



MSED B-6 Literacy Extension Adv. Certificate

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Program Background

St. Bonaventure alumni who earned graduate literacy degrees between 2000 and 2020 were certified in either childhood (B-5) or adolescent (5-12) literacy, but not both.

With the advent of the Birth to Grade 12 (B-12) Literacy program in 2020, past graduates have inquired about what it would take to extend their present childhood or adolescent literacy certifications to include the other area, making them dually certified. The Childhood B-6 and Adolescent 5-12 Literacy Extension Advanced Certificate programs do just that.

Childhood B-6 Literacy Extension

The Childhood B-6 Literacy Extension Advanced Certificate is for SBU graduates who have earned their MSED Adolescent Literacy 5-12 degree who wish to extend their certification to B-12.

This 9-credit certificate offers two classes and a practicum that past graduates are missing in order to have dual certification. All other courses in the present B-12 literacy program are in common with the previous split childhood/adolescent degrees, therefore past graduates are not required to retake those courses.

Convenient online format

The Childhood B-6 Literacy Extension program is designed with working teachers in mind. All instruction is done online.

The program is best started in the fall, with one 3-credit course taken fall semester and another spring semester, followed by a 7-week (50 hour) practicum taken over the summer, when teachers are not busy with their own classrooms.

Program requirements

Admission to the program requires:

- A completed MSED Adolescent Literacy Degree (5-12) from St. Bonaventure University
- A one-page letter explaining why you are seeking the ACS and what being a reading teacher/specialist means to you.
- An informal interview with the MSED Literacy program director.

Curriculum & Courses

Graduates who apply for this extension certificate will have earned a 30 credit-hour Childhood Literacy degree. Nine (9) credits including the New York State practicum will give the former

SBU graduate the criteria to meet current NYS B-12 Literacy program requirements.

Courses include:

- READ 520. Language Arts & Writing
- READ 565. Teaching Reading to Individuals and Small Groups
- READ 580. Practicum Childhood Literacy
- READ 599A. Literacy Extension ACS

Note: The practicum, conducted by the St. Bonaventure Reading Center, is only a 7-week summer "course" with flexible hours where the ACS candidate practices reading instruction with two students together or individually for a total of only 50 hours. It may be completed face-to-face on the SBU campus, virtually, or face-to-face in your hometown with willing young readers.

Learning outcomes

Upon completion of the B-6 Literacy Extension ACS program graduates will:

- be equipped to nurture young readers, inspiring them to fall in love with reading.
- understand evolving digital technologies to engage and motivate young learners with appropriate, safe, and effective ways while fostering a positive climate that supports a literacy-rich learning environment.
- be able to implement language arts reading and writing methods and strategies inherent to the skills of a reading/literacy specialist.
- have gained enhanced curriculum and instructional knowledge to meet the needs of B-6 learners and to design, implement and evaluate evidence-based literacy instruction.

Don't have an MSED Literacy degree?

If you do not have your MSED Literacy degree and wish to be certified B-12, certified teachers who have completed initial certifications may enroll in our Master's Birth to Grade 12 program. Learn more at www.sbu.edu/education.