

Literacy Education

Degrees Available at SIUE

- Master of Science in Education (MSEd); Post-Master's Certificate

Specialized Learning Opportunities

- Literacy Specialist Option
- Reading Specialist Option
- Literacy Specialist Post-Master's Certificate
- Reading Teacher Endorsement

Literacy Education at SIUE

The literacy education program, held within the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior, offers the four options above leading to either a Reading Teacher Endorsement (K-4, 4-8 or 9-12) and/or Reading Specialist Certification (K-12). The SIUE program, based in the Department of Teaching and Learning, is approved by the International Literacy Association, emphasizes literacy, not just reading. Literacy is the ability to understand through reading, listening and viewing and to communicate through writing, speaking, and visually representing.

Reading Teacher candidates engage in literacy foundations and literacy clinical courses in our state of the art Cougar Literacy Clinic. This clinic prepares the candidates to teach children in and out of the regular classroom in specified grade ranges.

Reading Specialist candidates engage in the foundations and clinical courses, as well as coursework in literacy leadership for working with K-12 students, educators and community members.

Literacy (reading) specialist responsibilities include teaching, coaching, and providing leadership in literacy education at the school, district, or state level. This consists of providing professional development and consultation; collaborating to develop, implement, and evaluate the literacy curriculum and programs; serving as a resource to other professionals and the community; and promoting literacy advocacy.

Career Opportunities

Our graduates are in great demand. School districts are in need of certified reading specialists who can provide literacy leadership and differentiated instruction, as well as reading teachers who can scaffold the development of children's literacy.

Faculty

Graduate Program Director

Susanne James

2011, University of Kansas
sjames@siue.edu

Susan E. Breck, PhD

1994, University of Kansas

Kathy M. Bushrow, PhD

1996, University of Texas at Austin

Liza Cummings, PhD

2011, University of Missouri

Brian W. Johnson, PhD

1995, Emory University

Jessica S. Krim, EdD

2009, Montana State University

Martha P. Latorre, PhD

1999, University of Alabama

Stephen M. Marlette, PhD

2002, Kansas State University

Barbara Martin, EdD

2016, Illinois State University

Shadrack G. Msengi, EdD

2006, University of Northern Iowa

Stephanie L. McAndrews, PhD

1998, University of Arizona

Barbara D. O'Donnell, EdD

1999, University of North Dakota

Caroline R. Pryor, EdD

1990, Arizona State University

Anna Reinking, EdD

2015, Illinois State University

Elizabeth A. Sherwood, EdD

2004, Illinois State University



Admission Requirements

- Graduate School application and \$40 fee
- Submission of all postsecondary academic transcripts
- Successful completion of a bachelor's prior to enrollment
- Grade point average of 3.0 (A=4.0) or above
- International Applicants: Proof of English Proficiency, minimum requirements are TOEFL (79), IELTS (6.5) or equivalent
- A teaching certificate in early childhood, elementary, secondary or special education
- A minimum of two years of full time contract teaching prior to CI 571 (for reading specialist only)
- Three hours of children's literature at the undergraduate or graduate level prior to graduation.

Program application materials may be uploaded during the application process, but official transcripts must be sent directly from the school attended, and test scores must be verifiable with the appropriate testing service. Please contact the Graduate Admissions office with questions regarding the application submission process at graduateadmissions@siue.edu.

Review the SIUE Admissions Policy for more information.

Graduation Requirements

Reading Specialist (MSEd)

Candidates must complete all requirements to be eligible for the Illinois Reading Specialist Certificate including: passing the appropriate Assessment of Professional Teaching for the area of endorsement (primary, middle school or secondary) and the Illinois Basic Skills Test (97) one semester prior to program completion, earning an A or B in all program courses, passing all program assessments, providing evidence of membership in an organization that will enhance their professional development in literacy (ie. IRC, IRA, NRC, or NCTE) and complete a final master's project.

Literacy Specialist (MSEd)

Candidates must complete all requirements to be eligible for the Illinois Reading Specialist Certificate including: passing the Assessment of Professional Teaching (APT 104) and the Illinois Basic Skills Test (97) one semester prior to program completion, earning an A or B in all program courses, passing all program assessments, and providing evidence of membership in an organization that will enhance their professional development in literacy (ie. IRC, IRA, NRC, or NCTE).

Review the graduation policy for more information.

Curriculum

Students can complete two options for the Master of Education (MSEd):

- Literacy Specialist
- Reading Specialist

Students also have the option to complete a reading teacher endorsement or a literary specialist post-master's certificate.

Literacy Specialist Option

Program of Study

Thirty-three (33) semester hours of graduate credit are required for a Master of Science in Education. Course requirements are as follows:

- CI 520 Theoretical Foundations in Literacy
- CI 521 Emergent and Primary Level Literacy
- CI 525 Upper Elementary and Middle Level Literacy
- CI 540 Content Area Literacy
- CI 571 Diagnostic Assessment and Instruction
- CI 572 Diagnostic Literacy Practicum for Elementary Level
- CI 573 Diagnostic Literacy Practicum for Middle and Secondary Level
- CI 578 Organization and Administration of Literacy Programs
- CI 591 Current Issues and Trends in Literacy
- CI 596d Field Study in Curriculum & Instruction: Literacy
- CI 548 Action Research: Literacy
or EPFR 501 Research in Education

Reading Specialist Option

Program of Study

Thirty-three (33) semester hours of graduate credit are required for a Master of Science in Education. Course requirements are as follows:

- CI 513 Literature Across the Curriculum
- CI 520 Theoretical Foundations in Literacy
- CI 521 Emergent and Primary Level Literacy
- CI 525 Upper Elementary and Middle Level Literacy
- CI 540 Content Area Literacy
- CI 571 Diagnostic Assessment and Instruction
- CI 572 Diagnostic Literacy Practicum for Elementary Level
- CI 573 Diagnostic Literacy Practicum for Middle and Secondary Level

Literacy-related electives to complete the Reading Teacher Endorsement

- CI 596d Field Study in Education
- CI 548 Action Research: Literacy
or EPFR 501 Research in Education

Contact Information

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