



ACADEMIC ALERT #2008-19

DATE: November 2008
DECISION: National College of Education (NCE)

**Addition of Alternative Certification (AC) for Special Education (LBSI)
A delivery model option in the M.A.T. Special Education program**

Rationale

The addition of Alternative Certification (AC) Special Education (LBSI), as a delivery model option in the M.A.T. Special Education program will help in keeping one of NCE's most important partners: Chicago Public Schools. Chicago Public Schools have asked NCE to develop this Alternative Certification Program for LBSI, because their real need is in staffing classrooms with Special Education teachers. This program will allow candidates to become the teacher of record in special education classrooms with a Provisional Alternative Certificate.

This program clearly fits the mission of the college and university as it serves the underserved and addresses urban education. An Alternative Certification Program can only be offered in partnership per the Illinois School Code on Alternative Certification programs. Once approved by NLU, the program is submitted for approval by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). If approved by ISBE, NLU's program will be the only Alternative Certification Special Education program in Chicago.

Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: October 16, 2008

Faculty Senate and Provost Approvals: Not Required

Program Authorizations: The M.A.T. in Special Education program (LBSI) is authorized to be offered in the following Illinois Regions: Chicago, North Suburban, West Suburban, South Metropolitan, Fox Valley, Central, Prairie, and Western. The M.A.T. in Special Education Program is also authorized to be offered at NLU campuses in Wisconsin.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Effective Summer, 2009; Pending ISBE Approval

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SIGNATURE

Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

Admission Requirements for Alternative Certification (AC) for M.A.T. Special Education (LBSI)

Admission requirements are the same as the M.A.T. in Special Education with the exception that the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), and written statement are waived. Students must also take and pass the content test in LBSI.

Alternative Certification (AC) for M.A.T. Special Education (LBSI)

Course Code	Course Title	SH
	Term One	
SPE 500	Introduction to Exceptional Children and Adolescents/Special Education	3
SPE 507	Social/Emotional Development, Teaching, and Support	3
	Term Two	
SPE 509	Clinical Literacy	3
SPE 501	Educational and Diagnostic Assessment of Exceptional Children and Adolescents	3
SPE 592C	Practicum/Teaching Children and Adolescents with Special Needs	2
	Term Three	
SPE 523	Diagnosis & Remediation of Mathematics Disabilities/Special Education	3
SPE 592C	Practicum/Teaching Children and Adolescents with Special Needs	2
	Term Four	
SPE 527	Individualized Curriculum and Instruction	3
SPE 592C	Practicum/Teaching Children and Adolescents with Special Needs	2
	Term Five	
SPE 502	Language Development and Challenges in Children & Adolescents	2
SPE 508	Critical Literacy for Students with Disabilities	3
	Total Hours for Certification	29
	Students may choose to finish the M.A.T. degree by taking the following required courses:	
SPE 503	Collaborative and Consultative Teaming and Teaching	3
SPE 506	Frameworks and Perspectives in Special Education	3
SPE 545	Assistive Technology (Technology for Special Education)	2
EPS 511	Human Learning & Development in Instructional Contexts	3
ESR 514	Research in Action: Becoming Practitioner Researchers	3
FND 510	Social Justice Perspectives on the History and Philosophy of United States (USA) Education	3
	Total Additional Hours for Degree	17
	Total Hours for Degree	46

Implementation

A proposal for the addition of Alternative Certification (AC) Special Education (LBSI), as a delivery model option in the M.A.T. Special Education program needs to be submitted by special education faculty and NCE Associate Dean to ISBE as soon as possible. Once NLU receives approval from ISBE then the following can be implemented:

- All changes need to be entered in Banner and CAPP.
- Marketing materials need to be developed for the M.A.T. LBSI AC and added to NLU’s website.
- The new catalog copy will be written and submitted to the Vice Provost and Assistant Registrar for Schedules and Catalogs to ensure that catalog copy is prepared and ready for the next catalog 2009-2010.

Vice Provost Carol R. Melnick will email the OAR and other pertinent stakeholders when ISBE grants its approval so the remaining implementation pieces can go into effect.