

**Northern Illinois University Transfer Guide**  
**College of Liberal Arts and Sciences**  
**(2011/2012 catalog)**

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
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*Transfer guides are produced as a service to MCC students. Every effort is made to maintain up-to-date and accurate information; however, this information is subject to change. Such changes take precedence over the information on this guide. Students should meet with an MCC advisor and communicate with the four-year transfer school. Responsibility for complying with all applicable requirements ultimately rests with the student.*

The College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS) offers programs leading to Bachelor of Science and/or Bachelor of Arts degrees in the following departments: Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Chemistry and Biochemistry, Communication, Computer Science, Economics, English, Foreign Languages and Literatures, Geography, Geology and Environmental Geosciences, History, Mathematical Sciences, Philosophy, Physics, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology. In addition, the College offers initial teacher certification programs. **Requirements vary widely among majors in the College. This guide is meant to be used along with the NIU catalog and the assistance of an MCC academic advisor.**

### Transfer Options

- **AA or AS Degree** - Transfer students who receive an AA or an AS degree from an Illinois public community college, have not previously attended NIU, are in good standing at the last college attended, and have a cumulative GPA of 2.00 or higher are guaranteed the following:
  - Minimum of 60 semester hours in transfer credit
  - Junior status
  - Lower division NIU General Education requirements satisfied (Additional course requirements may be needed for specific NIU majors.)
- **Illinois Articulation Initiative** - Transfer students who enter NIU as first time students with the IAI General Education Core Curriculum (IAI GECC) completed are considered to have completed NIU's general education requirements. Specific majors may require additional coursework.
- **For students who transfer prior to completing an AA or an AS degree or the IAI core:**
  - NIU credit can be transferred back to MCC for completion of the AA or the AS degree.
  - If only a portion of the IAI GECC is completed upon transfer, NIU will evaluate on a course by course basis to see how each course fits into NIU's General Education. The IAI GECC may not be completed at NIU.

### Application Procedure and Admission Criteria

- **Application Deadline** - Applications accepted Sept. 1 for following spring, summer and fall terms. Application Deadlines: Spring 2011 – December 1, 2010; Summer 2011 – May 15, 2011; Fall 2011 – August 1, 2011. **Apply early – earlier deadlines may be necessary due to space limitations and/or budget. Limited admission programs may have different deadlines.**
- **Admission Criteria** for applicants who have attempted the following semester hours of credit at time of application:
  - Up to and including 12 semester hours at time of application must meet freshman admission criteria
  - 13 – 23 semester hours of transferable credit at time of application: 2.0 GPA from all colleges attended (as computed by NIU standards); good standing at last college attended; satisfy NIU's competitive transfer GPA (see NIU's catalog – currently 2.5); meet freshman admission criteria
  - 24 – 59 semester hours of transferable credit: 2.0 GPA from all colleges attended (as computed by NIU standards); good standing at last college attended; satisfy NIU's competitive transfer GPA (see NIU's catalog – currently 2.5)
  - 60 + semester hours of transferable credit: 2.0 GPA from all colleges attended (as computed by NIU standards); good standing at last college attended
- **Admission to Major** - Students declare major of study on the university application. With the exception of Limited Admission Programs, students are placed into the major at the point of admission if admission requirements for that particular major are met.
- **Limited Admissions Programs** – Admission to the following programs in the College is based on specific course and GPA requirements. Transfer students who have met the requirements need not apply separately to the individual departments. After students are accepted into the University, the application is sent to the department for consideration.
  - **Communication Studies** – Minimum requirements are completion of at least 15 semester hours, minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA, ENG151, BA students: 4 years of same foreign language in high school with grades of C or higher or 4 semesters of same college level foreign language or equivalent **is a graduation requirement**; BS students: MAT171 or MAT170 or MAT175 or MAT245

Transfer students who have been admitted to the university but who have not completed the above requirements should seek departmental advisement at orientation or as soon as they arrive on campus. Such students must follow the deadlines listed above for currently enrolled students, but consideration will be given to their need for access to major courses prior to formal admission into the program.

- **Computer Science - Application deadlines for this major:** Spring – October 1; Summer – February 15; Fall – February 15. Minimum requirements are completion of at least 30 semester hours; minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA; ENG151 & 152; NIU's MATH206 (MCC has no equivalent) & 171 or MAT175 & 245; CIS117 & 211 or CSC121 & 122.

Once admitted to the major, a student must maintain at least a 2.00 GPA in computer science courses. Transfer students must seek departmental advisement at orientation or just prior to the beginning of their first semester on campus. If they have completed all declaration requirements prior to admission to the university, they will declare their major with the department during the third through the sixth weeks (second through fourth weeks of the summer term) of their first semester on campus. In all other cases, the department will advise students when to declare, and they will be given access to appropriate computer science courses prior to formal admission into the program.

- **Sociology** – Minimum requirements are at least 2.0 cumulative GPA, following courses with a grade of C or better: ENG151 & 152; SOC151; NIU's SOCI280 (MCC has no equivalent); BA students: MAT120 or 220 or STAT301 (MCC has no equivalent), 4 years of same foreign language in high school with grades of C or higher or 4 semesters of same college level foreign language or equivalent **is a graduation requirement**; BS students: MAT170 or MAT175 or NIU's MATH206 (MCC has no equivalent) or STAT301 (MCC has no equivalent).

#### **Additional Information:**

Students are strongly advised to study the NIU catalog and to consult with an MCC academic advisor for specific admission and course requirements within major.

- **Catalog Rule:** Students may choose the NIU catalog which was in effect when they became freshmen at their original school or any later NIU catalog, providing they were enrolled during the catalog year of their choice. The catalog year must not precede enrollment at NIU by more than three years. Students may elect to satisfy all graduation requirements from a single catalog or major and minor requirements from one and general education requirements from a second.
- **Transfer coursework with grade of D is not accepted.** Following are exceptions: (Please note: Regardless of exceptions, coursework will need to be repeated if required for major.)
  - Students who are granted an AA or an AS degree from MCC and are accepted to NIU will be admitted with junior standing and with general education requirements considered complete.
  - NIU will consider general education requirements complete for students who complete the IAI GECC package at MCC. (Credits from D grade coursework will not transfer. **Students may petition to have non-major D grades transfer.**)
- **GPA Calculation** – Repeated courses for which a grade of C or better was earned in the first attempt will not be calculated into the admission GPA or be accepted for transfer credit. If D or F courses are repeated, the second attempt only will be utilized in calculating the GPA. Certain majors require special admission grading policies.
- **Special Requirements** for most majors in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences:
  - **For a B.A. degree:** one foreign language met by either 4 years high school with no grade lower than a C or 2 years college.
  - **For a B.S. degree:** Your major may dictate which of the following sequences is required. Check the catalog and with an adviser in the major department to determine which sequence to complete.
    - MAT170, 171, Statistics (at NIU), and CSC121+122 or CIS117+211 or another computer class at NIU
    - MAT175, 245, and course/sequence chosen from MAT253 or CSC121+122 or CIS117+211 or another computer class at NIU
    - MAT170, 171, and one of the following laboratory sequences in other than your major department  
BIO157 and BIO255 or BIO263+264; or  
CHM165 and CHM166; or  
GEOL 101 + 103 or EAS170 and GEOL at NIU; or  
PHY 280 and 281 or PHY 291 and 292
    - MAT175 and one of the following laboratory sequences in other than your major department  
BIO157 and BIO255 or BIO263+264; or  
CHM165 and CHM166; or  
EAS120 and GEOL at NIU; or  
GEOL 101 + 103 or EAS170 and GEOL at NIU; or  
PHY280 and PHY281 or PHY291 and PHY292
    - MAT171 and Statistics at NIU (MAT301) and one of the following laboratory sequences in other than your department  
BIO157 and BIO255 or BIO263+264; or  
CHM165 and CHM166; or  
GEOL 101 + 103 or EAS170 and GEOL at NIU; or  
PHY 280 and 281 or PHY 291 and 292

Following are recommendations for each major within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Remember, it is only a guide and must be used along with the NIU catalog and assistance from an MCC academic advisor and NIU advising staff. **It is very important for you to work with an academic advisor to ensure coursework taken at MCC is appropriate for your intended major at NIU.**

2 + 2 Guides for Community College Students are available at: <http://www.niu.edu/clasadvising/2+2/index.shtml>

Course Equivalencies from MCC may be found in NIU's *Articulation Handbook*: <http://www.niu.edu/admissions/transfer/transfercenter/handbook/tables.shtml>

NIU Major	NIU Degree		Complete at MCC		Recommended MCC Courses	Notes
	BA	BS	AA or AS	IAI GECC or NIU general core		
Anthropology <a href="http://www.niu.edu/anthro">www.niu.edu/anthro</a>	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	ANT151 – general education social science ANT 260 (ANTH EL.) ANT155, 170	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> <li>• BS - Students with interest in physical anthropology should consider the BS degree and take biology. (From BS sequences listed on 2nd page of this guide, select sequence 3, 4, or 5.)</li> <li>• BA – Foreign language is required. If you have specific interests in particular regions of the world, it makes sense to take a language appropriate to that interest.</li> <li>• Minor required.</li> </ul>
Biology <a href="http://www.bios.niu.edu">www.bios.niu.edu</a>		x	In order to graduate in a timely manner from NIU, it may be in your best interest to complete prereqs in math, chemistry, and physics at MCC, along with either the IAI GECC or part of the NIU core.	IAI GECC <b>or</b> Complete part of NIU core at MCC (Use MCC's NIU general transfer guide to select courses that satisfy NIU core.)	ENG151, 152; SPE151; BIO157 & 158; MAT165 & 175 & 245 <b>or</b> MAT165 & 171 & NIU MATH301; CHM165 & 166; PHY280 & 281 <b>or</b> PHY291 & 292 For courses satisfying NIU humanities and social science requirements, refer to MCC's NIU general transfer guide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Math, chemistry, and physics courses are prerequisites for upper-level biology courses, so every effort should be made to complete them during the first 2 years of college.</li> <li>• With completion of <b>Recommended Courses</b>, special BS degree sequence requirements for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences are satisfied (sequence 4).</li> </ul>
Chemistry <a href="http://www.niu.edu/chembio">www.niu.edu/chembio</a>		x	In order to graduate in a timely manner from NIU, it may be in your best interest to complete prereqs in math, chemistry, and physics at MCC, along with either the IAI GECC or part of the NIU core.	IAI GECC <b>or</b> Complete part of NIU core at MCC (Use MCC's NIU general transfer guide to select courses that satisfy NIU core.)	ENG151, 152; SPE151; MAT165 & 175 & 245; CHM165 & 166; CHM265 & 266; PHY291 & 292 For courses satisfying NIU humanities and social science requirements, refer to MCC's NIU general transfer guide.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the physics sequence is not completed prior to transferring to NIU, completion of the degree within two years will be difficult.</li> <li>• With completion of <b>Recommended Courses</b>, special BS degree sequence requirements for College of Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences are satisfied (sequence 4).</li> </ul>
Communication Studies <a href="http://www.comm.niu.edu/comm/">www.comm.niu.edu/comm/</a>	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	ENG151 BA degree – foreign language requirement BS degree–MAT170 <b>or</b> 171 <b>or</b> 175 <b>or</b> 245	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Limited admission – Refer to the Communication Studies transfer guide on MCC's website.</b></li> <li>• Completion of AA or AS degree recommended.</li> <li>• For BS degree - complete any one of the sequences listed on page 2 of this guide .</li> <li>• BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> </ul>

NIU Major	NIU Degree		Complete at MCC		Recommended Courses	Notes
	BA	BS	AA or AS	IAI GECC or NIU general core		
<b>Community Leadership and Civic Engagement</b>						<b>New major – For information, contact Judit Hermanson, 815-753-4410, ngoldcenter@niu.edu</b>
Computer Science www.cs.niu.edu/		x	Community college transfers who begin NIU as juniors may need additional time (1 to 2 summers or additional fall or spring semester) to graduate from NIU. Transfers who begin NIU as fresh.or soph. may still be able to graduate in a total of 8 semesters (4 yrs), assuming math prep. allows for taking computer science courses immediately.	IAI GECC <u>or</u> Complete part of NIU core at MCC (Use MCC's NIU general transfer guide to select courses that satisfy NIU core.)	Software Development emphasis: ENG151, 152; SPE151; NIU MATH 206 (not available at MCC) & MAT171 <u>or</u> MAT175; CIS110; CIS117 & 211 <u>or</u> CSC 121 & 122 Enterprise Software emphasis: ENG151, 152; SPE151; NIU MATH 206 (not available at MCC) & MAT171 <u>or</u> MAT175 & 245; PSY151; CSC110; CIS117 & 211 <u>or</u> CSC121 & 122 Computational Software emphasis: ENG151, 152; SPE151; NIU MATH 206 (not available at MCC), 175, 245, 255; PHY291; CSC110; CIS117 & 211 <u>or</u> CSC121 & 122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Limited admission – Refer to the Computer Science transfer guide on MCC's website.</b></li> <li>• BS degree sequence requirements for College of Liberal Arts &amp; Sciences: Software Development <u>or</u> Enterprise Software – follow sequence 1 <u>or</u> 2; Computational Software – follow sequence 2 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> </ul>
Economics www.niu.edu/econ	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	ECO251, 252 BS degree: MAT170 & 171 <u>or</u> MAT175 & 245; CIS117 & 211 (300 level statistics will be completed through NIU) BA degree: MAT120 or 220	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Both BA and BS degrees provide preparation for business, government, or foreign services employment. Both also provide preparation for law school and other graduate studies. The BS program provides stronger preparation for economics graduate studies. The BS program stresses statistical and quantitative methods used to model and evaluate human action.</li> <li>• BA language requirement or BS sequence should be completed within first 2 years of college in order to graduate in 4 years.</li> <li>• For BS degree, complete either sequence 1 or 2 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>• Completion of AA or AS degree recommended.</li> </ul>
English www.engl.niu.edu	x		Yes	IAI GECC		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completion of AA or AS degree or IAI GECC recommended prior to transferring.</li> <li>• Completion of BA degree foreign language requirement recommended prior to transferring.</li> <li>• NIU major-related literature courses are 300/400 level. 200- level literature courses taken at MCC will not apply toward major-related courses; however, they will help students prepare for upper level courses at NIU.</li> <li>• Students who complete the AA/AS degree or IAI GECC core and foreign language requirement at MCC should graduate with 2 years at NIU.</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Studies</b>						<b>New major – For information, contact Reed Scherer, 815-753-9381, reed@niu.edu</b>

NIU Major	NIU Degree		Complete at MCC		Recommended Courses	Notes
	BA	BS	AA or AS	IAI GECC or NIU general core		
Foreign Languages and Literatures www.forlangs.net/	x		Yes	IAI GECC	Foreign language 151-252	•
Geography www.geog.niu.edu	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	EAS120; GEG202 or 203, and 204 BA – Foreign language, MAT170 or 171 or 175 BS – MAT170 or 171 or 175	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students may complete degree in 2 years, provided NIU enrollment begins in fall term and appropriate math and science courses are completed.</li> <li>• BS sequence 3, 4, or 5 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>• BA vs BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> </ul>
Geology & Env Geosciences www.niu.edu/geology		x	Yes	IAI GECC	MAT161 or 165; MAT171 or 175; CHM164, 165, 166; GEL101, 103; either 1 year of physics or biology depending on emphasis/focus (teach certification – both BIO157 & 158, PHY280 & 281)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students may complete degree in 2 years, provided appropriate math and science courses are completed.</li> <li>• BS sequence 3, 4, or 5 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> </ul>
History www.niu.edu/history	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	HIS130, 131, 132, 170, 171, 172 (A maximum of 12 hours of history coursework from a community college can be applied toward the major.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BA – For students interested in humanistic aspect of discipline</li> <li>• BS – For students interested in social science aspects of discipline; select any of the BS sequences listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> </ul>
Journalism www.comm.niu.edu/comm/ undergraduateprogram/journalism.shtml	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	ENG151, 152; SPE151; ECO252; PSY151; SOC151; JRN155	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor or double major required – Minor or second major are often chosen in the social sciences or business, because of their importance in mass communication, or in communication studies or English because those majors are concerned with the development of communication skills.</li> <li>• BA language requirement or BS sequence should be completed within first 2 years of college in order to graduate in 4 years.</li> <li>• For BS degree - complete any one of the BS sequences listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>• BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> <li>• Completion of AA or AS degree recommended.</li> </ul>
Math www.math.niu.edu/		x	Yes	IAI GECC	MAT175, 245, 253 (or 260 if 253 is not available), 255; CIS117 + 211 or CSC121 & 122	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BS sequence 2 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> </ul>

NIU Major	NIU Degree		Complete at MCC		Recommended Courses	Notes
	BA	BS	AA or AS	IAI GECC or NIU general core		
Meteorology www.geog.niu.edu		x	Yes	IAI GECC	CIS117 & 211 or CSC 121 & 122; EAS120; MAT175, 245, 255; PHY291, 292	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students may complete degree in 2 years, provided NIU enrollment begins in fall term and appropriate math and science courses are completed.</li> <li>BS sequence 2 listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> </ul>
Physics www.physics.niu.edu		x	In order to graduate in a timely manner from NIU, it may be in your best interest to complete prereqs in math, chemistry, and physics at MCC, along with either the IAI GECC or part of the NIU core.	IAI GECC or Complete part of NIU core at MCC (Use MCC's NIU general transfer guide to select courses that satisfy NIU core.)	CHM165, 166; MAT175, 245, 255, 260; PHY291, 292; PSY151	BS sequence 4 listed on page 2 of this guide.
Political Science polisci.niu.edu	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	PLT151, 251, 255 Note: PLT 150, 155, and 160 transfer to NIU as POLS EI. Contact NIU POLS Dept. before completing these courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BS sequence 1 or 5 recommended (NIU's STAT301, Statistics, is a required course and is included in sequence 1 and 5.) BS sequences listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> <li>Students desiring a career in international affairs are advised to develop a high degree of competence in one or more foreign languages.</li> <li>Students who are pursuing a BA in the public administration and service emphasis should complete NIU STAT 208 (MCC's MAT 120 or 220) as part of their general education requirements.</li> </ul>
Psychology www.niu.edu/psyc/	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	PSY151 (Other PSY courses may be chosen in consultation with a NIU PSYC adviser up to a limit of 6 semester hours.) MAT120 or 220 (BA degree)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BS sequence 1, 2, or 3 recommended (NIU's STAT301, Statistics, is a required course and is included in sequence 1. If completing sequence 3, do not take the geography or geology sequences.) BS sequences listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>No more than 6 hours of 100/200 level Psychology coursework can apply toward major.</li> <li>BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student's strengths.</li> </ul>

NIU Major	NIU Degree		Complete at MCC		Recommended Courses	Notes
	BA	BS	AA or AS	IAI GECC or NIU general core		
Sociology www.sociology.niu.edu	x	x	Yes	IAI GECC	<p>ENG152, SOC151(Other SOCI courses may be chosen in consultation with a NIU SOCI adviser.)</p> <p>BA – MAT120 or 220 BS – MAT170 or 175</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Limited admission – Refer to the Communication Studies transfer guide on MCC’s website.</b></li> <li>• BS sequence 1 or 5 recommended (NIU’s MAT301, Statistics, is a required course and is included in sequence 1 and 5.) For sequence 5, complete MAT175 rather than MAT171. Sequences listed on page 2 of this guide.</li> <li>• BA vs. BS – Decision should be based on student’s strengths.</li> <li>• NIU has retained the courses that allowed students to earn an emphasis in Criminology, Applied Sociology, or Sociology of Health and Aging as a sociology major. The old emphases were available through the 2007-2008 catalog but the Department of Sociology will continue to work with students who wish to pursue coursework in the fields of Criminology, Applied Sociology, or Sociology of Health and Aging.</li> </ul>

## Teacher Certification Programs

### State Requirements

1. Before entering any classroom in the State of Illinois, all prospective teachers must take and have a negative result on a **Tuberculosis Skin Test**.
2. Before entering any classroom in the State of Illinois, all prospective teachers must undergo a **Criminal Background Check**.
3. Before entering the second clinical, all prospective teachers must pass the **Illinois State Basic Skills Test**.
4. Before entering the third clinical, all prospective teachers must pass the **Illinois State Content Test**.
5. After completing student teaching and all certification coursework, all prospective teachers must pass the **Illinois State Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT) Test**.
6. One state approved three-hour **Educational Psychology course**. (i.e. at NIU EPS 406 or 508)
7. One state approved three-hour **Special Education course**. (i.e. at NIU TLSE 457)
8. Proof that all the **Illinois State Teaching Standards** have been met.

**Professional Education Coursework** will be completed at NIU. For course recommendations at MCC, use the above chart.

Program	Notes
<b>Biology</b>	<p>All Secondary Science certification programs at NIU require an endorsement in at least one additional area. Biology majors commonly choose chemistry, but other areas also are possible.</p> <p>The holder of any science endorsement and designation may teach any subject in the science field, except when the subject is taught as an Advanced Placement (AP) class or as an "honors" class, as defined by the district. Teachers of AP or honors classes in any area of science are required to have a designation specific to that subject area.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> minimum 2.5 GPA required; science GPA of 2.8 for all biology, chemistry, and physics coursework; all biology coursework must have a grade of C or better; passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; cleared through Criminal Background Check</p>
<b>Chemistry</b>	<p>All Secondary Science certification programs at NIU require an endorsement in at least one additional area.</p> <p>The holder of any science endorsement and designation may teach any subject in the science field, except when the subject is taught as an Advanced Placement (AP) class or as an "honors" class, as defined by the district. Teachers of AP or honors classes in any area of science are required to have a designation specific to that subject area.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> minimum 2.5 GPA; minimum 2.5 GPA in all physical sciences and mathematics coursework; successfully completed, with a C or better, 8 semester hours in each of the following areas: general chemistry (CHM165, 166); organic chemistry (CHM165, 166); general physics (PHY291, 292); calculus (MAT175, 245); passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; cleared through Criminal Background Check</p>
<b>English</b>	<p>Candidates who earn a secondary certificate endorsed in English Language Arts are authorized to teach English, journalism, language arts, and speech.</p> <p><b>Admission</b> to the certification program requires that all candidates have taken at least nine hours of approved coursework in the department; cleared through Criminal Background Check; passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; grade of C or better in SPE151, ENG151, ENG152</p> <p>Students pursuing initial teacher certification in English at the secondary level follow a more structured program of study while earning their B.A. in English. For those seeking certification, a ninth semester of study may be required. Students intending to pursue initial teacher certification are especially encouraged to take and pass the ICTS Basic Skills Test (<a href="http://www.icts.nesinc.com/">http://www.icts.nesinc.com/</a>) prior to the time of transfer. Interested students are strongly encouraged to consult an advisor in the NIU Department of English prior to the time of transfer.</p>
<b>Foreign Languages</b>	<p><b>Admission:</b> grade of at least B in FLFR 301 and 302, FLGE 301 and 302, or FLSP 301; cumulative GPA of 2.75 at the time of application, and a GPA of 3.0 in the language in which the applicant hopes to be certified; passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; cleared through Criminal Background Check</p>
<b>Geology and</b>	<p>The Earth Science Education Emphasis satisfies the Illinois state requirements for teacher certification at middle to high school level. For curricular</p>

<b>Environmental Geosciences</b>	<p>details, please contact the department. Math and chemistry are prerequisites and must be taken before entering NIU. The emphasis and initial teacher certification for teaching grades 6-12 are difficult to complete within the 2+2 time frame; interested students should contact the emphasis adviser/certification coordinator as soon as possible: <a href="mailto:geologyteachercert@niu.edu">geologyteachercert@niu.edu</a></p> <p>Initial certification is either in Earth and Space Science or in Environmental Science. Students usually also will major in geology and environmental geosciences.</p> <p>The holder of any science endorsement and designation may teach any subject in the science field, except when the subject is taught as an Advanced Placement (AP) class or as an "honors" class, as defined by the district. Teachers of AP or honors classes in any area of science are required to have a designation specific to that subject area.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> NIU minimum 2.5 GPA with minimum of 12 hours at NIU; minimum 2.7 GPA in physical, biological sciences, and math courses; 16 hours in geology &amp; environmental geosciences courses numbered 300 and above; passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; grade of C or better in SPE151, ENG151, ENG152, MAT165, ILAS301 (NIU course); cleared through Criminal Background Check</p>
<b>History/Social Sciences</b>	<p>The holder of a social science endorsement and designation may teach any subject in the social science field, except when the subject is taught as an Advanced Placement (AP) class or as an "honors" class, as defined by the district. Teachers of AP or honors classes are required to have a designation specific to the subject area.</p> <p>NIU's history/social science teacher certification program requires students to earn (or already hold) a degree in one of seven disciplines: anthropology, economics, geography, history, political science, psychology, or sociology. Since at the 6-12 level history is the most persistently taught of these subjects, most students in the program major in history. Students who major in one of the other six disciplines are required to complete the equivalent of a history minor in order to earn teaching endorsements in both United States and world history. All students in the program are strongly encouraged to take social science coursework beyond their major and history minor, focusing most specifically on economics, geography, and political science.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> NIU minimum 2.75 GPA with minimum of 12 hours at NIU; overall GPA of 3.0 in major courses with at least 6 hours earned at NIU; minimum grade of C in ENG151, ENG152, and SPE151; passing score on ICTS Basic Skills Test; passing grade in ILAS201 (NIU course); cleared through Criminal Background Check</p>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Candidates who earn a secondary certificate endorsed in mathematics are authorized to teach all topics associated with the field of mathematics.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> minimum <b>GPA</b> of 2.25 in Mathematical Sciences courses which are available for credit toward and required for the major and/or certification; minimum overall <b>NIU GPA</b> of 2.50; completed at NIU <b>MATH 232</b> or <b>MATH 240</b> and at least one <b>MATH</b> or <b>STAT</b> course numbered <b>350</b> or above, or have completed at NIU two <b>MATH</b> or <b>STAT</b> courses numbered <b>350</b> or above; completed, or be enrolled in, courses including 60 clock-hours of pre-student teaching clinical experiences; passed the ICTS Basic Skills Test; cleared through Criminal Background Check</p> <p>A departmentally approved minor is strongly recommended for emphasis 5, mathematics education. Students in emphasis 5 must fulfill state requirements for teacher certification; all students interested in pursuing teacher certification should consult with the discipline coordinator in mathematical sciences for assistance in planning schedules: <a href="mailto:reisdorf@math.niu.edu">reisdorf@math.niu.edu</a></p>
<b>Physics</b>	<p>All Secondary Science certification programs at NIU require an endorsement in at least one additional area. Physics majors commonly choose mathematics or chemistry, but other areas also are possible.</p> <p>The holder of any science endorsement and designation may teach any subject in the science field, except when the subject is taught as an Advanced Placement (AP) class or as an "honors" class, as defined by the district. Teachers of AP or honors classes in any area of science are required to have a designation specific to that subject area.</p> <p><b>Admission:</b> completed PHY291 &amp; 292; passed the ICTS Basic Skills Test; cleared through Criminal Background Check; grade of C or better in NIU core competencies or equivalents</p>