

LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS

2007-2008 INSTITUTIONAL REPORT FOR THE PREPARATION OF TEACHERS

NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Message from the Commissioner:

Louisiana is being recognized nationally for the efforts of our universities to prepare high-quality new teachers who enter the profession prepared to address the needs of PK-12 students. All campuses are to be commended for the work they have done in the past and the work they are doing today to enhance the knowledge and skills of all new teachers. As improved student achievement continues to be a goal of all educators in Louisiana, the success of your work will continue for years to come as your well-prepared new teachers further develop their capabilities and become even more effective teachers in the future. The work you are doing is of the utmost importance, for it impacts the lives of students in Louisiana, and it impacts the economic health of our state.

*E. Joseph Savoie
Commissioner of Higher Education*

Mission of University

Northwestern State University (NSU) is a responsive, student-oriented institution that is committed to the creation, dissemination, and acquisition of knowledge through teaching, research, and service. The University maintains as its highest priority excellence in teaching in graduate and undergraduate programs.

Northwestern State University prepares its students to become productive members of society and promotes economic development and improvements in the quality of life of the citizens in its region.

Student Characteristics of University

During Fall 2007, the university had a total enrollment of 7,977 undergraduate and 1,060 graduate students. A total of 2,744 students were males and 6,293 were females. The majority of the students were from Louisiana with a total of 8,285 in-state students, 699 out-of-state students, and 53 international students. Among students enrolled in the undergraduate program, 2,265 were black, 4,804 were white, and 908 were other races. Among students enrolled in the graduate program, 210 were black, 773 were white, and 77 were other races.

Accreditation and Approval of Teacher Preparation Program

The university is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). In addition, the university is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). All of the university's teacher preparation programs are approved by the Louisiana Board of Regents and the Louisiana Department of Education.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program

- Founded in 1884 as a teacher-training institution, Northwestern State University (NSU) has for 120+ years prepared teachers for the classroom. Graduates of teacher and other professional school personnel programs demonstrate content, pedagogical, and professional knowledge and skills; display professional dispositions; interact and work with diverse candidates, faculty, and PK-12 students; and incorporate educational technology to help all students learn.
- In 2006-07, NSU certified 67 undergraduate program completers and 45 alternate certification program completers.
- NSU received reaffirmation of accreditation by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), December 2007.
- Teacher preparation programs at NSU were shown to be highly effective in preparing new teachers for the classroom, according to findings published in October 2007 by the Louisiana Board of Regents. NSU's alternative certification programs performed at levels 1 and 2 in three content areas. In science, NSU performed at Level 1, the category designated for programs for which there is evidence that new teachers are more effective than experienced teachers. In social studies and mathematics, NSU performed at Level 2, designated for programs whose effect is more similar to experienced teachers than new teachers.
- Thirty teacher education candidates received academic scholarships in 2006-07.
- The College of Education continued to be designated by the Louisiana Board of Regents as an Area of Excellence in the field of Educational Technology.

Notable Features and Accomplishments of Teacher Preparation Program (Cont'd)

- NSU is the state leader in technology, offering the largest number of courses and degree programs on-line, in comparison to other universities in Louisiana.
- Three COE faculty were recipients of endowments: Dr. Marty Rhymes, Melba Law Steeg Professorship; Dr. Leonard Clark, Freeport McMoran Professorship in Pluralistic Education, and Dr. Barbara Duchardt, Thomas E. Stewart Professorship.
- In August 2007, new faculty appointed to the College of Education included Dr. Diane Bordenave, Dr. Henrietta Pichon, Dr. Nelda Wellman, Dr. Wendell Wellman, and Dr. Mary Lynn Williamson. Dr. Gerra Perkins was appointed January 2007.
- NSU’s “Transition to Teaching” (T2T) grant awarded \$39,000 to 39 alternate certification candidates teaching in critical shortage areas in the Northwestern service region. In addition, candidates were provided human and financial resources that supported planning and instruction in the classroom and influenced candidate impact on student learning.

Teacher Preparation Program Data

The following data have been provided about the teacher preparation program.

1. Total number of students formally admitted to the regular teacher preparation program and enrolled in one or more courses during academic year 2006-2007 including all areas of teaching specialization.	262
2. Total number of students enrolled in the regular teacher preparation program and alternate certification program including all areas of teaching specialization who participated in programs of supervised student teaching or supervised internships during Summer 2006, Fall 2006, and/or Spring 2007.	126

Teacher Preparation Program Data (Cont'd)

3. Supervising faculty for supervised student teaching and internship experiences.	
a. Number of appointed full time faculty in professional education	15
b. Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2006, Fall 2006, and Spring 2007.	1
c. Number of appointed part-time faculty in professional education, not otherwise employed by the institution, who supervised student teaching/internship experiences during Summer 2006, Fall 2006, and Spring 2007.	5
d. Total number of supervising faculty for the teacher preparation program during 2006-2007.	21
4. Student/faculty ratio for student teaching and internship experiences.	6:0
5. Student participation in student teaching.	
a. Average number of hours per week required of student participation in supervised student teaching during academic year 2006-2007.	12
b. Total number of weeks per semester of supervised student teaching required for student teaching during academic year 2006-2007.	15
c. Total number of hours required during academic year 2006-2007 for student teaching.	180



LOUISIANA BOARD OF REGENTS 2007-2008 TEACHER PREPARATION ACCOUNTABILITY SYSTEM

OVERVIEW

In compliance with the Higher Education Act of 1998, Louisiana created a Teacher Preparation Accountability System to assess the performance of teacher preparation programs within the state. During the first phase (2001-2002) of the accountability system, the performance of the regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' examination (PRAXIS) was assessed. During subsequent phases (2002-2003, 2003-04, and 2004-05), the quantity of program completers at each institution and the performance of each institution (e.g., performance of regular and alternate certification students on the state teachers' Praxis examinations and ratings by teachers of their teacher preparation programs) were assessed. In the future, additional factors will be assessed to examine such areas as ratings of programs by first year teachers' mentors and growth of learning of students taught by new teachers. The purpose of this accountability system is to clearly demonstrate to the public that all universities and colleges in Louisiana are working diligently to produce quality teachers who work effectively with PK-12 students.

During 2005-06, it was not possible to implement the Teacher Preparation Accountability System due to the closure of universities and schools in Louisiana and the inability to collect data from displaced teachers and mentors due to Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. A decision was made to revise the Teacher Preparation Accountability System. Quantity and PRAXIS examination passage rate data have been collected and are being disseminated to the public in the *2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 Institutional Reports for the Preparation of Teachers*. These reports can be found on the Board of Regents web site at: <http://asa.regents.state.la.us/TE/reports/2007>. The documents provide an overview of the quantity of program completers and the passage rates of program completers at individual universities.

**QUANTITY OF PROGRAM COMPLETERS AND
SUMMARY OF HEA TITLE II PRAXIS EXAMINATION PASSAGE RATES
2006-2007 REGULAR AND ALTERNATE PROGRAM COMPLETERS**

UNIVERSITY	TYPES OF PROGRAMS	TOTAL COMPLETED	NUMBER PASSED	PERCENTAGE PASSED
NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY	HEA Title II 2006-2007 Regular Program Completers	67	67	100%
	HEA Title II 2006-2007 Alternate Program Completers	45	45	100%
	Total Number of 2006-2007 Program Completers	112	112	100%



**HEA - Title II
2006-2007 Academic Year**

Institution Name	NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Institution Code	6492
State	Louisiana
Number of Program Completers Submitted	67
Number of Program Completers found, matched, and used in passing rate Calculations¹	67

March 30, 2008

<i>Type of Assessment</i>	<i>Assessment Code Number</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Institutional Pass Rate</i>	Statewide		
					<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Basic Skills							
PPST READING	710	7			328	328	100%
PPST WRITING	720	7			340	340	100%
PPST MATHEMATICS	730	7			335	335	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST READING	5710	57	57	100%	1020	1020	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST WRITING	5720	57	57	100%	1011	1011	100%
COMPUTERIZED PPST MATHEMATICS	5730	57	57	100%	1020	1020	100%
Professional Knowledge							
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION	020	11	11	100%	184	184	100%
EDUC. EXCEPTIONAL STUDENTS: CK	353				51	51	100%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING K-6	522	19	19	100%	699	699	100%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING 5-9	523				53	53	100%
PRINCIPLES LEARNING & TEACHING 7-12	524	36	36	100%	488	484	100%
ED EXCEPT STUDENTS: MILD MODER. DISABIL	542				37	37	100%
Academic Content Areas							
ELEMENTARY ED CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	014	31	31	100%	845	841	99%
BIOLOGY AND GENERAL SCIENCE	030				2		
ENG LANG LIT COMP CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	041	5			92	91	99%
ENG LANG LIT COMP PEDAGOGY	043	5			92	92	100%
MIDDLE SCHOOL ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS	049				10	10	100%
MATHEMATICS	060				1		
MATHEMATICS: CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	061	5			55	55	100%
MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS	069				13	13	100%
CHEM PHYSICS AND GENERAL SCIENCE	070				2		



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					<i>Number Taking Assessment</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Academic Content Areas							
SOCIAL STUDIES: CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	081	1			119	119	100%
SOCIAL STUDIES: INTERPRET MATERIALS	083	1			118	118	100%
MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL STUDIES	089				12	12	100%
PHYSICAL ED: CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	091	6			107	107	100%
BUSINESS EDUCATION	100	1			11	11	100%
MUSIC EDUCATION	110				1		
MUSIC CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	113	18	18	100%	81	80	99%
FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES	120				6		
ART CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	133				30	29	97%
FRENCH CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	173				5		
SPANISH CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	191				7		
SPEECH COMMUNICATION	220				7		
BIOLOGY CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	235				23	23	100%
CHEMISTRY CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	245				2		
GENERAL SCI CONTENT KNOWLEDGE	435				4		
MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE	439				15	15	100%
AGRICULTURE	700				2		



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<i>Type of Assessment²</i>	<i>Number Taking Assessment³</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment⁴</i>	<i>Institutional Pass Rate</i>	Statewide		
				<i>Number Taking Assessment³</i>	<i>Number Passing Assessment⁴</i>	<i>Statewide Pass Rate</i>
Aggregate - Basic Skills	64	64	100%	1361	1361	100%
Aggregate - Professional Knowledge	66	66	100%	1471	1467	100%
Aggregate - Academic Content Areas (Math, English, Biology, etc.)	67	67	100%	1454	1443	99%
Aggregate - Other Content Areas (Career/Technical Education, Health Educations, etc.)						
Aggregate - Teaching Special Populations (Special Education, ELS, etc.)						
Aggregate - Performance Assessments						
Summary Totals and Pass Rates⁵	67	67	100%	1429	1416	99%

Footnotes:

- 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 a completer 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.
- ⁵ Summary Totals and Pass Rate: Number of completers who successfully completed one or more tests across all categories used by the state for licensure and the total pass rate.