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**National Louis University
National College of Education**

Early Childhood Education

ECE BA

Program Handbook

2016-2017

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Welcome to NLU

The National College of Education faculty of National Louis University welcomes you to our Early Childhood Education Program. The purpose of this Early Childhood Education Program Handbook is to acquaint you with the university courses, policies, procedures, and leading to the Professional Educator License (PEL) with an Early Childhood Endorsement the State of Illinois.

Please remember that although you will be working closely with an advisor in the National College of Education, you must apply for admission to the National College of Education separately from your admission to National Louis University. It is recommended that you discuss this timeline with your advisor at your first advising session.

The faculty of National College of Education is committed to providing a rich set of experiences that will assist you in becoming a successful practitioner in the early care and education field. We expect you to use this Handbook in conjunction with information from the university faculty, the Undergraduate Catalog, and the Student Guidebook and Calendar to guide your study and to make your journey through National Louis University and National College of Education of the highest quality.

The President and the officers of National Louis University reserve the right to change the requirements for admission or graduation, the arrangement, schedule, credit, or content of courses, the books used, fees charged, regulations affecting students, and to refuse to admit or readmit, or to dismiss any student any time should it be deemed to be required in the interest of the student or the university to do so.

National Louis University admits students to all programs and activities and administers all educational, employment, and other policies without discrimination because of race, color, sex, religion, handicap, and national or ethnic origin.

NATIONAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Dr. Robert Muller, Dean
Dr. Arlene Borthwick, Assistant Dean
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NATIONAL COLLEGE OF EDUCATION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

A Progressive Community Advocating for All Learners

National College of Education is a professional progressive community collaborating with students, teachers, administrators, school professionals, and others advocating for all learners. Building on the progressive tradition of John Dewey and our founder Elizabeth Harrison, the National College of Education continues its historical commitment to student-centered education. Our programs, research-based and reflective of best practices, fuse theory and practice and engage students in critical reflection and inquiry. The professional community of NCE continues to be a leader of progressive and innovative education in Chicago and the nation.

Building on the theme of advocating for all learners, all of our NCE programs place students - both P-12 students and our own NCE students - at the center of the educational process. Students actively construct meaning individually, cooperatively, and collaboratively by integrating knowledge and experience within a community of learners.

The NCE professional community recognizes that the learner and the process of schooling are situated in social, historical, political, and cultural contexts. We value diversity and cultural differences among children, families, and communities and continue our long and distinguished tradition of promoting social justice and developing democratic communities.

Reflection and inquiry provide an informed and integrated basis for advocating for all learners. As such, our NCE students will further develop the dispositions, knowledge, and skills to:

- Understand the contextual nature of learning
- Help students construct their own knowledge
- Integrate theory and practice
- Reflect on and critique their knowledge, practice, school, and society
- Engage in inquiry
- Collaborate with students, teachers, administrators, parents, and the community at large

NCE Conceptual Framework, November, 2003.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

The Early Childhood Education program is designed for those interested in teaching children in a pre-kindergarten environment through age eight. Successful completion of the program enables students in Illinois to apply for a Professional Educator License, endorsed for early childhood and self-contained general education (age 0 to grade 3).

NLU's Early Childhood Education Bachelor's degree prepares students who:

- Want to help shape young children's views of themselves and the world and positively affect their educational futures
- Want to learn in a highly regarded program with an innovative approach to teacher education
- Wish to gain valuable classroom experience in a pre-school or primary school setting to enable you to enter the classroom ready to support the growth and development of all your students
- Seek a program that provides you with a PEL (birth to 3rd grade) and an ELL endorsement upon completion

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR THE EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, B.A.

The Early Childhood Education program is designed for those interested in teaching children in a pre-kindergarten environment through age eight. Successful completion of the program enables students in Illinois to apply for a Professional Educator License, endorsed for early childhood and self-contained general education (age 0 to grade 3).

Special Admissions Requirements:

Admission to the Early Childhood Education program is a two-step process. Students must first be admitted to National Louis University.

Applicants to the Early Childhood Education program must:

- Pass the Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP) or ISBE approved alternative
- Have completed all General Education courses except GEN 103, the Undergraduate Core and all Foundational courses
- Have a GPA of 2.5 or better on all previous coursework, with a grade of "C" or better in all courses
- Have completed 70 pre-clinical observation hours

Program Details:

- Requires 180 QH, including 61 QH of General Education, for completion
- 60 QH of coursework must be completed at NLU
- Credit by examination is accepted for general education and elective credit
- The Professional Education Sequence and ELL courses must be taken at NLU
- A minimum grade of "C" or better in all courses in the program is required
- A minimum GPA of 2.5 is required

- Students must be admitted to NCE before taking the Professional Sequence and ELL Endorsement Courses
- Requires student teaching
- Requires practicum
- Requires observation hours
- Requires the following courses to be completed within 6 years of degree completion: ECE 345, RLL 330, ECE 337, ECE 351, ECE 350, ECE 324, RLL 478, MHE 480A, CIS 480A, SCE 480A, ECE 451, ECE 450, and ECE 470

ECE REQUIRED COURSES

Course # and prefix	Course Name	Quarter Hrs.
GEN 103	Student Success Seminar	5
	COMMUNICATIONS	15
LAE 101	English Composition I	5
LAE 102	English Composition II	5
LAE 202	Effective Speaking	5
	HUMANITIES	5
RLL 220	Children's Literature and the Literacy Learning Environment <i>* Note: Students transferring credit from other institutions or applying coursework previously completed at NLU may only use a course in Children's Literature substantially equivalent to the National Louis University's course.</i>	5
	FINE ARTS <i>* Note: Students transferring coursework from other institutions or applying coursework previously completed at NLU may use other coursework in Introductory Art, Music, or Theater including any Fine Arts History or Appreciation. Studio Arts and Performance courses cannot be used to fulfill this requirement</i>	5
LAA 101	Art Appreciation I	2
LAA 102	Art Appreciation II	3
	QUANTITATIVE REASONING	10
LAM 112	Math Content for Teachers I	5
LAM 213	Math Content for Teachers II	5
	PHYSICAL AND LIFE SCIENCES <i>* one course must have a lab.</i> <i>* LAN 110 Note: Students transferring coursework from other institutions or applying coursework previously completed at NLU may use other coursework in Life Science in lieu of LAN 110.</i> <i>* LAN 150 Note: Students transferring coursework from other institutions or applying coursework previously completed at NLU may use other coursework in General Chemistry, Chemistry and Society, General Physics, Physics and Society, or Earth Science (which covers at least four areas of physical science) in lieu of LAN 150.</i>	5
LAN 110	General Biology	5
LAN 150	Survey of Physical Science	5

	SOCIAL SCIENCES <i>* Note: Students transferring coursework from other institutions or applying coursework previously completed at NLU may use other coursework in Politics or Government and coursework in U.S. History.</i>	10
LAS 118	Introduction to Politics and U.S. Government <i>and</i>	5
LAS 203	Survey of U.S. History	5
	BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE	5
LAP 100	General Psychology	5

UNDERGRADUATE CORE - 16 QH

ECE 210	History and Philosophy of Education	3
EPS 300	Educational Psychology: Theory in Classroom Practice	5
SPE 300	Introduction to Special Education and Methods of Teaching Students with Disabilities	5
TIE 300	Introduction to Technology in the Classroom	3

FOUNDATIONAL COURSEWORK - 12 QH

ECE 205	Observation and Assessment: Infants, Toddlers, and Two Year Olds	4
ECE 215	Speech and Language Development	3
ECE 220	Child, Family, and Community	5

PROFESSIONAL SEQUENCE - 55 QH

CIS 480A	Methods of Teaching Social Studies	3
ECE 324	Integrated Preprimary Methodology in Early Childhood Education	5
ECE 337	Ethics and Professionalism in Early Childhood Education	5
ECE 345	Curriculum, Differentiation, and Assessment	5
ECE 350	Early Childhood Education: Pre-Primary Practicum Field Experience	2
ECE 351	Early Childhood Education: Pre-Primary Practicum Seminar	3
ECE 450	Early Childhood Education Primary Practicum Field Experience	2
ECE 451	Early Childhood Education Primary Practicum Seminar	3
ECE 470	Early Childhood Education: Student Teaching	12-14
MHE 480A	Methods of Teaching Mathematics	4
RLL 330	Foundations of Emergent Literacy	5
RLL 478	Literacy Methods I	3
SCE 480A	Methods of Teaching Science	3

** Note: Application to participate in ECE 470 must be made two quarters prior to the quarter of the student teaching experience. ECE 470 must be taken for 12 QH.*

ELL ENDORSEMENT COURSES - 30 QH

CIL 300	Foundations of ESL and Bilingual Education	5
CIL 305	Methods and Materials for Teaching English as a Second Language	5
CIL 306	Methods and Materials for Teaching Bilingual Education	5
CIL 310	Assessment of ESL and Bilingual Education Students	5
CIL 312	Reading in a New Language: Linguistic Considerations	5

CIL 331	Cross Cultural Education	5
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* Note: 100 pre-clinical hours are required in ELL

ELECTIVES - 2 QH

Choose elective courses to meet the minimum degree requirement of 180QH

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

PROGRAM DETAILS

Candidates must:

- Be accepted into the National College of Education
- File, by the designated deadline, the application form for student teaching
- Submit to their advisor a report of a TB test taken within 90 days of the student teaching placement, results of criminal background check and acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter status form
- Turn in a signed log of all the pre-clinical hours specified in their pre-clinical hours required for the program
- Pass the Early Childhood Content Test (107) before student teaching
- Complete all of their licensure courses except for ECE 470 (Student Teaching)
- Pass all methods courses at National Louis University with a grade no lower than a B
- Participate in faculty assessment and receive approval of his or her portfolio (Livetext)
- Provide evidence of emotional stability, adequate personality adjustment and competency as indicated by licensure coursework and departmental assessments

For more information about this program,

visit <http://www.nl.edu/academics/educationbachelors/baearlychildhoodeducation/>

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- **Complete an application:** Apply online at www.nl.edu/applyonline
- **Transcripts:** Submit official transcripts sealed in original envelopes from ALL undergraduate and graduate institutions, including community colleges. Foreign transcripts must first receive a course-by-course evaluation by one of the approved agencies listed at www.nl.edu/oar/admissions/foreign-credential.cfm. Electronic transcript notifications must be sent directly from the issuing institution to admissions@nl.edu in order to be considered official.

Note: Please have all your transcripts sent directly to the Office of Admissions.

Important: Do not wait for your test scores to submit your application.

Please send all documents to:

National Louis University
Office of Admissions
1000 Capitol Drive
Wheeling, IL 60090

- **Test of Academic Proficiency #400***. Register online at www.il.nesinc.com. Workshops at: <http://www.nl.edu/t4/student-services/learningsupport/tapresources/tapworkshops/> Self-study guide at <http://libguides.nl.edu/TAP>

(If the SAT or ACT has been taken within ten years from the time of admission, please visit <http://nl.smartcatalogiq.com/Current/Undergraduate-and-Graduate-Catalog/National-College-of-Education/Test-of-Academic-Proficiency-TAP> for information on using the score in place of the TAP.)

- **English Language Proficiency exams**
For applicants whose native language is other than English and whose previous education is outside the United States. Approved tests at: <http://www.nl.edu/t4/admissions/oar/englishlanguageproficiency/>
- For full admission to the University, applicants must have a **minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 hours** of coursework. However, applicants with a 2.5 GPA will be considered for a provisional admission. Please refer to the NLU Catalog for policies related to raising your GPA.

FINANCIAL AID INFORMATION

To apply for financial aid go to the FAFSA website at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/>. Our school code is **001733**.

Financial Resources

<http://www.nl.edu/financialaid/officeofstudentfinance/>

STUDENT INFORMATION ABOUT LIVETEXT

All students are required to purchase a LiveText portfolio as part of their program requirements.

Student Support for Using Livetext

1. Check NLU's LiveText website at <http://www.nl.edu/portfolios> for *Basic Steps for Beginners*.
2. While logged into your LiveText account, a Help button appears in the upper right of the screen. Click that "help" button. On the next webpage, click on the most recent "User Guide". This will bring you to 60 pages of LiveText help.

Help By Phone/Email:

1. Contact the NLU LiveText Support Team:

(312) 261-3343, or send an email to livetext@nl.edu. This is an NLU internal department. NLU Operators are available Sunday-Thursday 6pm-8pm. At other times, leave a message to be called back within 24 hours.

2. Contact LiveText directly:

(866) L-I-V-E-T-E-X-T, (866) 548-3839

(Or send an email to Support@livetext.com) They answer calls from LiveText users worldwide.

Note: For students with little or no computer experience, contact The Learning Commons about computer classes.

APPLYING FOR LICENSURE and the edTPA

Illinois Teaching License

Upon completion of all requirements in NCE/NLU's Early Childhood Education teacher education program, candidates are eligible to receive their Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood. They are also "entitled" to an Illinois Teaching License with and endorsement in Early Childhood if they (1) meet all program requirements, (2) meet all bachelor degree requirements, (3) pass all Illinois State Certification tests for their program [Test of Academic Proficiency (TAP), (ACT). or (SAT). Early Childhood Education Content-Area Test 110, edTPA and (4) follow the procedures for applying for an Illinois State Teaching License with an endorsement in Early Childhood Education.

Illinois State Teacher Licensure Examinations and edTPA Performance Assessment

The Illinois State Licensure Tests are administered on-line. Candidates need to register to take the test in a timely manner. The edTPA performance assessment will be completed and submitted during the student teaching field experience. Information to register for the licensure test can be found on the Illinois State Board of Education web site <http://www.isbe.net>. Questions regarding licensure tests can be found at <http://www.icts.nesinc.com>. Information to register and submit the edTPA portfolio will be on the NLU website under the heading NLU/edTPA/

Application for a Teaching License

Candidates should complete the application on-line on the NLU website under licensure. For a teaching license for the state of Illinois during the Student Teaching Seminar (No check or money order is to accompany the application at this time). This enables the Licensure Office to send to the State of Illinois Licensure Office a list of candidates who may be eligible to apply for a teaching License.

Candidates will need to obtain official transcripts from all institutions of higher education, colleges and universities upon completion of NLU. We recommend that candidates obtain two or more copies of all official transcripts as local school districts also require official transcripts upon employment.

After graduation, a representative from the NLU Licensure Office will sign and emboss with the university seal the candidate's Application for a Teaching license and return it to the candidate with instructions for obtaining the teaching license. Candidates will need to submit the appropriate fees and official transcripts with their applications at the time of submission. Candidates will receive complete instructions when they receive their signed and sealed transcript from the Registrar.

Did You Know?

- National Louis University was founded in elementary and early childhood education in 1886 by Elizabeth Harrison.
- National College of Education became one of the first teachers' colleges in the country to offer a four-year program for a bachelor of education degree.
- National Louis University is NCATE accredited and only 1/3 of all teacher education institutions in the United States are NCATE accredited.
- National Louis University was a charter member of NCATE beginning in 1954 and has maintained NCATE accreditation ever since.
- National College of Education is one of the largest colleges of education in the country.
- National College of Education laid the foundation for the Parent-Teacher Association in the late 1880s.
- National College of Education played an integral role in launching the national Head Start program in the 1960s.
- National College of Education partners with the Chicago Public Schools in the Best Practice Network, a group of 14 public elementary schools.

National Louis University – Pride in Education

- Teaching teachers for more than 125 years.
- Talented and dedicated faculty with experience in teaching and school leadership.
- Ranked among the top ten universities in the United States for awarding advanced degrees in education.