ACADEMIC ALERT #2010-10

DATE: **June 2010**

DECISION: **College of Arts and Sciences (CAS)**

Revised Admission Criteria for M.A. Psychology (MAP)
The Criterion Writing Assessment is approved as a requirement for admission into the MAP program.
The Watson-Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal is eliminated as a requirement for admission into the MAP program.

Rationale: Strong academic writing skills seem to be an indicator of graduate-level academic success. The Watson- Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal has not been predictive of success in the MAP program. Faculty feel that the Criterion Writing Assessment will be a better evaluation tool in differentiating students who will be able to meet the demands of this graduate program.

APPROVAL(S): Senate Academic Planning Committee: June 17, 2010

Program Authorizations: The M.A. Psychology (MAP) program is authorized by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to be offered in NLU's four home campus Illinois Regions: Chicago; North Suburban; South Metropolitan and West Suburban. In addition the MAP is authorized to be offered in this Illinois region: Fox Valley.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Summer Term 2010
For students applying for the first time on or after July 1, 2010

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SIGNATURE

Carol R. Melnick, Ph.D.
Vice Provost

Admission Criteria

The Criterion Writing Assessment replaces the Watson-Glaser Critical Thinking Appraisal requirement for admission into the MAP program. The Criterion Writing Assessment is one of several admission criteria required for admission into graduate programs in the College of Arts and Sciences. Those admission requirements remain.

- Applicants must achieve a score of 3.5 or greater on the Criterion Writing Assessment in order to be eligible for admission into MAP.
- Applicants who achieve a score in the 2.0 to 3.0 range on the Criterion Writing Assessment may be admitted with a four-course review.
- Applicants who achieve a score less than 2.0 on the Criterion Writing Assessment are automatically denied admission into MAP.

Implementation:
Changes need to be entered in Banner, CAPP and/or NLU web pages as appropriate.

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, 2011-2012.