

LITERACY/READING INSTRUCTION GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Banner Code: E1-CERG-LRIN

Reading Specialist (K-12)

703-993-7611

Email: literacy@gmu.edu

Website: <https://education.gmu.edu/literacy-and-reading/academics/literacy-reading-specialist-graduate-certificate> (<https://education.gmu.edu/literacy-and-reading/academics/literacy-reading-specialist-graduate-certificate/>)

Literacy Coaching

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Email: literacy@gmu.edu

Website: <https://education.gmu.edu/literacy-and-reading/academics/literacy-coaching-graduate-certificate> (<https://education.gmu.edu/literacy-and-reading/academics/literacy-coaching-graduate-certificate/>)

The Literacy/Reading Instruction Graduate Certificate offers coursework to prepare teachers to serve as literacy leaders, reading specialists, or literacy coaches in K-12 settings.

Available Concentrations

Concentration in Reading Specialist (K-12)

The Reading Specialist (K-12) concentration is designed for teachers who already have a master's degree and are interested in developing the expertise needed to serve as literacy leaders. Coursework helps teachers develop an in-depth understanding of literacy development, scientifically-based literacy research, and evidence-based instructional, assessment, and intervention in literacy. It also provides opportunities to develop the leadership skills needed to serve as a Reading Specialist. Successful completion of this state-approved sequence of courses may lead to eligibility for the K-12 Reading Specialist license in Virginia.

Additional state requirements that must be met for the K-12 Reading Specialist license include holding a master's degree, having an initial teaching license, earning a satisfactory score on the state-mandated licensure exam, and having at least three years of teaching experience under contract. This concentration is offered in both hybrid and fully online formats.

Concentration in Literacy Coaching

The Literacy Coaching concentration is designed for current Reading Specialists or others with a strong background in literacy who want to more effectively support teachers' professional learning, and ultimately student achievement, through literacy coaching. Coursework provides an in-depth understanding of adult learning, effective professional development techniques, strategies for supporting collaboration and communication, using data to foster change, ways to more effectively use technology when working with teachers, and issues of diversity and equity in literacy instruction. This concentration is offered in a fully online format.

Admissions & Policies

Policies

For policies governing all graduate certificates, see AP6.8 Requirements for Graduate Certificates (<https://catalog.gmu.edu/policies/academic/graduate-policies/#ap-6-8>).

Requirements

Certificate Requirements

Total credits: 12-21

This certificate may be pursued on a part-time basis only.

Concentration in Reading Specialist (K-12) (RSPC)

Coursework

Students enrolled in this concentration must earn a B- or higher in all coursework.

Code	Title	Credits
EDRD 640	Trajectory of Literacy Research	2
EDRD 641	Trends and Issues in Literacy	2
EDRD 642	Foundations of Literacy Instruction: Code-Based Skills	3
EDRD 643	Foundations of Literacy Instruction: Meaning-Based Skills	3
EDRD 644	Literacy Assessment and Intervention ¹	3
EDRD 645	Supervised Literacy Practicum ¹	3
EDRD 646	School-Based Leadership in Literacy	3
EDRD 647	Introduction to Literacy Coaching	2
Total Credits		21

¹ EDRD 644 and EDRD 645 must be taken concurrently.

Concentration in Literacy Coaching (LITC)

Code	Title	Credits
EDRD 680	Foundations of Coaching and Fostering Professional Learning	3
EDRD 681	Collaboration and Communication in Literacy Coaching	3
EDRD 682	Creating Change through Data-Oriented Coaching	3
EDRD 683	Trends and Issues in Literacy Instruction and Literacy Coaching	3
Total Credits		12