

National Louis University:

NLU Innovative Competency-Based and Credit for Prior Learning Program Models.



NATIONAL
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UNIVERSITY





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In 1886, National Louis University began as a radical idea for its time: a college to train women as kindergarten teachers. Our visionary founder, Elizabeth Harrison, believed that the future prosperity of a community began with the education of its youngest children.



Competency-Based Video



Definition of Competency-Based Education (2019)

1. Students are **empowered** daily to make important decisions about their **learning experiences**, how they will **create and apply knowledge**, and how they will **demonstrate their learning**.
2. Students receive **timely, differentiated support** based on their individual learning needs.
3. **Assessment is a meaningful, positive, and empowering** learning experience for students that yields timely, relevant, and actionable evidence.
4. Students **progress based on evidence of mastery, not seat time**.
5. Students **learn actively** using **different pathways** and **varied pacing**.
6. Strategies to **ensure equity** for all students are embedded in the **culture, structure, and pedagogy** of schools and education systems.
7. **Rigorous, common expectations for learning** (knowledge, skills, and dispositions) are **explicit, transparent, measurable, and transferable**.



Today, our Undergraduate ECE program continues the tradition.

We offer intensive Student Supports, including dedicated Content Test Specialists who help ECE students overcome the barrier of passing the required content tests for licensure

76% of our faculty identify as racially, ethnically or linguistically diverse.

+70% of our student population identify as racially, ethnically or linguistically diverse.

In fall of 2022 we will have a fully competency-driven ECE program

In early 2023 we will offer all ECE coursework in a Dual Language format—Spanish and English



Program Goals

- **To provide the incumbent early childhood workforce a pathway to degree completion using a self-paced residency model that honors prior learning, builds on current experiences, and supports future commitment to and professional growth-in the field of early care and education.**
- **This accelerated path to a B.A. degree includes preparation for the Professional Educator License (PEL) w/ ECE Endorsement, ECE Level 5, and ITC Level 5 Credentials**



Where can you find the ECE Competency-Based Program?

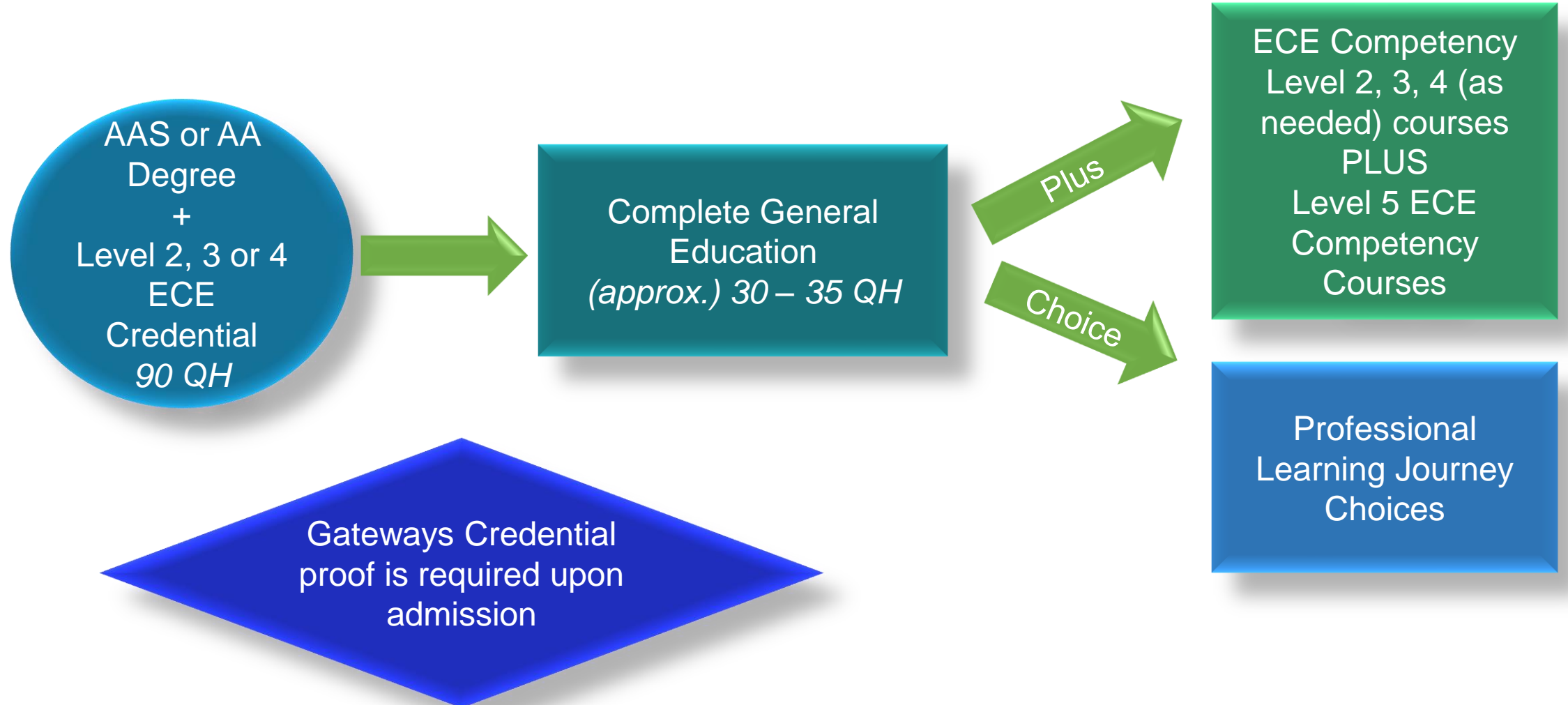
- Fully online with a weekly Competency Coffee Shop (via zoom)

NLU is on a 10 week quarter system.
We offer courses in the fall, winter, spring and summer

We accept the
ECACE, CELW
and Gateways to
Opportunity
Scholarships!



Competency-Driven ECE B.A. Program: Designed for the Incumbent ECE Workforce



Learning Journeys

ECE (PEL Licensure Pathway)

- ECE Licensure Courses (Level 5 – to - PEL Modules)
- ESL/Bilingual Education
- ECE Administration

ITS Non-Licensure Pathway

- ECE Courses (Level 5)
- Infant Toddler Studies (ITC Modules)
- ECE Administration



Sample Program Schedule

For students w/ a Level 4 ECE Credential

Term	Courses
Spring 2023	<u>Level 5 Course</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ECE 327: Integrated Preprimary Methodology in Early Childhood Education <u>Credit for Prior Learning Opportunity:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EDU 420: Practicum, Professional Practices and Classroom Contexts Optional: 1-2 General Education Courses
Summer 2023	<u>Level 5 Courses</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• EAL 400: Educational Foundations for Learning English as an Additional Language• SPE 401: Introduction to Special Education and Methods of Teaching Students with Disabilities Optional: 1 – 2 General Education Course
Fall 2023	2-3 Learning Journey Courses
Winter 2024	Complete General Education Courses
Spring 2024	2-3 Learning Journey Courses

Want to add additional learning journeys? No problem, just extend your time to degree completion.



Translanguaging Framework

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Module 1 Getting Started / Módulo 1 Primeros Pasos



English

Español

Interactions, Relationships, and Environments 6

Read the following information, click to expand each heading below to understand the competency in this module, the summative assessment you will start with and the sub-competencies that will unlock if you are not “competent” after completing a first submission of the summative assessment.

> **Module Description**



Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

What is Credit for Prior Learning?

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL) is a term used to describe learning that has been gained outside of the traditional classroom or learning and knowledge that students acquired in their lives working, serving in the military, volunteering, household management/parenting, etc. In short, CPL is the evaluation and assessment of an individual's life learning for credit toward further education or training (CAEL)www.cael.org

Who is eligible for Credit for Prior Learning?

Students enrolled in the Competency-Based Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program and Post Bac Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program are eligible to participate in the Credit by Portfolio and Credit by Credential programs for Major Course Credit.

What are the benefits of Credit for Prior Learning for students?

Less time invested as students are given credit for their prior knowledge and experience. All field experience completed at the student's worksite.



CPL cont...

How is Credit for Prior Learning different than a course?

Credit for Prior Learning does not offer an instructor, nor does it offer content to learn and master, like a course.

Credit for Prior learning offers an assessor and opportunities to demonstrate evidence of your prior knowledge to earn credit.

Credit for Prior Learning does not have weekly mandatory due dates, like a course. ALL evidence of prior knowledge is submitted to the D2L shell before or by the last day of the term.

Credit for Prior Learning offers the opportunity for ALL field experience to be taken at the student's workplace.





The Competency Coffee Shop: A Community of Practice

Participation Requirements

- Weekly participation in synchronous Coffee Shops
- Students will have the opportunity to meet with all their CB instructors during the one-hour coffee shop.
- Students will come prepared with questions after reviewing the mini-lesson video posted on Mondays in the course shell by their instructors.
- The instructors will be on hand to provide students with additional support as needed.

Competency Coffee Shop



Feedback

Quotes:

“I like CB its a great opportunity to those who are in the field already but if you are coming in with no prior knowledge about the EDU it wont work”

“Traditional classes have too many weekly discussion[s]”

- From Associate Professor and Director of Online Operations, UG Educator Preparation-Students appreciate having the chance to have their voices heard. That will only help build community and student commitment to NLU.
- Yes they would recommend! 100%



QUESTIONS

