Overview

The Department of Literacy Education offers a Master of Arts in Literacy Education leading to a Reading Specialist/Literacy Coaching Endorsement. The program is designed to meet the urgent need for informed and trained instructional leaders in literacy education. The specific objectives of the programs are:

- to increase candidates’ knowledge of the nature and scope of literacy processes; to advance professional growth in the teaching of literacy
- to provide specialized training in assessment and intervention for students who struggle with reading and writing
- to prepare candidates to effectively address the literacy challenges students may experience with state mandated assessments
- to prepare candidates for leadership in literacy instructional planning, curriculum development, and professional support.

Credit hours required: 33

Careers

- Reading Specialists in schools, coordinating schoolwide literacy programs and working with colleagues to design effective literacy instruction for all students
- Literacy Coaches in schools, designing professional development for teachers and providing instructional support in classrooms
- Interventionists, providing specialized instruction for students who struggle with reading and writing

Program of Study

LTCY 501 Literacy Instruction in Elementary Grades
LTCY 502 Literacy Instruction in Content Areas in Middle and High Schools
LTCY 503 Foundations of Literacy Education
LTCY 504 Literature for Instruction in a Diverse Society
LTCY 505 Writing Instruction in Elementary Schools
OR LTCY 506 Writing Instruction in Content Areas in Middle and High Schools
LTCY 507 Literacy Assessment and Instructional Planning
LTCY 508 Practicum in Literacy Assessment and Intervention: Elementary Level
LTCY 510 Practicum in Literacy Assessment and Intervention: Secondary Level
LTCY 511 Research Seminar in Literacy
LTCY 512 Leadership in Literacy Instruction
One 500-level LTCY elective

Admissions

Applicants must meet the admission requirements of the College of Graduate Studies and Research. In addition, candidates must provide evidence of:

- A current Illinois professional educator license endorsed for teaching
- A minimum of one year full-time teaching experience as the teacher of record. The Illinois State Board of Education requires a minimum of two years teaching experience as teacher of record to qualify for Reading Specialist (K-12) endorsement
- Successful completion of a course in educational psychology
- A minimum grade point average of 2.75 in undergraduate work with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 in the education major coursework
- Successful completion of the Illinois Licensure Testing System Test of Basic Skills or the Test of Academic Proficiency
- Submission of a written essay focused on professional experiences and goals

Attending Northeastern

- Classes are offered during the late afternoon and evening hours to accommodate professionals working full-time
- Students may attend either part-time or full-time
- Current in-state graduate tuition is less than $400 per credit hour (tuition & fees)
- Financial support: Financial aid (loans), merit tuition scholarships, and graduate assistantships are often available to help fund your graduate education. Contact us for further details.

Contact Us

Give us a call: (773) 442-6001
Email us: graduateadmissions@neiu.edu
Visit us at the Graduate Admissions office:
M–Th: 8:30 a.m.–7 p.m.; Fri: 8:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m.
5500 North St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625
Room D-101D
Visit our website: www.neiu.edu/graduatestudies

Please visit the Department of Literacy Education website at www.neiu.edu/LiteracyEd for further information.

Newsweek magazine has named Northeastern Illinois University the Sixth Best Investment among all universities in the nation and number one in Illinois.