

Teacher Education

How did the Jefferson College Teacher Education Program help you with your goal of becoming a teacher?

What alumni of our program say...

“*The* Jefferson College Teacher Education Program did a great job of preparing me for my four-year teacher education program. Jefferson’s program in its entirety covered all aspects of the teaching profession from the very basics of deciding if in fact teaching is the career for me, all the way through the Field Experience class that provided me with in-class teaching experience. Not only were the classes exemplary in their goals for the future teacher, the teaching staff at Jefferson were outstanding. They gave me a huge head start on my four-year program. Without the dedication and knowledge of these teachers, I would not have graduated magna cum laude from Jefferson, nor would I be as successful in my four-year program as I am today. The most helpful aspect of the program was the high standards set by teachers in regards to quality of student work and continual improvement of work quality. ”

“*I* believe each aspect of the Jefferson College Teacher Education Program worked well as a whole. I found several specific aspects helpful. First and most helpful was the field work, especially the JA teaching experience in Teaching Profession with Field Experience. Working with a group of students over an extended period with JA allows the preservice teacher to acquire knowledge that cannot come from a textbook or typical college classroom. Furthermore, all of the hours spent in a classroom allow the preservice teacher to gain knowledge from several different teaching styles and settings. Finally, the time spent at Confluence Academy allowed my personal growth for diversity in a classroom setting. This growth, again, is not an aspect that can be found in the typical college classroom. Second, the work expected and level of teaching received allowed me to build skills required at the four-year college level. I am confident I received a well-balanced education through the Jefferson College Teacher Education Program. ”



“*I* owe so much to the professors at Jeffco; you have really given me a great head start. I truly thank you for everything you have done. ”

“*The* Jefferson College Teacher Education Program was incredibly helpful in preparing me for my four-year program. There is a definite difference in my four-year program between the students who attended Jefferson College first and those who attended elsewhere. I was prepared to write lesson plans at Missouri Baptist. I also appreciated the level of detail that we went into when writing our philosophies of education. Since we went into such detail at that time, I was able to write my nine standards for my folio class with ease because I had essentially already completed the work. ”

“*I* feel that I was very prepared for the program at SEMO. I was more prepared than many of the students in my class who started at SEMO. My Block II teacher was very impressed with the basis of knowledge that the two of us from Jeffco had compared to the rest of the class. ”

“*I* learned so much about classroom environments and how students learn while teaching the Junior Achievement lessons and working as a teacher’s assistant. The field experience was a vital aspect of my instruction because I learn the most through hands-on experience. ”

“*I* felt as if I was ahead of the game going into UMSL this year. Everything that we have discussed so far this semester is simply a review from Jefferson College! ”

“The Jefferson College Teacher Education program has greatly prepared me for my current four-year program. I often feel over prepared and that I have a leg up in many courses because of how much experience I gained in Teaching Profession with Field Experience writing lesson plans and creating activities. I also found the emphasis on writing professionally to be extremely beneficial in all of my classes. In my current class, we administer assessments to our students and write reports and reflections over each student’s abilities and make suggestions on how to enrich that student’s learning. These reflections are given to the students’ teachers, so it is important that we write well to show our professionalism and make a good impression. My professor in this class has awarded me bonus points multiple times for my professional writing, and I know that I owe that to the writing guidelines I had to follow in the Teacher Education Program.”

“I feel confident moving forward in my required educational courses. Much of this confidence comes from the preparation I received from the Jefferson College Program!



“In JA I was able to create my own lesson plans, apply my methods of teaching by teaching real students in a classroom, practice my classroom management skills, receive feedback from another teacher, and reflect on my teaching. All in all, I felt thoroughly prepared to be successful at Missouri Baptist University.”

“The courses in the Jefferson College Teacher Education program greatly prepared me for my current four-year program in many ways. One of these ways is the exposure to experiences in different cultural school settings. I really appreciate how this program recognizes that there are cultural differences amongst schools and students. Jefferson County and its close surrounding areas are not very diverse areas, so by having preservice teachers see that in real life really helps to prepare them for that aspect of being a teacher. Also, I was very impressed and happy that this program put preservice students in the classroom in a teaching position at an early stage. I feel this helps students who may still be unsure about their major choice or subject/grade level choice. Another way this program helped me was through high academic standards and rigorous coursework. Those kinds of things may sound intimidating or tough to accomplish, but if you work hard and stay committed it is worth it in the end.”

“Jefferson College did a fantastic job preparing me for my four-year institution. I believe Jefferson College has the best teachers for future teachers.”

“The Jefferson College Teacher Education Program successfully prepared me for my current four-year program by setting high expectations in my writing and grammar, providing multiple opportunities for experience in a real classroom, practicing collaboration inside and outside the classroom during team teaching and Junior Achievement, and by engaging in critical thinking skills through self- and peer reflections. At my current four-year program, I am required to create and apply several lesson plans, engage in collaboration with other students in the class, reflect on my teaching skills, and describe how I will utilize the Missouri Teacher Standards in my classroom. Thankfully, I was introduced and applied these requirements in the Jefferson College Teacher Education Program.”

“I feel that the teacher education program at Jeffco successfully prepared me for my four-year program at UMSL. Actually, in some ways I feel I was over prepared as there were many students in my four-year program who did not have the experience or adequate prior knowledge about teaching that I possessed.”

For more information about the Associate of Arts in Teaching degree,
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