

# READING/LITERACY SPECIALIZATION, M.ED.

The Master of Education—Reading/Literacy Specialization prepares certified teachers to be reading specialists and to use their expertise in reading in their classrooms or as a director or coach in a reading and literacy program in a school or district.

Based on the standards of the International Reading Association (IRA) for Reading Professionals, New Jersey Student Learning Standards for English/Language Arts Literacy (NJSLs for ELAL), and New Jersey Professional Standards for Teachers (NJPST), the program builds expertise through courses in the theories and processes of reading and writing, diagnosis and remediation, assessment, best practice literacy instruction strategies, program evaluation, coaching techniques, and a practicum. These provide experiences for candidates to work with a variety of approaches and strategies and design, select, and use standard and alternate instruction, assessment, and coaching techniques that serve the needs of diverse students and educators.

All courses include a keystone assessment/artifact that demonstrates the accomplishment of course goals and the integration of acquired knowledge and skills. As candidates progress toward program completion, their course artifacts are archived in an electronic or e-portfolio and monitored by program faculty to ensure and the state's standards for novice reading specialists.

Program completers earn a Master of Education degree; those who have completed three years of full-time teaching are eligible for New Jersey educational services certification as a reading specialist.

## Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the program of studies for Reading/Literacy Specialization, the student will receive a Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree and will have given evidence of the following outcomes and goals.

- Knowledge and application of the theories and concepts of literacy acquisition and development as evidenced through course exams, assigned projects, and discussions.
- Identification and evaluation of a variety of instructional methods and materials to meet the needs of diverse learners evidenced through assigned projects and discussions.
- The design and implementation of data-driven literacy instruction evidenced through assigned projects, discussions, and clinical practice.
- Identification, evaluation, administration, and analysis of results from a variety of formal and informal assessment measures and techniques focused on the area of literacy acquisition and development evidenced through assigned projects, discussions, and clinical practice.
- Literacy leadership within the educational setting evidenced through assigned projects, discussions, and clinical practice.

## Admission

### Requirements for Admission

- Official transcript(s) showing the award of a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university. In addition, official

transcripts from each undergraduate and graduate institution attended. Transcripts may be sent from your prior institution directly to the GCU Office of Admissions, or you may submit them. All transcripts must be in sealed and signed envelopes. If the original seals have been broken, the transcripts are considered unofficial and cannot be used in support of the application;

- Evidence of minimum undergraduate or graduate GPAs of 3.0;
- A copy of a valid New Jersey instructional certificate (P–3, Elementary; K–8, 5–8; or K–12); and
- A personal interview with the director of the reading/ literacy specialization program or chair may be required.

## Requirements

Code	Title	Credits
EDC5001	Philo & Psych Found of Incl Ed	3.0
EDC5014	Methods of Res for Leaders in Incl Sch	3.0
EDC5034	Understanding Learning Disabilities	3.0
EDC5201	Nature of the Reading Process	3.0
EDC5202	Multicultural Literature for Children	3.0
EDC5203	Engaging Diverse Lrnrs in Rdg & Wtg	3.0
EDC5204	Articulation Superv & Eval of Read Prog	3.0
EDC5027	Literacy for Multilingual Learners	3.0
EDC6201	Assess & Diagnosis of Read Abilities	3.0
EDC6202	Rsrch-Based Techniq Correct Rding Chall	3.0
EDC6084	Reading Specialist Practicum	3.0
<b>Total Credits</b>		<b>33.0</b>