C-BASE (College Basic Academic Subjects Examination)

All students seeking entrance to the Teacher Education Program at Northwestern College must take and pass the C-BASE test as part of their application to the Teacher Ed Program. The test assesses knowledge and skills in the following subject areas: English, mathematics, science, social studies and writing.

Elementary ed majors need to complete all 5 sections.

Secondary ed and K-12 Art, Music, and Phys Ed majors need to complete English, math and writing sections only.

The administration dates for the 2015-2016 academic year:
- Saturday, September 5, 2015
- Saturday, October 10, 2015
- Saturday, November 21, 2015
- Saturday, January 30, 2016
- Saturday, March 19, 2016
- Saturday, April 30, 2016

** Dates are subject to change. Any changes will be posted as needed.**

Registration
To register for the exam, complete the registration form and return it to the education office along with the registration fees. Registration is limited to 20 students. Payment is required at the time of registration.

Fees (effective July 1, 2014)

- $60.00 for students taking the exam for the first time
- $30.00 for Northwestern College students re-taking two sections only
- $20.00 for Northwestern College students re-taking one section only
Testing Procedures
The complete test battery includes a 40-minute writing exercise and a multiple-choice component divided into two subjects, English and mathematics. Each subject area of C-BASE takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. If you are taking the writing assignment, a short break will be given before the multiple-choice section.

You should arrive at the test site 20-30 minutes prior to the testing time. Late arrivals will not be admitted. At the test site, the proctor asks all students to sign in and to present a current picture identification for verification. Food and beverages are not allowed during the administration of the test.

Calculators are not provided, but you may use your own hand-held, non-printing, four or six function calculator during the examination. Allowable calculators may include a limited memory function which will store one to three numbers after it is turned off. Any student who wishes to use a calculator should bring one, but students not using calculators will not be disadvantaged. Students are not allowed to share calculators or use any other material not provided with the exam.

During the multiple-choice sections, you may answer questions in any order you choose, and you may return to any section in the multiple-choice part of the exam during the testing period. However, try to proceed methodically so you decrease the possibility of recording an answer in the wrong place in the answer booklet.

C-BASE does not penalize you for guessing. Every correct answer counts toward your scores, so you should try to answer every question. An informed guess is better than no answer. In each case, read the question and all of the options carefully before selecting your response, but try not to spend too much time on any one question. During the test, the examiner will periodically post the time remaining.

TEST LOCATION: Room 313, Van Peursem Hall
Testing Times:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Check-in for those taking the Writing section</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:50 a.m.</td>
<td>Testing begins with the Writing section (late arrivals will not be admitted)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Break (Those only taking or retaking one or more of the sections below, but not the Writing section, need to check-in)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Reading, math, science &amp; social studies testing begins</td>
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Preparing for the C-BASE
Math study guides for the PPST are available at De Witt Learning Commons. These books are “on reserve”. Students may also use the PPST study books that are “on reserve” at the Learning Commons to study for the other subject areas.

If you have more questions about the C-BASE, you may review the following guide and information provided by the Assessment Resource Center at the University of Missouri.

ARC (Assessment Resource Center) – University of Missouri
Subjects Covered

**Required for Acceptance to Teacher Education**

- **English** - Reading/Literature and Writing
- **Mathematics** - General, Algebra, and Geometry

**First Time Test Takers Only**

- **Science** - Laboratory/Field Work, and Fundamental Concepts
- **Social Studies** - History and Social Sciences

Only passing scores for Reading, Writing and Math are required for acceptance into the Teacher Education program. Those who retake the test to achieve passing scores for Reading, Writing or Math will not be required to take the Science and Social Studies tests a second time.

The required minimum passing score is 235 for each subject area composite or for each subcategory. If a student takes a test section three times and does not pass, permission to take the test additional times must be granted by the Teacher Ed Committee. Simply e-mail the request to the education office assistant at edoffice@nwciowa.edu

Testing Day Requirements

- **Student to Bring**
  - Photo ID
  - Two pencils
  - Cell phones are NOT allowed at the testing site
  - Calculator – simple, basic calculators only. No scientific calculators allowed.

- **Provided for You**
  - Practice paper (for Math section)

Time to Complete

The exam will take 2 - 3 hours to complete including time for instructions, writing exercise, a break, and multiple choice questions. You should arrive at the test site 20 - 30 minutes prior to the testing time. Late arrivals will not be admitted.
After the Test

If you take the test at NWC, your test results will automatically be mailed to NWC from the testing center. Your scores are entered in NWC’s system, and you will receive an email verifying that your scores were received and also confirming whether you passed or not.

If you take the test at another institution, you need to make sure that NWC receives a copy of your score sheet. Please send to:

 Postal Mail:
 Northwestern College
 Education Department
 101 7th ST SW
 Orange City, IA 51041

 Email: edoffice@nwciowa.edu

Registration

Register in the Education office. You will need to pay all registration fees at the time of registration. You may pay with cash or personal check.

Retakes

From the C-BASE website:

“If you do not receive a passing score in the either the English section or the writing cluster, you will need to retake both the essay and the English multiple-choice portion of the test. The writing cluster, including the essay, is a sub-set of English, so your performance on both the essay and on multiple-choice questions will affect your scores for each.”

Special Accommodations

Reasonable accommodations will be provided to any individual who presents documentation of a physical or mental disability. Test takers must request accommodations at the time of registration. Test takers will meet with John Menning in Academic Support to be approved for accommodations.