Add an American History Concentration and a European and World History Concentration in the Master of Arts in History, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

The Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to add two new concentrations, one in American History and another in European and World History, to the Master of Arts in History in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Currently the Master’s of Arts in History has one concentration in Public History. In response to student interest and the increasingly diverse specializations of the faculty in a growing department, two new concentrations will be added. The requirements for the existing Public History concentration will not change.

The American History concentration will stress the research and study of topics pertinent to the origins and development of the United States, the land, its people, and its place in the world. The concentration will include 24 hours of history courses including a course that examines methods and applications; courses that emphasize periods, regions or themes in American History, and an elective course. To satisfy the
closure requirement, students in the American History concentration will be required to prepare a thesis.

The European and World concentration will highlight the research and study of topics in non-U.S. History germane to the interests and specializations of the faculty. The concentration will include 24 hours of history courses including a course that examines methods and applications; courses that emphasize periods, regions, or themes in European or World History; and an elective history course. To satisfy the closure requirement, students in the European and World concentration will prepare a thesis or a position essay and historiography.

No additional resources will be needed to offer these concentrations.

Establish a Graduate Certificate in Pathway to the Principalship for National Board Certified Teachers, Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Master of Arts in Teacher Leadership, College of Education and Human Services, Springfield

The Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Education and Human Services to establish a Graduate Certificate in Pathway to the Principalship for National Board Certified Teachers.

The Illinois State Action for Education Leadership Project (IL-SAELP) was issued a directive by Governor Rod R. Blagojevich and the Illinois State Board of Education to make a recommendation on how to best utilize Nationally Board Certified Teachers (NBCTs) in the State of Illinois. This group has done extensive research on what knowledge and skills NBCTs who already hold a master’s degree possess. The group’s recommendation was to empower these teachers with leadership skills and allow them to pursue an alternate route to their Type-75 General Administrative Certificates.
The Graduate Certificate in Pathway to the Principalship for National Board Certified Teachers is designed to allow National Board Certified Teachers who have a master's degree the opportunity to prepare for the principalship and apply for a Type-75 General Administrative Certificate from the Illinois State Board of Education. The curriculum takes into account the requirements established by the Illinois State Board of Education’s Professional Standards for Principals and the skills and knowledge NBCTs already have demonstrated as a result of their NBCT certification.

This 20-credit hour certificate will consist of five courses, covering leadership ethics and law, financial practices in leadership, organizational leadership, school culture and governance, and a leadership practicum. The courses will be delivered in a hybrid model, consisting of both on-campus and online components. The program will be administered by the Master of Arts in Educational Leadership Program in collaboration with the Master of Arts in Teacher Leadership program.

No additional resources will be needed to offer this certificate.

Establish Two Concentrations (Society and the Environment and Science of the Earth System) in the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Earth Systems, Environment and Society, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

The Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to establish two concentrations (Society and the Environment and Science of the Earth System) in the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Earth Systems, Environment and Society.

Both concentrations will prepare students for a variety of career paths in either the private or the public sector, as well as for graduate study. The interdisciplinary
background in both scientific and human aspects of environmental problems will prepare students for a variety of positions with state and federal regulatory agencies, research institutions, consulting firms, and non-governmental education and advocacy organizations.