READING, MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.ED.) WITH A CONCENTRATION IN K-12 READING SPECIALIST

Program goal

The K-12 reading specialist concentration in the Master of Education in Reading program is designed to provide experienced teachers who are prospective reading specialists with a program of sequential and integrated experiences in areas of the reading curriculum ranging from preschool to adult levels. Students will gain an understanding of the developmental and diagnostic processes involved in teaching reading and the language arts and will become familiar with the resource and supervisory functions that are part of the specialist role. Prior to graduation, students must pass state-mandated licensure/endorsement assessments. The M.Ed. in Reading is an approved program (K-12) for students who meet Virginia State Department of Education requirements. The reading specialist endorsement also requires at least three years of successful classroom teaching experience in which the teaching of reading was an important responsibility. This program is available in an online format.

Student learning outcomes

Reading core outcomes

1. Demonstrate content knowledge to support literacy and language learning
2. Effectively plan instruction or fulfill other professional responsibilities that attend to learner differences
3. Effectively apply knowledge, skills and dispositions in practice

K-12 reading specialist concentration-specific outcome

1. Develop skills integral to the literacy professional role to support teacher professional development

VCU Graduate Bulletin, VCU Graduate School and general academic policies and regulations for all graduate students in all graduate programs

The VCU Graduate Bulletin website documents the official admission and academic rules and regulations that govern graduate education for all graduate programs at the university. These policies are established by the graduate faculty of the university through their elected representatives to the University Graduate Council.

It is the responsibility of all graduate students, both on- and off-campus, to be familiar with the VCU Graduate Bulletin as well as the Graduate School website (http://www.graduate.vcu.edu/) and academic regulations in individual school and department publications and on program websites. However, in all cases, the official policies and procedures of the University Graduate Council, as published on the VCU Graduate Bulletin and Graduate School websites, take precedence over individual program policies and guidelines.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on academic regulations for graduate students. (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/)

Degree candidacy requirements

A graduate student admitted to a program or concentration requiring a final research project, work of art, thesis or dissertation, must qualify for continuing master's or doctoral status according to the degree candidacy requirements of the student's graduate program. Admission to degree candidacy, if applicable, is a formal statement by the graduate student's faculty regarding the student's academic achievements and the student's readiness to proceed to the final research phase of the degree program.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following degree candidacy policy as published in the VCU Graduate Bulletin for complete information and instructions.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on degree candidacy requirements. (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/candidacy/)

Graduation requirements

As graduate students approach the end of their academic programs and the final semester of matriculation, they must make formal application to graduate. No degrees will be conferred until the application to graduate has been finalized.

Graduate students and program directors should refer to the following graduation requirements as published in the Graduate Bulletin for a complete list of instructions and a graduation checklist.

Visit the academic regulations section for additional information on graduation requirements. (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/)

Apply online today. (https://www.vcu.edu/admissions/apply/graduate/)

Admission requirements

Degree:	Semester(s) of entry:	Deadline dates:	Test requirements:
M.Ed.	Fall	Feb 1	
	Spring	Oct 1	
	Summer	Feb 1	

In addition to the general admission requirements of the VCU Graduate School (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/graduate/study/admission-graduate-study/admission-requirements/), the following requirements represent the minimum acceptable standards for admission:

1. Bachelor's degree in an appropriate discipline
2. Should have an active renewable teaching license
3. Three letters of recommendation addressing the student's potential for graduate study in education
4. Statement of intent
5. Transcripts of all previous college work

Please visit the School of Education website (https://soe.vcu.edu/academics/masters-programs/med-reading/) for further information.

Degree requirements

In addition to general VCU Graduate School graduation requirements (https://bulletin.vcu.edu/academic-regs/grad/graduation-info/), students are required to complete course work in core and elective courses.

1. Credit hour requirements: Students are required to complete a minimum of 33 credit hours.
2. Grade requirements: Receipt of a grade of C or below in two courses constitutes automatic dismissal from the program. Courses with a grade below C cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements.
3. Testing requirements: Students in the K-12 reading specialist concentration must present passing scores on state mandated licensure/endorsement assessments.

Curriculum requirements

Course	Title	Hours
Core courses		
EDUS 607	Mind, Body and Context in Education	3
EDUS 660	Research Methods in Education	3
EDUS 673	Democracy, Equity and Ethics in Education	3
READ 700	Externship	3
TEDU 561	Literacy Foundations and Language Acquisition	3
TEDU 562	Reading Instruction in the Content Areas	3
Concentration courses		
READ 600	Analysis and Correction of Reading Problems	3
READ 605	Organizing and Implementing Reading Programs	3
READ 672	Internship	3
Select two of the following:		6
READ 602	Literacy for Adults	
SEDP 531	Educational Foundations for Collaboration and Universally Designed Learning	
TEDU 525	Teaching Language Arts	
TEDU 526	Word Study	
TEDU 528	Children's Literature II	
TEDU 531	Media Literacy in the K-12 Classroom	
TEDU 652	Methods for Teaching Multilingual Learners	
TEDU 650	Second Language Acquisition	
TEDU 683	ESL Assessment and Trends	
Total Hours		**33**

The minimum number of graduate credit hours required for this degree is 33.

Contact
Office of Strategic Recruitment
soeinfo@vcu.edu
(804) 827-6847

Additional contact
Valerie Robnolt, Ph.D.
Associate professor and graduate program director
vjrobnolt@vcu.edu
(804) 828-1305

Program website: soe.vcu.edu/academics/masters-programs/med-reading (https://soe.vcu.edu/academics/masters-programs/med-reading/)