

***Area of Language and Literacy***  
**Online Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Reading Instruction:**  
***Focus on Teacher as Leader***

The University of West Georgia, College of Education, Department of Learning and Teaching offers innovative literacy education courses which lead to the M.Ed. in Reading Instruction. The 100% online program consists of 30 hours of coursework with at least 15 hours earned in the area of language and literacy education. Required courses focus on research-based, effective instruction, critical literacy, literacy supported through technology, teacher as leader, culture and literature, second language learning, and reading and writing assessment and instruction integrated in content-area studies.

The M.Ed. in Reading Instruction utilizes the 2010 Standards for Reading Professionals as developed by the International Reading Association. Applicants must possess an undergraduate degree in a teaching field and possess or be eligible for a level 4 teaching certificate to qualify for admission to the program. The 30 hour program consists of 3 hours of Instructional Design, 6 hours of Teacher as Leader, 15 hours in the Literacy (i.e., reading and writing) concentrations, 3 hours in Culture and Literacy, and 3 hours in Research.

Graduates of the program are prepared to take leadership positions in their school districts. The program meets the *Standards for Reading Professionals* as developed by the International Reading Association. While not a requirement to graduate, passing the appropriate GACE exams qualifies one to have *Reading Specialist* added to the teaching certificate.

## **Program Content**

***Graduates in the program develop professional excellence by...***

- Understanding literacy theory and research and how they impact assessment and instruction for effective reading and writing best practices across all content areas.
- Leading inquisitive learning through technology and culturally responsive thinking to motivate all students.
- Engaging students in developing critical stances through collaborative interactions during reading, writing, speaking, listening and viewing for life-long learning.
- Differentiating the instructional content process with literacy cognitive strategies to meet individual developmental and diverse needs (i.e., struggling readers, gifted, ELL).
- Improving literacy curriculum, learning goals, student progress and self-regulation, and refining teaching for the betterment of society.
- Understanding the codes of ethics and professional standards.

## **Program Details**

- **Admission Requirements for the M.Ed. in Reading Instruction:** 2.7 undergraduate GPA, Hold a T4 certificate
- **Completion Requirements:** 30 semester hours

- **Program Length:** 12-24 months  
(Please note: time for completion of this degree may vary by student, depending on individual progress and credits transferred, if applicable. For a personalized estimate of your time to completion, contact us at 678.839.6559; Dr. Tami Ogletree, Ph.D, [togletre@westga.edu](mailto:togletre@westga.edu); Dr. Elaine Roberts, Ph.D. [eroberts@westga.edu](mailto:eroberts@westga.edu))
- **Accreditation:** NCATE and SACS accredited, Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GAPSC) approved