin end up in a National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA) internship?

The senior in the Digital Environments for Learning, Teaching & Agency concentration under the College’s Learning and Education Studies program, was part of NCSA’s SPIN (Students Pushing Innovation) internship program. SPIN fosters interdisciplinary collaboration, encouraging Illinois undergraduate students, and not just computer science students, to do challenging research related to cutting-edge new technology.

For Martin, who has a background in astronomy, a minor in informatics, and is majoring in education technology, the SPIN program, retrofitting cybersecurity facts into an engaging educational technology format, was a perfect fit. Martin learned how to create content and make it more immersive on an open source learning management system, and how to use information to make the experience more interactive for learners.

LES students have been hired by colleges and universities, Goldman Sachs, Walt Disney, and Blue Cross Blue Shield. They have also gone on to pursue graduate studies at prestigious institutions like Harvard University.

“ I love how close and engaging the College is with its students. My adviser was the first person that I saw smiling and welcoming me to the College. She encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone by studying abroad and she made sure that I was connected to the right people on campus.”

BIG UNIVERSITY, SMALL COLLEGE FEEL.

Take advantage of a big campus with state-of-the-art facilities while benefitting from the family feel of a small college.
Finding a supportive community as a first generation college student was crucial to my success as an undergraduate student. I look forward to working with other first generation college students next fall and working to support and guide them through their undergraduate career.”

Education major Marisol Jimenez was awarded Outstanding Oral Presentation at the 2019 Illinois Undergraduate Research Symposium for her research on reform acts in Chicago from 1980 to 2015 and the standardization and accountability movement. She is currently examining the charter expansion movement throughout Chicago and the impact it has on the gentrification of black and brown communities.

"Our students lead research.

The College of Education prepared me for this program by emphasizing the depth of the impact that exceptional and bold teaching can have on a young adult’s life. These experiences have been incredibly valuable in helping make this dream a reality.”

JACK IS HEADED TO SPAIN AS A FULBRIGHT TEACHING ASSISTANT

Jack Josellis was selected for the English Teaching Assistant (ETA) Fulbright program which places Fulbrighters in classrooms abroad to provide assistance to local English teachers.

ETAs help teach English while serving as cultural ambassadors for the United States. Jack says the Spain ETA will allow him to pursue his passion for education, language, and travel in an immersive program that “fosters not only valuable leadership qualities, but international relationships predicated on the respectful, informative, two-way dialogue between a given Fulbrighter and their host country.”
Special Education major, Mike Rotter finished up his second summer with Illini 4000. Every year Illini 4000 embarks on a cross-country bike ride to raise money for cancer research. The group biked nearly 5,000 miles over 78 days with San Francisco being their final destination.

OUR STUDENTS GIVE BACK.

Nancy Lazaro is a Golden Apple Scholar and president of Golden Apple Illini. She also works as a tutor with America Reads/America Counts.

“"As a first-generation college student from a Chicago Public School, I never thought I would be where I am today. Thanks to the scholarship that I received, I will be able to finish off my undergraduate career strong and prepare myself to be the best teacher I can be to help inner city students like myself to reach higher education.""
READY TO CHOOSE ILLINOIS?

APPLY NOW
admissions.illinois.edu

QUESTIONS?
Student Academic Affairs is ready to answer your questions and help you decide which program is right for you.

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WE’RE CHANGING THE WORLD, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME —JOIN US.

GREAT MINDS THINK ILLINOIS.