MSED in Literacy (Birth-12th grade)

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Program Overview

Offered 100% online and able to be completed within 12 months, our MSED in Literacy B-12 program promotes initially certified teachers to professionally certified literacy professionals. Teachers become change-makers in children's lives by respecting diverse students' strengths and areas of need. The mission is to lead children to fall in love with reading and to create passionate, effective teachers while inspiring our graduates to become strong advocates for their students.

Courses provide pedagogical building through immersion in teaching methods, strategies, and theory with mentored experiences in various educational settings. Field experience hours can be completed at a student's workplace in their school setting and observations can be done virtually; for those not currently teaching, our School of Education's EPPC office will work with you to create an in-person or virtual placement.

Teachers with MSED B-12 Literacy certification are in high demand by school superintendents, making program graduates highly marketable as literacy-trained general education B-12 teachers, reading/literacy specialists, reading/literacy coaches, and remedial reading educators.

Information about Certification

The B-12 Literacy degree is a path to professional certification. Initial teacher certification in a matching area (Early Childhood, Elementary, and/or Secondary) needs to be completed within one semester of acceptance. The only candidates recommended for literacy certification by the School of Education are those who have completed the master's program in its entirety. All others apply for certification through BOCES (NY).

Admission Requirements*

Admission to this degree program is based on:
1. Teaching certificate in matching area (Early Childhood, Elementary, and/or Secondary)
2. Official transcripts of all prior college work (3.00 GPA out of 4.00 is the working standard)
3. Two reference letters
4. Interview and one-page writing sample

State law requires SBU to collect immunization records from students taking 6 or more credit hours in any semester.

Exit Criteria

1. Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
2. Successful completion of Literacy Coaching Internship
3. Clinical practicum in literacy (100 hours)

Degree Requirements* (36 credits)

EDUC 500	Research Methods
READ 501	Theories and Foundations of Literacy
SPED 510	Instructional Design & Strategies for Inclusive Educ.
READ 520	Language Arts and Writing
READ 525	Problems of Literacy in Secondary Schools
READ 540	Supervision and Curriculum Issues in Literacy
READ 550	Teaching Linguistically & Culturally Diverse Learners
READ 560	Literacy in the Content Areas
READ 565	Literacy Instruction for Individuals and Small Groups
READ 570	Assessment and Diagnosis of Literacy
READ 580	Clinical Practicum in Literacy – Childhood
READ 595	Clinical Practicum in Literacy – Adolescent
READ 599	Literacy Coaching Internship (0 credits)
EDUC 599K	Culturally Diverse Experience (0 credits)

   For course descriptions, go to www.sbu.edu/graduate and click on the Course Catalog link on the lower right.

Field Experiences

In fulfilment of READ 599, you work in your own classroom or are matched with a district to complete an observation, practice teaching reading, shadow a literacy coach, practice coaching peers, and meet literacy standards set by the International Literacy Association. This may be completed in-person or virtually.

The SBU Reading Center is the final step in the program (READ 580 and READ 595) where teachers apply and practice their literacy knowledge working one on one with young readers. Teachers create individualized sessions for a period of 100 clock hours (K-5/6-12) over a short seven-week summer session.

These projects will be assigned and graded within the context of other courses that candidates take during the program. Details about project requirements are provided by program faculty and are available on the program's Moodle Group website. While the literacy coaching internship is not credit-bearing, successful completion of the internship is an exit requirement for the program.