Admission to the Teacher Certification Program

Components:
- Application
- Admission interview with admission portfolio
- Grade point average of 2.75 or higher
- Basic skills tests (i.e. SAT, ACT, GRE or Praxis I)
- Dispositions Assessment

Process:
Students normally apply during the spring of their sophomore year or the semester before beginning courses at the 300 level. During this semester, they complete an application, create an admission portfolio, and participate in an admission interview. Upon completion of the semester, grade point averages and Praxis scores are collected and considered together with information from the applications and admission interviews. Admission decisions are mailed to students during the summer.

Admission Portfolio

Assignment: The School of Education and Human Service asks that you develop a portfolio in a three-ring binder to include:

1. Your philosophy of education. The philosophy of education statement should be two pages long (single or double spaced – written in 12 pt. font, Times New Roman) and demonstrate graduate level proficiency in writing and organizing thoughts.
2. A demonstration of your knowledge of learning and teaching (evidence of 6-8 artifacts may include tests, papers, projects, etc.)
3. A concept web showing the qualities you possess that you believe will lead to your success in the classroom (8 qualities)
4. A detailed list of your previous experiences with children (to include ages of children, responsibilities, duration of experiences)
5. A one-page explanation of why you want to be a teacher.

Purposes for the portfolio:
- To cause you to reflect on your decision to become a teacher
- To serve as a discussion point for the admission interview
- To introduce you to the concept of portfolio early in the undergraduate programs and serve as a building block for your exit portfolio.

Evaluation: The portfolio will be formally evaluated by at least two members of the department. Your scored portfolio will be returned within two weeks of your interview.