

Lewis University

Romeoville, IL

The High School Physics Teacher Education program at Lewis University prepares students to teach physics and other science subjects at the high school level. The physics department has three faculty members working in the area of physics teacher preparation. All are full-time employees of the University.

Currently, there is one required undergraduate science teaching methods course totaling three semester hours and taught by a professor of science. Currently, there are three physics teacher education majors enrolled in the physics teacher education program.

This program provides a thorough study of representative fields of physics, and requires additional study of biology, and chemistry totaling 8 semester hours with a professional education sequence of 34 semester hours and a general education requirement of 43 semester hours. A total of 100 clock hours of clinical experiences in high schools are associated with required physics methods and education courses. Physics teacher education majors must complete not less than 15 full weeks of student teaching in physics. Upon graduation, physics teacher education majors earn a BS degree in physics. The University does offer an alternative route to teacher certification.

The standard program of study for physics teacher education majors at Lewis University begins with standard physics degree courses. Education courses begin in the sophomore year and continue through student teaching.

Lewis University's fully accredited program has contributed to the preparation of qualified high school physics teachers since the early sixties. Our graduates teach throughout the Chicago area in public and private high schools. Others have moved from teaching into administrative roles - guiding and nurturing the development of physics curricula.

Our program has been student centered since its inception. With an open lab policy, we encourage students to strengthen and broaden their understanding of fundamentals through mathematical, experimental, and computational explorations unencumbered by time constraints. Professors eager to see students advance in their goals are always available for consultation and encouragement.

Geographically, Argonne National Laboratory, 13 miles and approximately 15 minutes away, has provided internship and coop opportunities for many of our students. Through their Educational Program Division our majors have worked in summer programs with groups of high school students sharing their excitement of science in an environment dedicated to fundamental research.

Lewis University is accredited by NCATE and our physics teaching program is accredited by ISBE and the State Teacher Certification Board.

For further information about the physics teacher education program at Lewis University, visit our web page at the following web address: <http://www.lewisu.edu/academics/physics/>. For additional information not available through this web page, contact us by phone or writing: Leonard Weisenthal, One University Parkway, Romeoville, Illinois 60445, (815)836-5295, weisenle@lewisu.edu