

NON-DEGREE GSE CERTIFICATE IN LITERACY INSTRUCTION

- I. PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** This twelve-credit Graduate Certificate is available to students enrolled in master's and doctoral programs in many fields at Rutgers, and is open to all with a bachelor's degree. The certificate program is designed to allow educators to develop expertise in the teaching of literacy, enabling them to optimize literacy learning opportunities for students at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Graduate students from programs outside of the field of education are also welcome; those students will acquire knowledge about the processes of literacy development and current instructional methodologies.

Students who complete the certificate program and then apply and are accepted into the Reading Specialist Ed.M. or endorsement programs in the GSE within five years may apply the twelve credits taken in the certificate program to the Reading Specialist program requirements.

This program does not include coursework leading to a New Jersey school personnel license.

- II. APPLICATION DEADLINES:** No applications can be admitted less than two weeks before the beginning of the semester in which the program would be started. Applications must be submitted and complete at least two weeks before the beginning of the semester.
- III. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:** To be considered for admission to the program, applicants must provide all of the following:
1. Undergraduate and graduate transcripts. Applicants must hold a bachelor's degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university. Applicants are not usually admitted with a GPA of less than 2.75 in their most recent degree.

Only complete applications will be reviewed.

IV. HOW TO APPLY:

1. **Current GSE Students:** All applicants who are **currently** enrolled in a GSE program and wish to begin the certificate program while continuing their current program should contact the GSE Office of Student and Academic Services (OSAS) at academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu.
2. **Non-GSE Students:** Applicants who are **not current** GSE students apply online at the Graduate Admissions website: <http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/>
 - a. Click on "Apply Now" and follow the instructions given.
 - b. Choose "Non-Degree Application", for Application Type.
 - c. For Program Name choose "**Professional Credit Programs**" from the drop down menu. (Scroll down past all the Education programs.)
 - d. Scroll down; across from "Education: Literacy Instruction Certificate 15000LR", click the link for the semester you want to apply for.
 - e. Select "No" for Full-time Study.
 - f. Complete the application by providing the requested information.
 - g. Supporting materials must be submitted online or mailed to the Graduate Admissions office at Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions (New Brunswick), Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, 65 Davidson Road, Room 200L, Piscataway, NJ 08854-5602 U.S.A.
 - h. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
 - i. Submit your application and authorize payment for the non-refundable application fee.

Applicants are responsible for reviewing and confirming that they meet program requirements **before** the application is submitted. Rutgers Graduate School of Education **WILL NOT** refund the application fee if an applicant is not accepted.

When the entire application process is complete, students simply register for the courses in the program as described on the program handouts and on the GSE website gse.rutgers.edu. It is the responsibility of the student to enroll in all of the required courses through Rutgers University. **No program requirements may be met at any other institution.** Students are expected to maintain a "B" or better average as a non-degree student. Accepted students will have 5 years to complete the program.

After completing all of the required courses in the program, students should contact the Office of Academic Services at the GSE. Students will receive official documentation of their completion, endorsed by the Rutgers University Graduate School of Education.

V. PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

| | Course Number | Course Name | Credits | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---------|--------|
| | | | Grad | Total |
| Select two or three courses | 05:300:423 | Teaching Writing: Social and Cognitive Dimensions | 3 | 6 or 9 |
| | 05:300:494 or 15:299:514 | Literacy Development in the Early Years | 3 | |
| | 05:300:495 or 15:299:516 | Literacy Development in the Elementary and Middle School* | 3 | |
| | 15:252:519 | Teaching Writing for Children and Adolescents* | 3 | |
| | 15:252:526 | Teaching Struggling Readers | 3 | |
| Select one or two courses | 15:252:520 or 15:299:509 | Adolescent Literature for Secondary Students Children's Literature in the Early Childhood and Elementary School Curriculum ** | 3 | 3 or 6 |
| | 15:299:561 | Theoretical Foundations of Literacy – Research, Policy, and Practice | 3 | |
| | With prior approval from the program coordinator, courses approved for the Reading Specialist Ed.M. may be substituted. | | | |
| Total Credits | | | 12 | 12 |

* Currently offered in an online format (may be offered face-to-face as well)

** Currently offered as a one-week summer course

VI. PROGRAM FACULTY:

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