

Introducing Doane College Lincoln Campus and Grand Island Campus

Doane's Commitment to Nontraditional Students

The Doane College degree program for nontraditional students was developed for individuals who can benefit from a combination of college classroom learning experiences, learning outcomes of previous formal education, and knowledge gained from work and life experience. This style of higher education creates opportunities for persons to make connections with life and work through a degree program and develops knowledge and skills for living and working with self-confidence.

This program is designed for a special student population, less defined by age than by a certain profile. Generally, students have been absent from involvement in formal education for some time, work full-time, and wish to be better educated and/or credentialed to take advantage of promotion opportunities, either in a current or future job. They recognize the changing nature of the work environment and are eager to develop knowledge and skills to meet those demands. Many wish to make a career change and/or simply to continue personal growth and development. The nontraditional student can be defined quite simply as a person whose full-time occupation is something other than that of student.

The orientation for nontraditional students begins with generalizations about learners who are the heart of Doane's traditional liberal arts college. Classes are small, with a strong focus on student-teacher interaction. To make that focus possible, the average class size is 20 students.

Faculty of Doane College believe that people are intrinsically motivated to learn, given the right college conditions and encouragement. Experience has taught us that great teachers are the key to learner motivation. We therefore seek, and ultimately keep, teachers who have an abundant knowledge of the subject they are teaching, who truly care that the people they teach are successful in their experience with formal education, and who have the talent to excite oth-

ers to learn, share knowledge enthusiastically, and effectively manage the learning environment.

We believe that a college is a community, and individuals learn best when they feel they are an important part of that community. Our talented support services staff are held responsible for building that sense of community. They provide needed services at times convenient to the nontraditional student, and are held accountable for quality academic and personal counseling.

Though we build on the philosophical foundations of the small liberal arts college, we also know that there are characteristics of nontraditional learners that are unique to this student population. We know that 1) they have a psychological need to be self-directing, 2) they bring into any learning situation resources from their previous experience and training that are a rich resource for one another's learning, and 3) they are task-centered, problem-centered, and life-centered in their orientation to learning. With ongoing studies of the research in adult education and our own experience, we constantly work to deliver education in ways most appropriate for the nontraditional learner.

Students who complete Doane's degree requirements through this program are awarded the bachelor of arts or bachelor of science degree. Though nontraditional students attend classes in Lincoln or Grand Island, they are a welcome part of the body of students who participate in Commencement exercises on the Crete campus.

The effort to develop quality programs of higher education for nontraditional students gives Doane College faculty and staff opportunities to grow and further develop their abilities to anticipate new conditions in the field of education and to change in ways that will enable the college to meet the diverse demands of society. We seek to be a part of the development of educated and competent persons, with the highest competence being that of continuous, self-directed, lifelong learning.

Mission Statement

Doane College, a comprehensive college in the liberal arts tradition, offers an academic curriculum to stimulate inquiry, enhance knowledge, and promote examination and development of values and perspectives through majors and the liberal arts. The college prepares students by offering academic and cocurricular opportunities to develop abilities and skills needed in and out of the work-

place. Doane also provides opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to develop and practice leadership skills.

Doane College is a private, independent, coeducational college serving both traditional and nontraditional students. The college continues its historical relationship with the United Church of Christ and its tradition of promoting free inquiry. The college offers instruction in the liberal arts and related professional and pre-professional areas leading to the bachelor of arts, bachelor of science, and master's degrees. At both the undergraduate and graduate levels, Doane is committed to student-centered education characterized by close student-teacher relationships. The college serves students through residential campus programs, off-campus programs, and graduate programs. Doane seeks to attract students, faculty, and staff with diverse geographic, racial, ethnic, religious, economic, and cultural backgrounds.

As the college pursues its mission, students will demonstrate the ability:

- I. To read, listen, write and speak effectively.
- II. To think critically.
- III. To integrate theories with practice.
- IV. To collect and process information by selecting methods to improve understanding and solve problems.
- V. To use problem-solving skills effectively.
- VI. To work with others.
- VII. To act ethically and lead responsibly.

The Purpose of Doane

The purpose of Doane College is to educate students to serve and to lead in Nebraska, the nation, and the world.

Accreditation Statement

Doane College is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association (NCA), 30 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 2400, Chicago, IL, 60602-2504. NCA may be reached by phone at 800-621-7440 or by e-mail: www.ncacihe.org. In addition, the Teacher Education unit at Doane College is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), 2010 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Suite 500, Washington, DC, 20036; 202/466-7496. This accreditation covers initial teacher preparation programs and advanced educator preparation programs. Doane is also accredited by the Nebraska Department of Education,

301 Centennial Mall South, P.O. Box 94987, Lincoln, NE, 68509-4987; 402/471-2295; the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs, 7007 College Blvd., Suite 420, Overland Park, KS, 66211; 913/339-9356; and by other standardizing agencies. Documentation of Accreditation may be viewed upon request in the Doane College President's Office.

Doane College Memberships

College Entrance Examination Board
Council for the Advancement and Support of Education
Council of Independent Colleges
American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education
Association of Nebraska Interterm Colleges
Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Nebraska
National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities
National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics
Great Plains Athletic Conference
Nebraska Association of Colleges and Universities
Nebraska Independent College Foundation
Nebraska Independent College Library Consortium

Assessment Statement

Doane values the participation of undergraduate and graduate students in its institution-wide program to assess student achievement. This program is part of the institution's responsibility to monitor student outcomes and assure the continuing quality of a Doane degree. Multiple strategies are used to gather information about student achievement throughout the college experience. Information collected as a part of the assessment program is used for assessment purposes only and is not used to evaluate individual performance. The college protects the confidentiality of data collected.