



ACADEMIC ALERT #2005-6

DATE: February 2005
DECISION: National College of Education (NCE)

**Addition of Reading Teacher Option to Reading Program
Change in M.Ed. Core Course Requirements for the Reading and Language Core
for both the Reading Program, and the Language and Literacy Program**

Rationale

Addition of Reading Teacher option. Students matriculating in the Reading Program have typically applied for Reading Specialist. In June of 2004, the Illinois State Board of Education approved an additional endorsement, that of Reading Teacher. By adding the Reading Teacher Option, NLU is poised to capture this market. The new standards for Reading Teacher are effective June 30, 2005.

Change in Core Course Requirements. Following accreditation reviews by NCATE, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the International Reading Association (IRA), faculty made changes to the Reading Program and Language and Literacy Program (M.Ed. & CAS) to address the new International Reading Association Standards, which will form the basis for their program's next review. The new IRA Standards (IRA, 2003) require that students are prepared in the core areas of research, psychological foundations of cognition, language development and linguistics and technology. The reading program had no electives because of the required 10 hours of NCE core. A change in the M.Ed. core from 10sh to 8sh enables students to take electives to meet standards.

NCE Curriculum Council Approval: January 13, 2005
NCE Graduate Council Approval, January 19, 2005
Senate Academic Planning Committee Approval: January 20, 2005
Faculty Senate Approval: February 19, 2005

Program Authorizations: The Reading Teacher Option, Reading, and Language and Literacy programs are authorized to be offered in the following Illinois regions: Chicago; North Suburban; West Suburban; and South Metropolitan. The Reading Program (M.Ed., M.S.Ed., and C.A.S.) is also authorized to be offered in the Fox Valley Region.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: Immediately for Marketing and Recruitment; First Students for Spring 2005. The Reading Teacher Option is for students who will graduate after June 2005.

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SIGNATURE

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Admission Requirements

Candidates will meet the existing requirements for the Reading Program.

Reading Teacher Option

Students who complete the Reading Teacher option may apply the State of Illinois for endorsement on regular or special certificates. This requires prior certification, passing the Reading Teacher Content test and all other testing and other requirements of the state of Illinois. Candidates are encouraged to monitor these requirements, and their updates and amendments on the Illinois State Board of Education website (www.isbe.net).

The addition of an option for a Reading Teacher in the Reading Program requires no changes or additions to course offerings but substitutes Reading and Language electives for RLR 518 Supervising the Reading Program and RLR 593 Seminar in Reading Research, two courses required for the Reading Specialist.

Reading options may be fulfilled within any of three degrees: Master of Education (M.Ed.-Total Program = 36 SH); Master of Science in Education (M.S. Ed-Total Program = 37 SH); Certificate of Advanced Study (option for candidates who already hold a Master's degree in Education-Total Program = 32 SH).

New M.Ed. Core

New M.Ed. Reading and Language Core for both the Reading Program and the Language and Literacy Program: the new core includes only one prior option which is now a requirement, EPS 541. In addition the totals required semester hours are reduced from 10 SH to 8 SH. The new core is:

FND511 (3 SH.) will replace FND504 (2 SH) and FND505 (2 SH.).

EPS541 (2 SH.) will replace the choice of EPS500 (2 SH.) or EPS510 (2 SH).

ESR505 (3 SH) will replace ESR506 (2 SH.) and ESR507 (2 SH).

The "old" core courses are deleted from the M.Ed. core in Reading and Language but not from the catalog:

EPS 500 Human Development 2SH OR

EPS 510 Theories of Teaching and Learning 2SH

ESR 506 Graduate Research: Interpretive/Critical 2SH

ESR 507 Graduate Research: Empirical/Quantitative 2SH

FND 504 History and Philosophy of Education 2SH

FND 505 Perspectives on Contemporary Issues 2SH

New M.Ed. Core Course Requirements Changed from 10 SH to 8 SH)

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
ESR 505	Educational Inquiry and Assessment	3
FND 511	Social and Cultural Politics of Education: Personal and Contextual Perspectives	3
EPS 541	Cognition and Instruction	2

M.S.Ed. Core Course Requirements: 14 SH (Remains the Same)

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
ESR 503	Research Design Analysis	2
ESR 506	Graduate Research: Interpretive/Critical	2
ESR 507	Graduate Research: Empirical/Quantitative	2
FND 504	History and Philosophy of Education	2
FND 505	Contemporary Issues in Education	2
RLR 599	Thesis in Reading Education	4

C.A.S. Core Course Requirements (Remains the Same)

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
EDL 546	Perspectives on and Administration of Educational Policies	3

Program Requirements for the Reading Teacher Option: 20 SH

Course Code	Course Title	Semester Hours
RLR 501	Teaching Beginning Reading	3
RLR 502	Teaching Comprehension and Content Reading	3
RLW 541	Teaching Writing	2
RLL 520	Survey of Literature for Children and Adolescents (K-12)	2
RLL 52	Survey of Multicultural Literature K-12	2
RLR 510	Diagnosis and Assessment of Reading (formerly Diagnostic Techniques for the Reading Specialist)	3
RLR 511	Corrective Reading (formerly Corrective Techniques for the Reading Specialist)	3
RLR 592A	Practicum in Remedial Reading-A	2
RLR 592B	Practicum in Remedial Reading-B	2

Approved Electives: Must be Chosen with Advisor

M.Ed.: 8 SH of electives to total 36 SH for the degree

M.S.Ed.: 6 SH of electives to total 37 SH for the degree

C.A.S.: 7 SH to total 30 SH for the degree

Other Requirements

Students must complete an electronic portfolio reflecting IRA/NCATE/ISBE standards and must be an active member of a professional literacy organization.

Students who receive more than one “C” grade in any courses may not continue in the program.

Courses needed to meet State of Illinois general and professional education courses and other state prerequisite requirements are not included in this listing.

Implementation

The Reading Teacher Option and the new core need to be added to the next catalog, 2005-2006.

Changes need to be made in Banner.

Reading and Language faculty, Offices of the Registrar, Admissions, and staff in Enrollment, Marketing, and Recruitment need to be knowledgeable about these changes and updates.