The graduate reading education program at Texas State prepared me to be a skillful reading specialist. I most enjoyed the passionate and knowledgeable professors who fostered my growth as a teacher and taught me the tools that I need to meet the everyday challenges of serving our students.”

— Jessica Dillenberger READING EDUCATION ALUMNA
Course Work

Major in Reading Education

Most students enter the program to pursue a master of education with a major in reading education while at the same time preparing to pass the TExES to receive a reading specialist certificate. Certified teachers with at least three years of public school teaching experience who receive this certificate automatically qualify for the master reading teacher certificate without having to take the Master Reading Teacher TExES.

The program requires 30 semester hours of course work in reading, including courses in language and literacy development, reading theory and research, teaching literacy from early childhood through grade 16, teaching with literature for children/young adults, teaching reading and writing in a multilingual/multicultural environment, literacy assessment and a two-course internship. The program also requires a six-semester-hour cognate that is designed in consultation with program advisors.

Minor in Reading Education

A 12-semester-hour academic minor in reading education is also available. It gives graduate students pursuing majors in other disciplines the opportunity to receive advanced education in the teaching of reading. The state of Texas requires the MRT candidates to possess Texas teacher certification and three years of public school teaching experience.

Master Reading Teacher Preparation

A 12-semester-hour qualification for the Master Reading Teacher TExMaT is also available. The advanced course work required for this program prepares students to take the Master Reading Teacher TExMaT to earn a master reading teacher certificate (for early childhood through grade 12).

Career Options for Reading Specialists

• reading specialist for public or private schools
• district-level director and/or administrator for literacy education
• literacy instructor for university or community college
• literacy instructor for a variety of adult education programs
• reading tutor for students K-16
• director of a reading clinic and/or tutoring company
• reading consultant for a variety of public and private educational organizations and publishing companies
• curricula developer
• literacy grant writer
• literacy researcher

Admission Policy

Preferred applicants are certified teachers with at least one year of teaching experience. They must have at least a 3.0 GPA for the last 60 hours of course work leading to the bachelor’s degree and for any previous graduate or professional work. The Graduate Record Exam (GRE) is not required of all applicants. However, students with GPAs lower than 3.0 may submit GRE scores to supplement their applications.

Each applicant must submit the following to The Graduate College:
• an online Graduate College application through ApplyTexas
• application fee
• one official transcript from each four-year college or university attended
• a copy of the applicant’s official teaching certificate
• departmental application
• three- to five-page, double-spaced, typed statement of purpose describing current teaching of literacy, objectives in enrolling in the program and goals for improving literacy instruction

Financial Assistance

The Department of Curriculum and Instruction offers a variety of scholarships made available by financial aid. Support for those pursuing an M.Ed. in reading education with the reading specialist certification include TEACH Grant donors: studentaid.ed.gov/types/grants-scholarships/teach#who-can-get-a-teach-grantorous. Contact the department for application details.

Visit www.gradcollege.txstate.edu/apply for access to the online application and additional details. Applications are due June 15 for the fall semester, October 15 for the spring semester and April 15 for the summer semester. The Graduate College will continue to process applications received after these deadlines; however, such applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis, with no guarantees of admission consideration.

Contact

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