ACADEMIC ALERT #2010-2

DATE: **February 2010**

DECISION: **National College of Education (NCE)**

Revised Graduate General Education Requirements for
M.A.T. Elementary Education
These General Education requirements are not to be confused with NLU's
Undergraduate General Education requirements

RATIONALE: Candidates entering the Master of Arts in Teaching (M.A.T.) program in Elementary Education (ELE) must have content backgrounds reflecting the curriculum content taught at the elementary level K-8. It is the belief of the program that teacher candidates must know and understand the content of the elementary classroom. Before beginning a guaranteed sequence of course study in the M.A.T. ELE program, graduate general education coursework is evaluated. Candidates are informed of evaluation findings and deficiencies in their content background are communicated. If additional coursework is needed, candidates are notified of the type of coursework that must be taken, prior to beginning a course sequence.

In 2009, the state of Illinois removed its requirement of graduate general education coursework for Master of Arts candidates in elementary education. The M.A.T. ELE faculty decided, however, to keep its content-based general education coursework requirements intact. However, a few changes were requested to better fit the needs of the elementary education candidate as well as the M.A.T. ELE program. These changes reflect the knowledge-based needs of elementary teachers and teacher certification, in general.

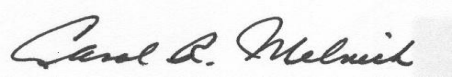
APPROVAL: Senate Academic Planning Committee February 18, 2010

Current Program Authorizations: The M.A.T. Elementary Education (ELE) program is authorized to be offered in the four home campus regions of Chicago; North Suburban; West Suburban; South Metropolitan; and in the following Illinois Regions: Fox Valley; Central; Prairie and Western.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Spring Term, 2010

CONTACTS: Sherri Bressman, Faculty, NCE; (847)947-5694; SBressman@nl.edu

SIGNATURE:



Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

Current Requirements in Italics/**Revised Requirements in Bold:**

Content Areas with Required Semester Hours

- *Literature (2 SH)* **same**
- *Arts (2 SH)* **same**
- *Math (6SH)* **same**
- *Biological/Physical Science (2 SH)* **same**
- *Global/Multicultural Studies (2 SH*) **same**
- *Communication (2 SH)* **oral or written 2sh**
- *History (2 SH)* **history/political science 2sh**
- *Social Science (2 SH*) **eliminate**

18 SH ADDITIONAL STUDY in ONE of the State approved disciplines. 9 SH upper level hours required. **18 SH – Both Upper and lower level hours accepted**

Catalog Copy

- Literature (2SH)
- Arts (2SH)
- Math (6SH)
- Biological/Physical Science (2SH)
- Global/Multicultural Studies (2SH)
- Oral or Written Communication (2SH)
- History or political science (2SH)

18 SH ADDITIONAL STUDY in ONE of the State approved disciplines. Both upper and lower level hours accepted.

Implementation

Changes need to be entered in the appropriate NLU web pages.

The Office of Admission and Records (OAR), and staff in Enrollment, Recruitment, and Marketing need to be knowledgeable about the changes.

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, 2010-2011.