FACULTY VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Assistant/Associate Professor of Early Childhood Education

Department: Education  
Position: Full-time 10-month tenure-track  
Union Affiliation: MEA-MFT  
Starting Date: August 2016

Description

The successful candidate will teach undergraduate courses in early childhood education, positive discipline, and child development for the Early Childhood Education Program. The successful candidate will work collaboratively with university faculty and staff, as well as field teachers from rural and urban preK-3 schools. Faculty responsibilities include teaching, advising, scholarly activities, and professional service. Education programs at Montana Western support the constructivist-learning model, with an emphasis on experiential education and application of research into practice. Immersion scheduling, where students take one course at a time for 3.5 weeks, has been implemented campus-wide since fall 2005. One of only a few such models in the nation, Experience One, as this model is referred to at Montana Western, is designed to provide students with greater success within a focused experiential learning framework. Montana Western’s Early Childhood Program is the largest early childhood program in the state of Montana, providing services to 8 satellite sites, and 200 students. Instruction within the Early Childhood Program is delivered face-to-face and online.

Qualifications

The successful candidate will hold an earned doctorate in early childhood education or related area and will have a minimum of three years’ experience teaching in an early childhood setting. The successful candidate will also provide evidence of a history of service and use of experiential and constructivist teaching methods. Evidence of, or potential for, scholarly work is also required. Preferred competencies include previous successful teaching in higher education as evidenced by student evaluations and experience in distance education delivery. Strong ABD may be considered.

The University of Montana Western, located in Dillon, MT, is an innovative small institution nestled in a scenic valley in the Rocky Mountains of southwestern Montana. The campus enrolls approximately 1300 students and has 50 full-time faculty members. Dillon, a community of 5,000, is known for safe environments, recreational opportunities, and an excellent standard of living. In the U.S. News & World Report 2011 Best Colleges rankings, the University of Montana Western ranked fifth overall for Top Public Regional Colleges in the West, and 10th in the west for regional colleges in the Great Schools, Great Prices category. In 2015, Montana Western’s online early childhood education degree was ranked among the best by OnlineUniversities.com.
Application

Send a letter of application responding to the job description, a curriculum vita, transcripts, evaluations of teaching, and names, addresses and telephone numbers of at least three (3) current professional references. Application materials should be sent via email to:

dawn.zimdars@umwestern.edu
(406) 683-7176

For further information, contact Dr. Jen Gilliard, jen.gilliard@umwestern.edu or (406) 683-7177.

Initial screening begins March 1st and will continue until the position is filled.

The University & Dillon Area

The University of Montana Western, located in Dillon, Mont., is an innovative institution nestled in a scenic valley in the Rocky Mountains of south western Montana. The campus Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) for student enrollment is approximately 1,289. Montana Western has over 60 FTE faculty members, features small cases for all students and has been recognized for excellence by U.S. News and World Report. Montana Western’s small size and focus on education innovation have earned it the reputation of being a place where faculty and staff chose to collegially and creatively make a difference in the education of students. Montana Western is the first and only public four-year college in the nation to use block scheduling in which students take a single class at a time. This immersion learning program facilitates increased opportunities for experiential types of learning.

The mission of the University of Montana Western is to provide innovative interdisciplinary education through experiential learning that combines theory and practice. Montana Western services citizens of all ages with its academic, community service, and lifelong-learning programs. As part of the global community, Montana Western encourages diversity, international awareness, environmental responsibility, and mastery of technology as a gateway to the world.

Dillon, a community of 5,000 people, is known for outstanding public schools, safe environments, recreational opportunities and an excellent quality of life.

*The University of Montana Western is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer and encourages applications from qualified women, minorities, veterans and people with disabilities. Qualified candidates may request veterans, or disabilities preference in accordance with state law. Reasonable accommodations are provided in the hiring process for persons with disabilities. Finalists for this position will be subject to a criminal background investigation.*