

College of Education Mission Statement

The mission of the James Madison University College of Education is to prepare educated and enlightened individuals who can skillfully contribute to the common good of society and who can enter competently into positions of teaching and educational leadership, civic responsibility, and national service. The personal and professional development of students is accomplished by emphasizing excellence and continuous innovation in quality undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs.

James Madison University's College of Education is distinguished through faculty and student achievements, academic rigor, excellence in teaching, student and faculty interactions and relationships, technological innovations, and national recognitions. The College maintains relevance through active and growing interactions with other colleges within the University and with local, state, regional, national, and international communities.

The college is committed to providing:

- Undergraduate programs that are composed of or complemented by strong liberal arts preparation, in-depth specialty studies and opportunities for students to develop professional knowledge and skills.
- Graduate programs that emphasize advanced knowledge in a specialty area and the development of effective leadership and professional skills for addressing the needs of a changing society.
- Continuing professional development and service programs in cooperation with public and private schools and agencies, other colleges, institutions, and businesses.

The undergraduate and graduate education programs are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and the Virginia State Board of Education.

The basic philosophy of the college is reflected in the following goals:

- To educate men and women for the multiple professions included in the college at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, not merely by transmitting skills and knowledge but by stimulating creativity, developing cognitive abilities and encouraging the testing of hypotheses and reinterpretation of the human experience.
- To encourage a balanced faculty orientation toward teaching, research, scholarship, and community service and professionalism that recognizes individual strengths and preferences of the college's faculty.
- To create an environment that fosters an atmosphere of open communication among students, faculty members and community.

To anticipate societal needs and provide necessary resources for implementing effective off-campus programs now and in the future. The college has undergraduate and graduate programs that are designed to lead to majors and minors in interdisciplinary liberal studies, teaching, educational leadership, adult education, military science, and individualized study. The college is organized into the School of Education, the Department of Military Science, and the Adult Degree Program.