LITERACY/READING SPECIALIST





PROGRAM PROFILE

Mission

Loyola's program in literacy prepares educators to help children develop critical reading, writing, listening, speaking, and viewing skills and knowledge necessary to navigate their worlds both inside and outside school. Founded on principles of research, theory, and practice, our courses call on sociocultural and theoretical perspectives in literacy to enhance teachers' understanding of the reading-writing-learning connections that allow students from diverse backgrounds to become confident, successful learners.

PROGRAMS OF STUDY

Graduate study in Literacy offers programs leading to a:

- Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- Certificate of Advanced Study (CAS)

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN LITERACY/ READING SPECIALIST – CERTIFICATION

Loyola's graduate programs in reading prepare you to assess, diagnose, and instruct K-12 students as well as provide leadership to other school professionals and parents. The program consists of a comprehensive 39-credit course of study that has been approved by the Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) and satisfies academic requirements for reading specialist certification.

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN LITERACY TEACHER PROGRAM

Coursework employs research-based practices that directly address the literacy needs of struggling students in the 21st century. Throughout the program, courses are supported by hands-on experience. The program consists of a comprehensive 33-credit course of study that has been approved by the Maryland State Department of Education.

CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED STUDY

Advanced graduate work in Literacy/Reading may be pursued beyond the master's degree in an organized 30-credit program and leading to a CAS in Literacy.

PROGRAM DESIGN

Programs are aligned with the national standards for the preparation of reading professionals, as established by the International Reading Association and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The reading specialist program is based on a reflexive practitioner model that includes two capstone courses in action research and a supervised practicum, where candidates conduct full diagnostic assessments, prepare individualized instruction programs, work with students, evaluate the effects of the instruction, and write complete case studies for each student.

FORMAT

- Hands-on experience
- Culminating summer practicum
- Preparation for assessing, diagnosing, and instructing K-12 students

LOCATION

Timonium and Columbia Graduate Centers, and Loyola Clinical Centers

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

- Application*
- \$60 Application fee
- Official transcript (s)
- Program selection form
- Essay
- Optional Letters of recommendation
- Optional résumé or vitae
- *Please note, international students have separate application requirements for admission

A Better Future, word by word

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION HISTORY

1946 - Began as an education program in the Evening School and Adult Education Division.

1949 - The Evening School and Adult Education Division became the Graduate Education and Evening School of Loyola College.

1971- The education program became a department within Loyola's College of Arts and Sciences.

2009 - The department of education officially became the School of Education.

OUR APPROACH

True to Loyola's Jesuit roots, we focus on literacy as a social justice issue and a right for all children in public and private schools, with the knowledge that literacy is the focus of all educational endeavors. Our orientation toward literacy focuses on the many "ways" that people read and write in their lives, with specific attention to the cultural and social practices or activities that shape people's interaction with texts and contexts.

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