ACADEMIC ALERT #2002-14

DATE: August, 2002

DECISION: National College of Education:

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) Program (For first-time teaching certificates). Replaces the MAT Learning Disabilities/Behavior Disorders (LD/BD) Program

Master of Education (M.Ed.) Learning Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) Program (For current teaching certificate holders). Replaces the M.Ed. Learning Disabilities/ Behavior Disorders (LD/BD) Program

New Non-Categorical Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Certification Guidelines

ISBE has required universities to have non-categorical special education teacher preparation programs in place by August 2002. The M.A.T. and M.Ed. programs leading to the new Learning Behavior Specialist I certification will replace the M.A.T. and M.Ed. in Learning Disabilities, Behavior Disorders and Learning Disabilities/Behavior Disorders.

Phase Out of Old LD/BD Certification Program

Through spring 2003, the Special Education Program will continue to offer courses from the previous Learning Disability/Behavior Disorder program for students who have already begun their coursework in that program.

MAT and M.Ed. LBS I Programs Effective September 2002

Those students who have a bachelor's degree and no teacher certificate enroll in the M.A.T. LBS I Program. Those students who have a bachelor's degree, hold a teaching certificate and want a special education teaching certificate enroll in the M.Ed. LBS I Program.

The Learning and Behavior Specialist I (LBS I) is defined as a teacher of children and youth with one or more of the following documented disabilities as specified in IDEA: Specific Learning Disabilities, Emotional Disturbance, Mental Retardation, Autism, Traumatic Brain Injury, Orthopedic or Other Health Impairment (34 CFR, Section 300.7). An individual pursuing LBS I must meet the standards of an approved program.

Courses Retained and Revised:

SPE 500 Children & Adolescents with Exceptional Needs 3 sh

SPE 501 Educational and Diagnostic Assessment of Exceptional Children & Adolescents 3 sh

SPE 502 Language Development & Disorders 3sh

SPE 503 Collaborative & Consultative Teaming and Teaching 3sh

SPE 523 Diagnosis & Remediation of Mathematics Disabilities/ Special Education 3sh

SPE 572 Practicum I / Special Education 2 sh (taken by M.A.T. and not M.Ed. students)

ELE 581 Practicum II / General Education 2 sh (taken by M.A.T. and not M.Ed. students)

SPE 592 Student Teaching (M.A.T take 5 SH; M.Ed. take 3 SH)

SPE 593 Seminar 3 sh

New Courses for LBS I:

SPE 526 Best Practices in Word Finding 2 sh

SPE 545 Technology/Special Education 2 sh

SPE 506 Frameworks & Perspectives in Special Education 3sh

SPE 508 Critical Literacy

SPE 509 Clinical Literacy

SPE 507 Socio-Emotional: Development, Teaching & Support

SPE 527 Individualized Curriculum & Instruction

M.A.T. and M.Ed. Core:

- EPS 500 Human Development 2sh
  (M.A.T take version B; M.Ed. take version A, B, C or D in accordance with their advisor)
- ESR 506 Graduate Research: Interpretive/Critical 2sh
- ESR 507 Graduate Research: Empirical Qualitative 2sh
- FND 504 History and Philosophy of Education 2sh
- FND 505 Perspectives in Contemporary Issues in Education 2sh

Master's Core and SPE 500
SPE500 Children & Adolescents with Exceptional Needs 3 sh will be eliminated only after the new master's core is established, and special education standards are embedded in the core. The issue is being addressed by faculty called the Core Committee. Until decisions are made regarding revisions the current core applies.

Courses Eliminated for the LBS I Only
These courses are not eliminated from the catalogue and will still be offered for those certified teachers seeking a 4 course approval or endorsement in LD or BD. It is not known for how long these courses will remain active and depends on what ISBE will decide in terms of 4 course approvals. Currently teachers can teach on a 4 course approval for 3 years before being required to obtain full certification.

Eliminated Now for LBS I

- SPE505 Methods of Teaching Reading to Learners with Special Needs
- SPE520 Characteristics of Children & Adolescents Challenged with Learning Disabilities
- SPE530 Characteristics of Children & Adolescents Challenged with Behavior Disorders
- SPE521 Methods of Teaching Children & Adolescents Challenged with Learning Disabilities
- SPE531 Methods of Teaching Children & Adolescents Challenged with Behavior Disorders

New Prerequisites for MAT Students
RLR 500 Survey of Reading Methods and Materials K-12

Offering of Classes
The majority of classes in the Special Education program are offered at National-Louis University's Evanston, Wheaton, and Wheeling campuses, with some courses offered at the Chicago and Elgin campuses.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Fall, 2002

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