



## 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. Official undergraduate 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:**

**Current Rutgers University Students:** All applicants who are **currently** enrolled in a program at Rutgers University and wish to begin the endorsement program while continuing their current program should contact the GSE Office of Student and Academic Services (OSAS) at [academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu](mailto:academic.services@gse.rutgers.edu).

**Non-Rutgers University Students:** Applicants who are **not currently** enrolled in a program at Rutgers University apply online at the Graduate Admissions website: <http://gradstudy.rutgers.edu/>

1. Click on "Create Account or Login" and follow the instructions given.
2. Under "Start an application today!", click **Apply Now**  
Application Selection
3. For "Level of Application", select **Graduate**
4. For "Applicant Type", select **Certificate**
5. Continue filling out the application, following the on-screen instructions.  
Program of Study
6. Under "Program Information", make sure **Certificate** is selected for "Applicant Type"
7. For "Area of Study", select **Education**
8. For "Location/Instructional Method", select **New Brunswick**
9. For "Program Selection", select **Education - Literacy Instruction (Certificate) New Brunswick**
10. Complete the rest of the application by providing the requested information.

11. Supporting materials should be submitted online. Materials that must be mailed should be addressed to: Office of Graduate and Professional Admissions, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Proctor Hall, Suite 308, 65 Davidson Road, Piscataway, NJ 08854, U.S.A.
12. Enter payment information for the non-refundable application fee.
13. Submit your application.

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](http://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.			
<b>Total Credits</b>			12	12

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

\*\* Currently offered as a one-week summer course