

Report of Program Accreditation Recommendations

April 2012

In-Folder

Overview

This report consists of recommendations made about the initial accreditation of professional preparation programs based upon institutional responses to program standards. The report also provides information on programs that have transitioned to revised program standards, programs that have elected to change to “Inactive” status or are requesting “Reactivation.” In addition the item presents requests from institutions for programs to be “Withdrawn.” The COA will review these requests and take action to formally withdraw the programs.

Staff Recommendation

That the Committee on Accreditation grant initial accreditation (A) to the following preparation program(s), as recommended by the appropriate reviewers and take action to withdraw the following preparation programs as requested by the institution (E).

Staff Recommendation

That the Committee on Accreditation grant initial accreditation (A) to the following preparation program(s), as recommended by the appropriate reviewers and take action to withdraw the following preparation programs as requested by the institution (E).

A. Programs for Approval by the Committee on Accreditation

Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Preliminary Single Subject Credential- Language Arts and Social Science

The Bard College Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) program in Delano, CA, is a twelve-month residency model where graduate students receive an MAT degree and become eligible for California single subject credentialing in Language Arts or Social Sciences. The Delano program foregrounds the following features: (1) extended study in the discipline, where MAT students take four graduate-level courses with PhD-level faculty in either literature or history and complete a rigorous Academic Research Project; (2) a full-year apprenticeship, where MAT students work in classrooms with mentor teachers from August – June; and (3) a four-quarter “teaching lab” sequence, team-taught by faculty in education and the disciplines, that puts theory and practice together.

The Bard College MAT program in Delano also specifically prepares students for careers in public schools in the San Joaquin Valley. The graduate program shares its campus with the Paramount Bard Academy (PBA), a grade 6-12 public charter school founded by Bard in partnership with the Paramount Farming Companies, and which serves students from Delano and nearby communities. PBA’s mission is to offer rigorous, critical thinking instruction in STEM areas, the humanities, and the arts and to provide a model for preparing Central Valley students for college success. MAT students serve as apprentices in PBA classrooms from the first days of school in August through the early spring, and PBA mentor teachers and administrators are often invited to participate as guest experts in the MAT courses. From March – June, MAT students

also have a full-time student teaching experience in a traditional public school from one of the surrounding Central Valley districts. MAT students who make a three-year commitment to teach in a high-needs public school in the Central Valley receive support of their tuition and living expenses. MAT program provides continued support for graduates throughout their first three years of teaching.

Bard College – Social Science

The Bard College MAT program in social science emphasizes graduate students' work as historians who investigate the past through professional norms of collecting and analyzing both primary and secondary sources, evaluating the reliability of those sources, marshaling evidence to support claims, and presenting interpretations persuasively in writing as well as through oral and multimedia presentations. MAT coursework in the history teaching labs emphasizes issues of pedagogical content knowledge and transfer of authentic historical practices into the secondary classroom.

Bard College – English Language Arts

The Bard College MAT program in Language Arts emphasizes graduate students' work as literary scholars who approach fiction and nonfiction texts through professional norms of close reading, understanding of contextual sources, analysis with multiple critical lenses, and presentation of text or author interpretations through persuasive arguments in writing as well as through oral and multimedia presentations. MAT coursework in the literature teaching lab emphasizes issues of pedagogical content knowledge in both reading and writing, exposure to both canonical and culturally-relevant texts, and transfer of authentic literary practices into the secondary classroom.

Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the Administrative Services Clear Credential

Notre Dame de Namur University

Notre Dame de Namur University (NDNU) offers a program designed to facilitate the induction and professional development of beginning administrators and to fulfill the California Teacher Credentialing Commission requirements for the completion of the Professional Clear Administrative Services Credential. The program is a collaborative endeavor among the candidate, employing district, and NDNU. The program offers options and choices among learning opportunities based on candidate and school district assessed needs. This induction, mentoring, university coursework, and advanced fieldwork program is based on an assessment of the candidate's skills and knowledge and is individualized to fit the specific needs of each candidate at his/her school. During the program the candidate has an opportunity to work in a personalized mentoring and coaching relationship, engage in reflection and receive guidance and support while undertaking his/her leadership role. Each semester course will also require class time to reflect on the planning, implementation and evaluative activities. All professional services-level candidates will complete and present a Professional Portfolio at the end of the credential program.

Program(s) of Professional Preparation for the General Education Clear Credential

Dominican University of California

Dominican’s General Education Clear Credential program builds upon what candidates have accomplished in their preliminary credential programs (including the results of the Teaching Performance Assessment). Dominican’s clear credential program consists of six interrelated courses. Each course addresses the program standards in ways that enable the candidates to imbed and apply the best practices proffered in their classrooms. In each course candidates learn specific pedagogical skills through modeling, observation, and practice. Following the plan-teach-reflect-apply cycle, they are provided with opportunities to implement new practices in their own classrooms, and to reflect on and improve upon their teaching with the support of a university supervisor. In addition, candidates will have support providers who are content coaches, district mentors, other onsite classroom teachers, or Dominican faculty, all of whom understand the goals and objectives of the program, are trained observers, and have been prepared to provide ongoing, individualized support based in the California Standards for the Teaching Profession.

C. Program(s) of Professional Preparation Moving to Inactive Status

The items listed below are for notification purposes only. No action is needed. To re-activate the program, the institution must make a formal request to the COA which must take action. The inactive program will be included in the accreditation activities in a modified manner as determined by the COA (Accreditation Handbook, Chapter 3.)

Brandman University

Reading Specialist Certificate Program, effective April 9, 2012.

UCLA

Reading and Language Arts Specialist Credential, effective July 1, 2009.