Program Overview
The MSED B-12 Literacy program is online and can be completed within 12 months. The 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, to learn and promote life-long literacy skills, and to be passionate, effective teachers. To accomplish this, courses provide pedagogical building through immersion in teaching methods, strategies, and theory with mentored experiences in various educational settings. We inspire our graduates to be competent, compassionate, and reflective teachers who are committed to being strong advocates for their students.

For those currently working in a school setting, field experience hours can be completed at a student’s workplace and observations can be done virtually; for those who are not currently teaching, the School of Education EPPC office will create a placement for and with you. MSED B-12 Literacy certified teachers 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.

Admission Requirements*
Admission to this degree program is based on:

1. Teaching Certificate in matching area (Early Childhood, Childhood, Adolescent)
2. Official transcripts of all prior college work (3.00 GPA out of 4.00 is the working standard)
3. Two (2) reference letters
4. Interview and one page writing sample
5. GRE or MAT score

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

Exit Criteria
1. A cumulative GPA of at least 3.0
2. Literacy/Coaching Internship
3. Diversity experience
4. E-portfolio
5. SBU Comprehensive take home exam

Certification
The B-12 Literacy degree is a path to professional certification. Initial teacher certification in a matching area (Early Childhood, Childhood, and Adolescent) needs to be completed within one semester of acceptance. The 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).

Degree Requirements* (36 credits)
READ501 Theories and Foundations of Literacy
READ520 Language Arts and Writing
READ525 Problems of Literacy in Secondary Schools
READ540 Supervision and Curriculum Issues in Literacy
READ550 Teaching Linguistically & Culturally Diverse Learners
READ560 Literacy in the Content Areas
READ565 Literacy Instruction for Individuals and Small Groups
READ570 Assessment and Diagnosis of Literacy B-12
READ580 Clinical Practicum in Literacy: Childhood
READ595 Clinical Practicum in Literacy: Adolescent
EDUC500 Research Methods
SPED510 Instructional Design & Strategies for Inclusive Education
READ599 Literacy Coaching Internship (0 credits)
EDUC599K Culturally Diverse Experience (0 credits)
READCompComprehensiveExaminationandPortfolio (0 credits)

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

Field Experiences & Practicum
Over the course of the program, teachers complete field experiences in fulfillment with READ599. Teachers work in their own classroom or are matched with districts where they complete an observation, practice teaching reading, shadow a literacy coach, practice coaching peers, and meet literacy standards set by the International Literacy Association. The SBU Reading Center is the final step in the program (READ580/595) where teachers apply and practice their literacy knowledge working 1:1 with young readers. Teachers create individualized sessions for a period of 100 clock hours (K-5/6-12) over a short 7-week summer session.