



Ed.M. LITERACY SPECIALIST

For those who hold an initial NY State teaching certificate in another area (certificate title) as a prerequisite for admission. This program leads to initial/professional certification Literacy (Birth-Grade 6 and Grades 5-12) in the State of New York. This certification is required for reading specialists in New York State.

Name: _____

Person Number: _____

Initial/Professional Certification/ Ed.M. (Dual B-6/5-12)

	Date	Credit	Grade
MAJOR AREA REQUIREMENTS		15	
LAI 550 Literacy Acquisition & Instruction Pre-K/2		3	
LAI 551 Childhood Literacy Methods		3	
LAI 552 Middle Childhood/Adolescent Literacy Methods		3	
LAI 563 Language, Literacy and Culture		3	
LAI 560 Improving Instruction in Elem. Lang Arts		3	
Complete the following in Sequence. Note Prerequisites Required		15	
LAI 556 Classroom Literacy Assessment & Instruction (Prereq: LAI 550 and LAI 551)		3	
LAI 557 Clinical Literacy Assessment (Prereq: LAI 556 and its prerequisites; LAI 552 highly recommended)		3	
LAI 558 Clinical Practicum in Teaching Literacy (Prereq: LAI 557 and its prerequisites and PI)		6	
LAI 559 Classroom Practicum in Teaching Literacy (Prereq: LAI 557 and its prerequisites and PI) (SUMMER ONLY)		3	
Practicum ¹ 558 & 559 B-6 Experience _____ 5-12 Experience _____			
ELECTIVES – any 2 courses pre-approved by advisor		6	
		3	
		3	
CAPSTONE EVENT		0	
Comprehensive Exam or Project/Thesis ²		0	
Total credits (minimum)		36	

Notes on Literacy Specialist Program

1. Practicum experiences in 558 and 559 must include one placement in B-6 and one in 5-12. List course number and semester completed.
2. Consult advisor on taking comps or completing project/thesis. Comp exam requires registration in the LAI office only. Project/Thesis requires official registration for at least 1 credit hour.

For additional notes on the Literacy Specialist Program, see page 2.

Special Notes Ed.M.: Literacy Specialist

1. Students who successfully complete the program will be awarded an Ed.M. degree from the University at Buffalo. Successful completion includes individual program course grades of B- or higher and an overall GPA of at least 3.0. Additionally, successful completion includes any applicable conditions of admission and/or any applicable conditions of continued enrollment. For the University at Buffalo to recommend to the New York State Education Department that you be issued teacher certificates in Literacy, your other certificate must continue to be valid at the point of program completion and application for this recommendation.
2. This program requires a Literacy Faculty advisor. Please contact your advisor upon acceptance to the program.
3. Contact your faculty advisor to discuss electives. Electives must be pre-approved by advisor.

SUGGESTED LITERACY ELECTIVES

LAI 539	STRATEGIC TEACHING STRATEGIC READING PROCESSES (prerequisite LAI 551).
LAI 565	LITERATURE FOR CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE.
LAI 576	LITERACY AND TECHNOLOGY (Prerequisite, ONE of the following: LAI 550, LAI 551, LAI 552, OR 560).
LAI 580	LITERATURE FOR YOUNG ADULTS.
LAI 549	CHILD DEVELOPMENT & LEARNING
CEP 501 or 541	PSYCHOLOGICAL FOUNDATIONS OF EDUCATION (CEP 501) OR PSYCHOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT OF CHILD (541)
	EFFECTIVE ORAL LANGUAGE PRACTICE IN MAINSTREAM AND ELL CLASSROOM CONTEXTS
	OR OTHER COURSES *PRE-APPROVED* BY ADVISOR

4. GSE Application to Candidacy Form:

Upon successful completion of 12 to 15 credits in the Ed.M. program, submit a completed GSE *Application to Candidacy* form to the LAI Office (505 Baldy Hall). The form must include your advisor's signature. The Application to Candidacy form can be found on the Graduate School of Education's website (www.gse.buffalo.edu). The form is also available in the wall pockets outside of 505 Baldy Hall.

5. Apply for Graduation via the HUB Student Center:

Notify the University of your expected conferral (graduation) date via the HUB Student Center. The "apply for graduation" link is on the "My Academics" tab. The deadlines listed below are firm. If you miss the deadline, you will need to apply for the next conferral (graduation) date.

Final Semester	File your application via the HUB by:	Degree Conferral
Fall	October 15	February 1
Spring	February 22	June 1
Summer	July 15	September 1

6. Transfer Credits:

No more than six hours may be transferred from another college or university, and none of those transfer hours may be substituted for the Clinic-based or Classroom-based Practica. The student's advisor must approve all transfer credits.

7. Master's Comprehensive Examination or Master's Project:

After completing about 24 to 27 hours, consult with your advisor about the Master's Comprehensive Examination or Master's Project. If you opt to take the exam, then at the beginning of the semester that the exam will be taken, an *Application for Comprehensive Examination* form must be completed and submitted to the departmental office. Except for summer semester, students must be enrolled for at least 1 credit when they take their comprehensive exam. The project option requires prior consent and approval from student's advisor.

8. Applying For Teacher Certification:

Program completion does not automatically lead to a University at Buffalo recommendation for the issuance of teacher certificates in Literacy and a University at Buffalo recommendation does not automatically lead to the issuance of these certificates. To apply for initial and/or professional teacher certificates in Literacy (birth-grade 6 and grades 5-12), you must meet the program requirements of the University at Buffalo (as specified within this document, as well as all applicable prerequisite distribution requirements and any other requirements specified at the point of admission or thereafter as a condition of continued enrollment) and the certification requirements of the New York State Education Department (such as the applicable New York State Teacher Certification Exams). For information about the certification application process, please contact the Teacher Education Institute (716-645-2461, <http://gse.buffalo.edu/tei>). Please note, completion of the Literacy Specialist program may only lead to a University at Buffalo recommendation for the issuance of teacher certificates in Literacy; if you are applying for teacher certificates in other areas of certification, you should contact the New York State Education Department and/or the certification officer at your local BOCES.