ACADEMIC ALERT #2009-04

DATE: **February, 2009**
DECISION: **National College of Education (NCE)**

Revised Literacy Courses for:
Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) Elementary Education Traditional Programs

Rationale: Best practice in literacy education dictates that reading and language arts are taught together as holistic processes so that the interdependence of reading, writing, listening and speaking is honored. The new reading and language arts courses, RLL538 Literacy Methods I: K-4 and RLL539 Literacy Methods II: Grades 5-9, make a distinction between primary reading and language arts and upper elementary and middle grades reading and language arts and replace RLR500 Survey of Reading Methods and Materials K-12 and RLL480 B Methods for Teaching Language Arts. This will better align National-Louis University pre-service courses with national standards for the teaching of literacy education. Instead of distinguishing between reading and language arts, the two courses will make a more natural distinction, that between younger and older learners. In this new packaging, pre-service M.A.T. elementary education students will always take RLL538 Literacy Methods I: K-4 before taking RLL539 Literacy Methods II: Grades 5-9, thus eliminating the knowledge gaps that existed for some students previously.

Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: February 19, 2009

Current Program Authorizations: The M.A T. in Elementary Education Program 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 Elementary Education Program is also authorized to be offered at NLU campuses in Wisconsin.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Effective Fall Term 2008

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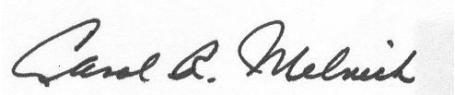
SIGNATURE



Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

New Courses
RLL 538 Literacy Methods I: K-4; 2SH
RLL 539 Literacy Methods II: Grades 5-9; 2SH

Deleted Courses
RLL 500 Survey of Reading Methods and Materials K-12; 2SH
RLR 480 B Methods for Teaching Language Arts; 2SH

Revised Program
RLL538 Literacy Methods I: K-4 and RLL539 Literacy Methods II: Grades 5-9 replace
RLR 500 Survey of Reading Methods and Materials K-12 and RLL 480 B Methods for Teaching Language Arts

Teach-Out
RLR500 and RLL480B will be offered through the end of summer term 2009; the last students take these courses summer 2009.

Stopped-out Students
Referred to an academic advisor; after summer term only RLL 538 and RLL 539 will be available.

Implementation
In order for RLR500 and RLL 480 B to be deleted from the catalog, the UCOs need to go through the governance process in order to inactivate them.

The revisions need to be entered into CAPP and Banner.

The revisions need to be incorporated in marketing materials and added to NLU's website. Marketing materials should also be checked to ensure that the language is consistent with the alert.

Elementary Education faculty, Office of Admissions and Records, and staff in Enrollment, Marketing, and Recruitment need to be knowledgeable about the RTP.

The revised 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.