

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 offers the four specialized learning opportunities listed above leading to a Reading Teacher Endorsement (K-4, 4-8 or 9-12) and/or Reading Specialist Certification (K-12). The program is approved by the International Literacy Association, and 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

Elizabeth A. Sherwood, EdD
2004, Illinois State University
esherwo@siue.edu

Susan E. Breck, PhD
1994, University of Kansas

Kathy M. Bushrow, PhD
1996, University of Texas at Austin

Susanne James
2011, University of Kansas

Brian W. Johnson, PhD
1995, Emory University

Jessica S. Krim, EdD
2009, Montana State University

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
- GPA 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.

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).

Curriculum

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

- Literacy Specialist or Reading Specialist

Students can complete a Reading Teacher Endorsement.

Students can complete a Post-Masters Certificate Literary Specialist.

Contact Information

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