

The Master of Education Degree in Reading

Chairperson: Dr. Jeanie Burnett

Office: 201-B Beekey Building

E-mail: geskus@kutztown.edu

Program Coordinator: Dr. Mary Laub

Office: 207-A Beekey Building

Telephone: (610) 683-4271

E-mail: laub@kutztown.edu

Hours: 36

Required: Comprehensive Portfolio

Program of Study

M.Ed/Reading Specialist Certification

Requirements: 36 credit hours; Comprehensive Program Portfolio;

Praxis Reading Specialist Exam;

Valid Pennsylvania instructional I or II Certificate*

This program is designed to lead to a Master of Education degree and Reading Specialist Certification. The goals of the program are twofold. First, it is intended to prepare reading specialists/literacy who can plan, implement, and maintain a developmental instructional program. Second, it provides teachers with the ability to recognize and to work effectively with learners who have varying degrees of difficulty in reading, or who have other learning problems. The focus of the program is both preventive and corrective. In order to achieve this, the program includes a combination of theoretical and practical experiences and activities.

Applicants who hold a valid Pennsylvania (PA) Instructional I or II Certificate, have taken the Praxis Reading Specialist Exam and successfully completed all required reading education and degree requirements will be issued a Master of Education degree. Those who have passed the Praxis Reading Specialist Exam and have met the preceding requirements will be recommended to the PA Department of Education for Reading Specialist certification.

* For those who hold out-of-state certification or invalid PA certificates, applicants can be admitted conditionally, but will not be able to complete the program until they hold a valid PA Instructional I certificate.

Reading Specialist Certification

Requirements: 24 credit hours; Comprehensive Program Portfolio;

Praxis Reading Specialist Exam;

Valid Pennsylvania Instructional I or II Certificate*

This program is designed to lead to a Reading Specialist Certification. The program of study will prepare reading specialists/literacy coaches who can plan, implement, and maintain ongoing instructional programs in literacy. Additionally, it provides teachers with the ability to recognize and work effectively with learners who have varying degrees of success in reading and learning.

Applicants who hold a valid Pennsylvania (PA) Instructional I or II Certificate, have a Master in education Degree, successfully completed all required reading education courses, and take and pass the Praxis Reading Specialist Exam will be recommended to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for certification.

* For those who hold out-of-state certification or invalid PA certificates, applicants can be admitted

conditionally, but will not be able to complete the program until they hold a valid PA Instructional I certificate.

All students accepted into the programs described above must complete all requirements within six(6) calendar years.

Application for Candidacy: All students accepted into the program (excluding those on probationary status) should make application for candidacy after completion of between twelve (12) and twenty-four (24) graduate credits with an academic average of 3.0. At least six (6) credits must be from the area of specialization. All students accepted into the program (excluding those on probationary status) should make an application for candidacy after completion of between twelve (12) and twenty-four (24) graduate credits with an academic average of 3.0. At least six (6) credits must be from the area of specialization. Students should download the Application for Candidacy Form from the Graduate Studies website www.kutztown.edu/academics/graduate/application.shtml , complete the form, obtain his/her advisor's signature, and forward the application to the Graduate office, Room 309, Stratton Administration Center. Candidacy must be obtained at least one semester before the degree is granted.

Course Work

I. Required (24 hours)

Foundation Level Courses (15 hours)

EDU	551	Principles of Reading Instruction
EDU	502	Seminar in Educational and Psychological Research Pertinent to Reading
EDU	552	Teaching Reading in the Content Areas
EDU	555	Reading Disabilities
EDU	557	Foundations of Reading Comprehension

*All Foundation Level courses **must** be completed prior to registration for Application Level courses.

Application Level Courses (9 hours)

EDU	575	Clinical Practicum in Reading: Diagnosis (PREREQUISITES: all foundation-level courses)
EDU	576	Practicum in Reading Instruction: Corrective and Remedial (PREREQUISITES: EDU 575 and admission to candidacy)
EDU	577	Leadership for Reading Educators (PREREQUISITES: all foundation-level courses)

NOTE: EDU 575 and EDU 577 may only be taken in the same semester with the permission of the Graduate Reading Committee.

II. Electives(12 hours)

III. Comprehensive Program Portfolio

- As a summative evaluation, a comprehensive portfolio is required. The portfolio will reflect the professional standards of the International Reading Association. Candidates must have completed all their reading courses or be enrolled in their final reading course in order to present their comprehensive portfolios. Presentations will be made to graduate reading faculty three times during the year : near the end of April, July and November.

Application for Graduation

Application for graduation must be made in writing to the Graduate office by the date published in the Master schedule and Registration Instructions. Please note that graduation (formal ceremony) occurs only in May and December. However, recommendations to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for issuance of reading Specialist Certification will be made upon completion of all requirements. Also, for salary

purposes, a letter can be sent to a school district indicating completion of program requirements.

For more specific information about the graduate reading program in reading, visit the website at www.kutztown.edu/academics/graduate/programs/education/reading.shtml.

For this program, the Graduate Studies admissions requirement of an acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) may be satisfied by any one of the following:

- Acceptable score on the Graduate Record Examination.
- Passing score on the Praxis II examinations.
- Passing score on the National teacher Examination.
- Ten years teaching experience in an elementary or secondary school with appropriate certification.