

READING SPECIALIST

MASTER OF EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION, AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

DELIVERY METHOD
100% online

START TERMS
Fall, Winter, Spring or Summer

COMPLETION TIME
1-1/2 years average, but varies
per student

NUMBER OF CREDITS
Varies by program choice
(12-30 credits)



PDE - Approved
Reading Specialist Program

SlipperyRock
University

A member of Pennsylvania's State System
of Higher Education

EXPERIENCE THE DIFFERENCE
www.sru.edu/graduate

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Master of Education - Reading Specialist program is designed to promote the development of reading professionals who are prepared to fill a variety of roles in PK-12 school settings. These roles include classroom reading teacher, Title I reading specialist, intervention specialist, developmental study skills specialist, or consultant. All candidates completing this program are eligible to receive Pennsylvania Reading Specialist Certification after achieving a passing score on the Praxis II Reading Specialist exam. The certification is required for all Title I reading teachers in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Teachers can develop expertise in literacy development and instruction, add the PK-12 reading specialist certification to their current teaching certificate, and earn an M.Ed.

SRU's graduate reading programs are attractive for certified teachers who seek to:

- Enhance their knowledge of and skills in teaching literacy (PK-12), including Structured Literacy practices
- Support PK-12 classroom teachers in literacy instruction
- Lead literacy initiatives in their schools and communities
- Expand employment opportunities to include reading specialist, literacy coach and PK-12 reading
- Meet requirements for Level II Certification, Act 48, or an M.Ed.

SRU's M.Ed. Reading programs offer working professionals:

- High-quality courses that provide flexibility for your busy schedule
- Experienced faculty with doctoral degrees who are experts in their fields
- Small class sizes and personal interaction with faculty

CURRICULUM GUIDE - M.ED. WITH PK-12 READING SPECIALIST

Professional Core

ELEC 608	Historical, Psychological & Linguistic Foundations of Literacy	3
ELEC 610	The Reading Program in the Elementary School	3
ELEC 612	The Reading Program in the Middle/Secondary School	3
ELEC 614	Foundations of Instructional Coaching	3
ELEC 622	Literacy Assessment Analysis & Instructional Decision Making	3
ELEC 625	Practicum: Assessment and Instruction for the Reading Specialist	3
ELEC 629	Practicum: Organization and Administration of School Reading	3

Educational Foundations - Select one of the following:

ELEC 615	Teacher Leadership & School Change for Instructional Coaches	3
SEFE 604	Philosophical Foundations of Education	
SEFE 606	Social Foundations of Education	
SEFE 609	History of Western Education	
SEFE 680	Crucial Issues in Education	

Research and Statistics Courses

ELEC 627	Current Issues in Reading Research (Required)	3
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Select one of the following:

ELEC 697	Statistical Interpretation & Analysis in Reading Research and Assessments	3
SEFE 602	Univariate Statistical Methods	
SEFE 696	Elements of Qualitative Educational Research	

Total Hours

Major Code: 9190	30
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SUGGESTED COURSE SEQUENCE:

The following courses can be taken in any order to begin the program:

ELEC 608	ELEC 610	ELEC 612	ELEC 614	ELEC 615
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PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE CERTIFICATION

(PK-12 Reading Specialist, M.Ed. & PK-12 Reading Specialist Certification & Instructional Coaching Endorsement: Literacy Emphasis, M.Ed.)

All candidates completing this program are eligible to receive Pennsylvania certification after completing a practicum and achieving a passing or qualifying score on Pennsylvania Department of Education required exam(s). If you are interested in teaching in another state, please contact the Department of Education in that state.

TUITION

Information on current tuition can be found on the Graduate Admissions website at www.sru.edu/graduate. Financial Aid brochures are available through the Financial Aid Office www.sru.edu/FinAid or in the Office of Graduate Admissions.

CURRICULUM GUIDE - READING SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION

Required Courses

ELEC 608	Historical, Psychological & Linguistic Foundations of Literacy	3
ELEC 610	The Reading Program in the Elementary School	3
ELEC 612	The Reading Program in the Middle/Secondary School	3
ELEC 614	Foundations of Instructional Coaching	3
ELEC 622	Literacy Assessment Analysis & Instructional Decision Making	3
ELEC 625	Practicum: Assessment and Instruction for the Reading Specialist	3
ELEC 629	Practicum: Organization and Administration of School Reading Programs	3

Total Hours 21

Program Code: 919C

Candidates seeking only the certification as a Pennsylvania Reading Specialist (not a master's degree and certification) must complete 21 credits of graduate courses in reading (the CORE courses listed above) and pass the Praxis II Specialty Test in reading. Should a candidate choose to continue his/her studies toward the attainment of a graduate degree, all of the core courses will count toward the Master of Education degree in Reading.

PROGRAM AWARDS



ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants to the graduate reading programs must already hold a valid teaching certificate. To be considered for admission to any of the reading programs, the following materials must be submitted with the online graduate application and a non-refundable application fee:

- Official undergraduate degree transcript with an overall GPA of 3.0 or higher and any graduate transcripts.
- A resume indicating the candidate's professional education employment history and current status (student-teaching, tenured, non-tenured; full-time, part-time, substitute) with a school district.
- A copy of the applicant's current teaching certification(s) or a letter from the certifying university indicating that requirements for a teaching certification have been met and that the certification application is currently being processed. This can be from any state. **NOTE:** The reading specialist certification can only be added to an instructional certificate, not an educational specialist certificate.
- Two electronic recommendation forms: two from a professional or one from a professional and one from a faculty member

Applicants who do not meet all of the listed criteria may be offered conditional admission upon recommendation of the graduate coordinator and approval by the director of Graduate Admissions.

CLEARANCES

Clearances are due no later than one (1) week prior to deadline for course registration for each program's practicum/field experience-----no student will be permitted to register for their program's practicum and take part in practicum/field experiences without clearances on file at SRU. Please refer to the graduate website at www.sru.edu/graduate and select "Requirements by Program" to learn more.

TESTING AND PDE CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

(to view the most updated information, click on the QR code provided)



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ACADEMICS AND COURSE SCHEDULING:

Dr. Christine Walsh
Graduate Coordinator
201 McKay Education Building
724.738.4889
christine.walsh@sru.edu

The educational policies and procedures are continually being reviewed and changed in keeping with the mission of the university. Consequently, this document cannot be considered binding and is intended to be used as only an informational guide. Students are responsible for being informed of official policies and regulations for meeting all appropriate requirements.

FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT ADMISSIONS:

Office of Graduate Admissions
104 North Hall, Welcome Center
Slippery Rock, PA 16057
www.sru.edu/graduate
724.738.2051 or 877.SRU.GRAD
graduate.admissions@sru.edu