College of Liberal Arts & Sciences
ILAS 201: EARLY CLINICAL EXPERIENCE
Application Guidelines, page 1 of 2

Please read and follow the directions carefully.

1. Your ILAS application is a representation of you as a professional. To make that image a positive one, compose your personal statement carefully.
2. Ask someone you trust to proofread your application before you make copies.
3. When you are satisfied, submit the required number (5) copies to Faraday 323, Office of Secondary Science Education Certification, by the deadline. Be sure to make an extra copy for your own files.

Coordinator for Secondary Science Education Certification: Judy Boisen, jboisen@niu.edu
Coordinator Science Teacher Certification
Faraday 323, 815-753-6819
http://www.niu.edu/sstc/

TURN IN APPLICATIONS TO: Judy Boisen, Faraday 323
FALL PLACEMENT APPLICATION DEADLINE: May 15th

ELIGIBILITY
• See GPA requirements for each science discipline in the program requirements documents.

COMPLETE A CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK
• NIU requires all teacher certification students who will be placed in a school for a clinical experience to complete a criminal background check through Teacher Certification Office.
• For instructions on applying for a CBC, and to access the application online go to:
  http://www.teachercertification.niu.edu/teachercertification/teachercert/tcp_cbc.shtml
• College of Liberal Arts & Sciences (CLAS) will not place you until the CBC is completed

CURRENT TB TEST
• NIU-CLAS Teacher Certification Programs require proof of freedom from TB before a candidate is allowed to participate in a clinical.
• CLAS will not place you until proof of negative TB test has been submitted

TYPE THE ILAS APPLICATION, INCLUDING YOUR PERSONAL STATEMENT
Applications are available at: http://www.niu.edu/tcert/images/201app.pdf

PERMITS/PERMISSION TO REGISTER
• One week before registration for the semester begins you will be able to pick up your PERMISSION TO REGISTER FORM in Faraday 323, Office of Secondary Science Teacher Certification.
• You will need the permit number on the form to register for ILAS 201 through MyNIU.
• This permit form will indicate the time and location of the first class meeting. Please register for this class first.
Course Description:
ILAS 201 is a course that introduces students to the world of teaching; the course emphasizes breadth, not depth. Students will develop a basic understanding of the life of a public school teacher; therefore, students need to investigate several aspects of teaching, particularly the parameters of professionalism, the rigors of preparation, and the demands of performance. Six class meetings will address these issues. A 40-hour clinical observation component is the heart of this course; 20 hours are completed at the high school level, 20 hours at the middle school level.

Important Note:
The teacher certification programs in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences prepare students to become exceptional professionals. As a student in a teacher certification program at Northern Illinois University, you are a representative of the university in the schools. You are permitted in schools as prospective teachers because teachers and administrative staff of those schools have confidence in the quality of our programs. Students exhibiting unprofessional behavior in any clinical will be removed from the course.

You need to know the following before you register for the course:

1. The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Office of Teacher Certification is responsible for your school placements. You may have to travel an hour or more to your sites. Every effort will be made to avoid this situation, but there is no guarantee that your school placements will be close to your home. Please note: You do not make arrangements for your own placements, but you will need to provide your own transportation to the clinical sites.

2. Attendance is required at all class meetings. All six sessions are Mondays from 4-5:50 PM. You will be unable to register for other classes in this time slot.

3. Your school assignments will be distributed at the initial class meeting. You will receive the name, address, and telephone number of your assigned schools. All subsequent work for the semester will be explained at this time.

4. Your grade in ILAS 201 (S or U) is reported by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. It is assigned based on the evaluations of your course instructor and your cooperating teachers in the public schools, and on the quality of your written work. You will receive a grade of S only if you have satisfactorily met all the requirements for the clinical observations and seminars.