

LITERACY EDUCATION WITH READING SPECIALIST LICENSE MASTER OF ARTS

HYBRID

The MA in Literacy Education with Reading Specialist license prepares K-12 teachers for roles outside the classroom, such as reading specialist, literacy coach, and interventionist. Teachers gain additional skills and knowledge for supporting literacy development schoolwide as well as in the classroom. Evidence-based strategies learned benefit all students, including below-level readers of all ages, resistant readers, English learners, minoritized students, and those with disabilities. Our program meets all state requirements for the Reading Specialist license, which is a PK-12 entitlement.

TARGET AUDIENCE:

This program is designed for licensed teachers of children or adolescents, pre-K through grade 12, who wish to move into the role of reading specialist, literacy coach, and/or intervention or who want to better teach reading and writing in their own classrooms. Pre-K through grade 12 school administrators may also apply

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS:

Applicants must have their initial teaching license and an undergraduate GPA of 2.75 or higher.

COST:

Each three-credit course costs roughly \$1650, which includes fees. The MA in Literacy Education requires 11 three-credit courses.

REGISTRATION PROCEDURE:

After applicants are accepted into the program, they receive instructions on how to register online. Assistance is available if needed.

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

Students may begin the MA in fall, spring, or summer semesters. Application deadlines are as follows:
For fall, July 1st
For spring, Nov. 1st
For summer, April 1st

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Fall 2024 classes begin on Aug. 26.
Spring 2025 classes begin on Jan. 20.
Summer 2025 classes begin on May 27.

DELIVERY MODE

Our program is hybrid. All courses are remote/online except for Clinical

Practicum, in which graduate students tutor two children who struggle with reading. Clinical Practicum is held in person at the

University Center for one-semester on Saturdays. The rest of the courses, remote/online, have some weeks of synchronous zoom class meetings and some weeks of asynchronous online work.

TEXTBOOK PURCHASE:

The Literacy Education professors notify students of required texts two weeks in advance of classes starting. Students can purchase or rent texts in any way they prefer to minimize the cost. Professors are mindful of textbook costs and work to contain them.

TRANSFER HOURS POLICY:

Courses taken elsewhere that meet ISBE and university requirements may be substituted for up to three classes, or nine credit hours. LTCY 507 and LTCY 508/510 (Clinical Practicum) must be taken through Northeastern Illinois University.

TOTAL HOURS NEEDED:

33 credit hours

SPECIAL CHARACTERISTICS

The Literacy Education program at Northeastern Illinois University has maintained an excellent reputation in northern Illinois for more than 40 years. We've received national recognition from the International Literacy Association and are CAEP accredited. Our faculty is passionate about helping K-12 teachers reach their professional goals. Northeastern offers a top-quality literacy education at a relatively low cost.

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<https://www.neiu.edu/academics/daniel-l-goodwin-college-of-education/departments/literacy-leadership-development-and-special-education/literacy-education-ma>

REQUIRED COURSES:

LTCY 501 Literacy Instruction in Primary and Elementary Grades

LTCY 502 Disciplinary Literacy Instruction in Secondary Grades

LTCY 503 Theoretical Foundations of Literacy Education/Introduction to Research

LTCY 504 Children's and Young Adult Literature for Literacy Instruction

LTCY 505 OR LTCY 506 Writing Instruction in the Elementary Grades or in the Secondary Grades

LTCY 507 Literacy Assessment and Instructional Planning

LTCY 508 and 510 Clinical Practicum (double course)

LTCY 511 Research Seminar/Teacher Research

LTCY 512 Leadership in Literacy Education

CHOOSE ONE ELECTIVE:

LTCY 513 Teaching Reading in Middle School

LTCY 514 Teaching Literacy to Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Students OR

LTCY 515 Technology for Literacy Instruction