

Office of Assessment & Institutional Research (AIR)



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Assessment

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2006 Graduating Senior Survey Student Comments School of Education

I didn't begin at UWM, but I was happy to finish here. My first year was spent at the University of Kansas. I'm from Kansas and really thought I was going to like going to KU. It was too big and I had a hard time finding classes I liked and had an even harder time getting in touch with professors. My father lives in Milwaukee, and I decided to come here to stay. Once enrolled in UWM, I had the most helpful professors, the easiest time enrolling in classes, and a really quality educational experience. My only complaint, I suppose, would be that for a while, I was in the school of education and I had the hardest time getting in touch with my advisors and was constantly being steered in a wrong direction. However, my advisors in the college of letters and sciences were amazingly helpful. I've truly enjoyed my time at UWM over all.

"Why" or "why not" responses to question "if you had to do it over again, would you choose to attend UWM?"

The education program could use better advisors.

Fairly quick commute, tuition is lower than a private college, I received several scholarships and awards and completed my degree within my four-year goal.

yes, its a good school with lots of opprotunity

Too many people were unorganized, and the education department taught us theory but didn't apply it to their own teaching.

Great soccer team to play for, a dance program as well as an education program.

I had many problems with the advising staff in the Education Department such as being given incorrect information and them losing my test scores.

Convenience and good academic/science program.

The classes I have taken are very helpful to understand teaching in the Milwaukee area. However, many of the classes that I have taken seem to repeat themselves in content resulting in old information learned well and new information being neglected. I received a different perspective of teaching children here in Milwaukee than in Oshkosh, where I previously attended college, and I feel that I have gained a higher level of education by learning from a background that is not familiar to my own.

I just feel that I got a great education and I feel that UWM has prepared me for my career. The one thing that some universities do that UWM does not is help you prepare for application process for teachers in the MPS district.

It was close to my house. I would have liked more challenging classes.

The professors at UWM are awesome and I like the student body, but the financial office is disorganized and I was very frustrated when dealing with them.

Good school, highly recommended for the school of education.

I was pleased with UWM the only thing that would keep me from doing it all over again here was miscommunication between advisors. I never got the same answer from different advisors.

I had a wonderful experience with the Education program and I have and will suggest others to consider UWM for their Education

i feel they have prepaied me to teach in mps more than other schols would have.

like the diversity and it is close to home.

The School of Education was the most negative experience I could have asked for. I have never met a bigger bunch of unprofessional individuals. The Spanish department was acceptable. I feel as if the University requires many unnecessary classes in order to get more of our money. Once accepted into the School of Education, things went down hill and up until then I would've recommended this university to many people. It is unfair of me to generatlize my feelings over the entire university, but I WILL DEFINITELY NEVER recommend someone

to the School of Education majoring in Elementary Education. The administrators were not there for the students at all and getting accommodations made was difficult. Finding someone to trust in that department was virtually impossible. I have never been so disgusted in any other program in my life.

Some of the professors are lacking professionalism.

Because it is a convenient "commuter" college, has flexible class schedules, has a diverse student body, and allows one to be an individual.

I like the urban setting, but I wish there were smaller classes and more of them offered, so every student would get a quality education and there would be less frustration in getting into classes.

I decided to attend UWM because of the low tuition. I would have rather gone to Alverno, but could not afford it.

I really enjoy the focus on urban education at this university

I like the Milwaukee area and the professors here.

I would because I enjoyed my time here, but sometimes I wish I could have gone to school outside of Wisconsin.

I had a good experience being a larger community than what I am use to.

I can't compare my college education with an education I might have received elsewhere. I only attended UWM. I did learn a lot from most my Professors. I definitely feel that there needs to be some changes to the education program. The program emphasizes urban education yet we do not have any classes on behavioral management. The program also stresses diversity yet every MPS school I went to was almost 100% African American. I think the program should have a class focused on Urban, Suburban, and Rural classes this way we are more well rounded. I also came across several professors who I felt did not know much about cultural diversity. They taught in many classes that the color of your skin puts you into a culture, when this is not the case. A class of all white students should not be assumed to have the same culture. I also feel as education students that we need to get into the schools sooner! Not just to observe but to work with a teacher and teach a few lessons especially when we get into our core classes such as Math, Science, S.S etc. Teaching is one of those professions where you need to try it to see if you like it. Because we have not been in the schools very much I question how prepared I am for student teaching. It makes me very nervous to think 'that if this is not the right profession for me?' I hope this doesn't happen but it is always in the back of my mind. Our professors however have given us many encouraging words and shared with us some of their experiences and how they handled different experiences. I also think there needs to be more classes offered during the day so we can take advantage of the park and ride at more appropriate hours.

Great school with great teachers!!!!

UW-Milwaukee is a wonderful University with an excellent education curriculum; however, the School of Education is EXTREMELY UNORGANIZED and there are several professionals in the department who act entirely UNPROFESSIONAL!

I enjoyed the Urban experience.

The Urban focus of the Education department has given me an opportunity to grow as a teacher in ways that would not have been possible at another university or in another city.

There were various sorts of problems that I encountered especially in regards to the academic advising.

the classes i needed were available and the environment is very friendly

The education department at UWM has given me a negative view on professionalism. The education program at UWM is very disorganized and I would not recommend it to anyone who wants to go into teaching.

I probably would because it is in a nice location, I really like the campus and its atmosphere, and there are a good variety of opportunities to get involved

I feel that I recieved a wonderful education and met great people that have helped me to become successful.

The advising Department in the Education field is absolutly awful. They are incredibly slow (2 months) to get back to questions, and do not check with information to see if they are giving students the right information. For example, someone in advising told me I was set for graduation and now says that I am one credit short in fine arts. The education department does not give us enough field experience over the years and instead just gives us ed 100 in the beginning. I feel unprepared and totally unready to be in a classroom student teaching. It also would have been nice if the early childhood students could also have placements set up for us instead of us having to find them on our own every year.

I liked the education program very much. I believe it really got me prepared for my career.

Once I got into my program I felt I was not informed on what I needed to do from semester to semester. I felt I didn't have as much experience as I would have liked in schools and had to do a lot of observations and volunteer work on my own time so I would feel more comfortable in a classroom setting. I feel questions I posed to advisors and professors were never answered clearly and responses were always changing. My last 3 years out of the 5 I have attended were frustrating and confusing.

I was a transfer student and was not correctly informed about what credits would and would not transfer. I was told by my advisor at UW-Oshkosh that because I was still going to a UW school that all my credits would

transfer, however that was not the case. I ended up spending two semesters taking classes that I had already taken in Oshkosh. I also had a hard time finding an advisor who helped me pick out the correct courses I needed in the order I needed to take them. I became very frustrated with the advising office and more than once came home visibly upset because of what I was being told and how I was treated. I ended up changing my major to educational studies because the advisor told me I should drop out and asked why I was even in college. At that point in time I had spent five years in school and had well over 100 credits. That was my breaking point. I changed my major to educational studies because it would allow me to achieve my goal faster. When I finally found an advisor that was genuinely interested in helping me achieve my goal of completing college, I had already spent two years of my time and a lot of money taking courses that I didn't need because I was given poor information. After one meeting with my current advisor, I knew exactly what classes I needed to take in what semesters. She also helped me form a time line and plan for my graduation. Because of her I am here today filling out this application for my graduation. I just wish I could have started out with her to begin with because then my whole experience at UW-Milwaukee would have been completely different.

I like the focus on urban education within the school of education.

Program is not cohesive, many changes and inconsistencies between each course. Too much redundancy within program and too much idealism without grounding in reality.

good school in an urban environment

There was not enough hands on experience.

Field work within MPS really prepared me well.

I would have chose a campus closer to home.

My educational experience was a good one overall. There were a couple of occasions where there was confusion in the advising offices before I entered the Letters and Science program which caused unnecessary stress. Some offices and programs are very unorganized which makes it difficult for the students.

I would have picked a UW-institution that had cheaper tuition payments. However, I am content with receiving a degree from an institution focused on urban education.

The School of Education was completely disorganized. I was unaware of requirements, and told false information on several occasions, which forced me to take extra classes and pay extra fees.

My experience at UWM has been very good and the Community Education Program has fulfilled all of my expectations. Attending UWM has been a wonderful experience and I would recommend the Community Education program to others because I am pleased with the education I received while attending UWM.

It has a reputable education program.

I like the fact the UWM is not a small university, but it is also not too huge where I don't feel valued. Most of the faculty is great, which is a great asset to UWM.

I was at a different university because I had a different major. When I changed majors the school I was previously at didn't have my major and UWM did!

The education program is not very organized. Many of the staff members lack professionalism. Some staff members lack care for student concerns.

There is way WAY too much pointless crap and busy-work in the School of Ed. Instead of focusing on planning lessons and increasing content knowledge, you spend your time doing write-ups, group work and reflections that have NOTHING to do with actual work in the field

But, qualifying for residency should be easier- i may have graduated from HS in IL, but i never went back, and all my Family is in WI- I have worked in the state since before my 1st yr. at college.

The program that I attended completely fell apart and one of the professors should not be teaching at a college level. I regret having to pay money for not a sufficient education.

because it is close to home

Because the guidance from the academic advisors wasn't there. We are only considered a number not UWM students.

The Education Department was very frustrating and I felt like I could never be totally comfortable because they lost important information of mine more than once. I felt better off just doing things on my own.

Overall, had a good UW experience over the years. Was disappointed in several of my professors, but also had some great ones along the way that made up.

close to home

Great diversity here, better than at my first school - uw-whitewater. Lots to do around campus, more active campus

I had a some good experiences with the staffs and advisors at UWM.

The School of Education was very unorganized and I felt that I was given the run around any time I needed information.

You offer wonderful programs for those of us who already work in the corporate world.

I felt students were not treated equally. Many instructors displayed a severe lack of professionalism and integrity.

Exceptional Teacher education Program

I had great experiences with all of the professors I have encountered.

The Education advisors were not knowledgeable or helpful in the slightest. Because of this fact I ended up taking a semester of classes that did not apply to my major. I had to find out what to take from others, and when I did meet my advisor he/she humiliated me.

By me having a disability, I found myself fighting for my rights all the way through college especially financial aide and DVR, the two who were supposed to help me the most to be stress free and to graduate at a timely date and year. I am afraid I have been a part of the money make system instead of the learning system.

School of Education!

only public school near my well established home

It was a great experience, I had wonderful professors that were laid back and most classes complemented my learning styles.

I love the closeness of the community

Lack of organization and communication within the advising department for education students.

I disliked living in the city of Milwaukee but loved the campus of UWM.

I feel I had a full experience at UWM. However, I also hold some degree of regret for not even applying to UW-Madison.

Very organized and helped guide me on the path to receive my degree the fastest way possible!

Good atmosphere, amazing professors...I have matured in my education here.

I feel well prepared to start my career.

Because it is one of the cheapest schools, and because the education that I have acquired is the best.

The system at UWM is very complicated compared to the small UW school I went to in Oshkosh. Of course I expected some difficulty out of the school but, not as much as I experienced. I also didn't expect some of the professors to be so prissy and know it alls-just because you have a degree doesn't give you the right to act as if you're the president of the school. Aside from this, I thought a lot of the professors were very caring, articulate and professional in the way they handled my situation and others-more of these professors are needed at UWM!

Education was not my initial reason for coming to UWM however, I do feel that the school of education was a good choice for me to complete my undergraduate program at.

It was a good fit.

Financially I would, but if there were a better education program available elsewhere at a reasonable cost, I would probably go there.

I wish our program, Early Childhood had more time working with children in actual classroom. If this was the case I would feel more prepared to begin teaching

Going to UW-Milwaukee allowed me to live at home with my grandparents. Had my finances been in a better state I would have stayed at UW-Madison

It was convenient and I liked the program there. I also love the campus.

The education department has many great classes to take.

local and relatively affordable

I think I would have had a better experience somewhere else.

The education program is very disorganized. Also, there is little feeling of community for those students who do not live on campus.

I have been fortunate to have knowledgeable professors who take a genuine interest in their students. The School of Education and the English department should be commended on the quality of their professors.

The university is very open minded and educated about diversity which was impressive.

I really enjoyed working with all of my teachers. I definitely learned a lot.

The location is ideal, but it's getting too pricey.

I am thoroughly disgusted with the lack of communication that I received from my academic department. Major changes in my program were relayed word of mouth by other students and rarely through a broad e-mail. In fact when I was a dual-cert education major I received more e-mails telling me who to vote for from the department personnel than I did true information I needed. I am an intelligent person, I can decide for myself which candidates best represent my interests. Some of my advisors failed to represent my academic interests

by failing to inform about decisions to drop programs. (We found out 1/3 of the way through the semester at the cost of a whole semester in "wasted" tuition taking classes which would no longer be applicable to my major. Also, student placements for all of my education fieldwork has been continually beset by delays in the schools ability to find suitable placements in a timely measure for us students over the past 1 and 1/2 years.

I liked the Milwaukee community because it was close to my home. I feel that I received a good education here. I was extremely disappointed and frustrated in the Education Department in its lack of organization and communication to me and to its other students. This is mostly in terms of academic advising and sending of information in a timely manner.

I feel that UWM prepared me to be a teacher in any school district, anywhere.

Access to the great city of Milwaukee

The academic environment was very comfortable. I am also a huge sports fan. The Division I sports program is a big reason why I chose UWM over other state schools.

my only problems were encountered with my transfer of credits from other institutions and advice from advisors on program choices. I could have graduated much sooner without these problems. Otherwise, my time at UWM was great and I will be back to complete my certification.

I enjoyed the diversity.

I had a great experience at UWM, my history professors were all fantastic and they cared so much about me and the topic at hand.

family in the area

I probably would choose UWM again; however, I feel that as a transfer student not changing majors I was not advised on the most efficient route to a degree and therefore it has taken six years (three and a half at UWM) to obtain my degree. I was a fulltime student this entire time. Since the time and expense of my undergraduate degree is what it is, I am not at this time able to get my certification for Special Education, which was my initial reason for transferring to UWM.

I wanted to go out of state for school. In addition I had experiences at UWM that has left me with the impression that the school cares more for money than for student's interest and well-being.

This school was convenient for me to drive.

UWM has a great education program, but I would like to see more of a correspondence between the English department and the Education department regarding the classes. I would also like to see more instruction on Classroom Management!!! I would also like to see more of an emphasis on Urban Education, since this school specializes in Urban Education. Otherwise, I had a good experience.

The school of education here seemed in disarray. It was incredibly difficult to get a consistent message. The content taught was fine. The administration and student services was terrible.

there are some requirements that were extremely time consuming and not necessary for my major. Financial aid was insufficient compared to some other universities

good experience

Good program for education

I felt that there was not too much diversity and resources when I first started school here

This is a large university. I had to learn many things alone or without support of staff/faculty. I am a veteran. The support of this department was minimal and caused me because of my ignorance to lose out on valuable educational benefits which I worked hard to attain. Also, the level of response when I had a problem was unacceptable. There have been a few good Professors who have offered assistance along the way, but the university as a whole left me, an adult returning student feeling alone and often in despair.

Because it is close to home and the education program has an urban focus

I really liked my time at UWM, the only complaint I have is that it is sometimes difficult to get the classes you need.

Close to home

Wasn't extremely happy with the route of the education programs.

After going to two different private schools before coming to UWM, I really enjoyed the time and effort the teachers were willing to take both in the classroom and outside the classroom. Also, really enjoyed the students and the two great showings in the NCAA tournament by both the women and men's college basketball teams.

UWM was a beautiful campus with a diverse open minded student body. The people I met while attending UWM were great, and the teaching staff was top notch. I will always treasure my experience while here. The only thing I wish is for a closer knit college community.

it was a great educational experience

UW Milwaukee has an exceptional education department. With education being my field of choice, I am very

pleased that I made the decision to come to UWM.

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last updated: July 28, 2006