



Expectations of Teacher Candidates

*What is Western's Faculty of Education looking for in applicants to the teacher education program?
What is expected of teacher candidates as they enter the program?*

Becoming a teacher requires knowledge, skills and abilities, and the characteristics and qualities of a caring and professional person. Particular kinds of knowledge and skill can be learned during the teacher education program but many of the personal attributes required of good teachers—enthusiasm, fairness, compassion, honesty, courage, humility—should to some degree already be part of your character, ready for further nurturing and development as you become a teacher.

Western's Faculty of Education is looking for Teacher Candidates who possess attributes such as these:

Commitment

- * sincerely interested in becoming a teacher
- * sincerely interested in students and in 'making a difference' in their lives
- * passionate, dedicated, willing to do more than the minimum

Perseverance

- * not easily discouraged; willing to work hard to overcome challenges

Willingness to Learn & Engage in Professional Formation

- * interested in new ideas and practices
- * open and responsive to constructive criticism
- * willing to seek assistance and support when and where appropriate
- * open to self-evaluation, self-examination, and critical reflection

Fairness & Inclusivity

- * values diversity among students and the differences in how students learn
- * culturally sensitive and gender fair
- * respectful, patient, and compassionate towards all students
- * believes in the ability of all students to learn

Mature Work Habits

- * organizes work and manages time effectively
- * works collaboratively or independently as needed
- * shows initiative and flexibility