



THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

352 Lafayette Street, Salem, MA 01970-5353

978.542.6323

www.salemstate.edu/graduate

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SPECIALIST TEACHER OF READING - INITIAL LICENSE

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

This program is designed for individuals seeking an initial license as a specialist teacher of reading but not a degree.

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS:

- A completed application form, available from the Graduate School Office, and a \$35.00 non-refundable application fee made payable to Salem State College.
- A complete, official transcript documenting the award of a bachelor's degree.
- Official transcripts of any graduate courses taken or degrees held.
- Three completed Reference for Graduate Admission forms. These forms are available with the application. Please include references from people who have known you in both professional and academic capacities. Completed reference forms may have a letter attached to them.
- All students for whom English is not a first language must submit satisfactory scores on the Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL).
- An official copy of test results taken within the past five years, documenting satisfactory performance on either the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) or the Miller Analogies Test (MAT), unless a master's degree has been awarded.
- A 500-1,000 word, type-written, double-spaced statement of purpose addressing the following questions:
What factors in your personal and professional history have influenced you in the past and now lead you to seek admission to this program at Salem State College?
What are your long-term professional goals, and how will this program help you meet them?
Is there any other information that you think would help the admissions committee to evaluate your application?

Additional requirements for individuals pursuing an initial license as a specialist teacher of reading:

- Submit evidence of a passing score on the Communication and Literacy portion of the Massachusetts Tests for Educator Licensure (MTEL). Information on this test is available in the Graduate School.
- Valid Massachusetts teaching license
- Documentation of one year of teaching in the area of the applicant's initial license.

APPLICATION DEADLINES:

Fall admission: June 1 | Spring admission: October 1 | Summer admission: February 1

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Upon acceptance into the program, you will complete a tentative plan of study in consultation with the program coordinator. You must request that any transfer credits be considered at this time. Please note that no more than three courses taken at Salem State College before admission can be counted towards this program. You are encouraged to meet every semester to update your plan of study and to discuss your progress. To schedule an appointment, please email the program secretary or call 978-542-6317.

All candidates for the non-degree, licensure-only program must complete 30 credits meeting the regulations for initial licensure as a Specialist Teacher of Reading. Students must complete the 75 pre-practicum hours required in EDU 729, EDU 745A, and EDU 817C and the 150 practicum hours in EDU 845 and EDU 840A (please note that EDU 840A is an intensive, summer reading clinic with children).

REQUIRED COURSES

- EDU 727 Foundations of Reading: Language, Literacy, And Child Development 3
- EDU 999C: Teaching Children to Write
OR 3
- EDU 940 Seminar in Reading (if EDU 940 is selected, it should be taken after EDU 845A)

The following courses should be taken in sequence.

- EDU 729 Reading and Writing in the Classroom 3
- EDU 745A Reading and Language: Theory and Research 3
- EDU 741C Literacy Assessment (all levels) 3
- EDU 817C: Literacy Intervention Strategies (all levels) 3
- EDU 840A Instructional Reading (Summer) Clinic With Children 6
- EDU 845A Teacher Leadership Roles in Reading 3

Select one elective course in children's or adolescent literature from the list below. 3

- EDU 748 Literature for Young Adults
- EDU 758 Using Literature Across the Curriculum
- EDU 767 Literature for Young Children
- EDU 772 Literature in the Middle Grades
- EDU 841 Reading Institute
- EDU 842 Reading Workshop on Children's Books

Total Credits: 30

Please note: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that students must complete the appropriate Massachusetts Educator Licensure Test (MTEL) in a content area. Be aware that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts may change licensure requirements. Students are advised to contact the state for specific, current licensure requirements. Students may access that information at www.doe.mass.edu

Subsequent to publication of this flowsheet, the Graduate School reserves the right to make changes in courses, program requirements, policies and regulations as circumstances dictate. There is no guarantee that any listed course will be offered in any given semester.
