

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; Dr. Elaine Roberts, Ph.D. eroberts@westga.edu)
- **Accreditation:** NCATE and SACS accredited, Georgia Professional Standards Commission (GAPSC) approved