

# **Southern Illinois University Edwardsville**

Edwardsville, Illinois

The Science/Physics Teacher Education program at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville prepares students to teach physics and other science subjects at the high school level. The Physics Department has 2 faculty/staff members working predominately in the area of physics teacher preparation. Of these individuals, two are full-time employees of the University.

Currently, there is one required undergraduate physics/science teaching methods course totaling 3 semester hours and taught by the Physics Department. In addition, there are about 2 physics teacher education majors enrolled in the physics/science teacher education program. Over the past five years, the average number of physics teaching majors graduating per year has been 2.

This program provides a thorough study of representative fields of physics, and requires additional study of biology, chemistry, earth & space science. The required program of study integrates a minimum concentration of 44 semester hours of science content courses (not including the physics/science teaching methods course) with a professional education sequence of 28 semester hours and a general education requirement of 31 semester hours. A total of 100 clock hours of clinical experiences in high schools are associated with required physics/science methods and education courses. Physics teacher education majors must complete not less than seven full weeks of student teaching in physics. Upon graduation, physics teacher education majors earn a BS degree in Physics Education. The University does offer an alternative route to teacher certification – an MAT.

The standard program of study for physics teacher education majors at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville begins with teacher education and/or physics/science methods courses during the junior year and continues through student teaching. Key features of the program include preparation for rural and high needs schools where a teacher might teach all the sciences; and who better than a physicist to do that? SIUE also offers an Earth and Space Science certification program.

The SIUE is accredited by NCATE and the physics/science teaching program is accredited by NSTA.

For further information about the physics teacher education program at SIUE, visit our web page at the following web address:

<http://www.siu.edu/PHYSICS/ugBSSReq.html> For additional information not available through this web page, contact us by phone or writing: Dr. Tom Foster and Dr. Rebecca Lindell in Physics or Pamela Feters in the School of Education.