Master of Arts in Education  
Literacy Education Concentration

Purpose of Program

This concentration provides theory, research, knowledge and field experiences for students planning to teach literacy. Reading and writing are presented as linguistic, cognitive and socio-cultural processes in relation to other language arts.

Program Options

Students select from five specialized areas of study:

**Teaching Focus** - This emphasis is designed for teachers and offers students the flexibility to pursue individual areas of interest.

**Research Focus** - The research focus is designed for students who want to pursue research in literacy (students in this focus typically pursue the thesis option).

**Writing Focus** - This focus is designed for teachers with a particular interest in writing instruction and/or creative writing.

**Literature Focus** - The literature focus is oriented to teachers who wish to explore children’s and young adult literature for use in reading and language arts programs.

**Reading Specialist Certification** - This option leads to completion of the requirements for State Board for Educator Certification as a reading specialist (includes five courses for Master Reading Teacher (MRT) endorsement).

Depending on their focus area, students in this concentration select from course offerings such as:

- C&I 5723 Integrating Reading and the Language Arts
- C&I 5743 Secondary Literacy Development, Diagnosis, and Practicum
- C&I 5823 Early Literacy Development, Diagnosis, and Practicum
- C&I 5833 Picture Books and the Practice of Literacy
- C&I 6033 Survey of Reading Research
- C&I 6043 Survey of Writing Research
- C&I 6803 San Antonio Writing Project Summer Institute
- C&I 7863 Russian Contributions to Literacy, Psychology, and Learning

Career Opportunities

Students completing this concentration are qualified to work in a variety of settings as reading specialists, literacy coaches, adjunct college instructors, and adult literacy teachers. Career options also include administrative positions in libraries and in private and community reading centers. K-12 teachers in this concentration learn to enhance their literacy instruction with research-based transformative practices and may qualify for advance certification by the state of Texas.

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My entire way of seeing the world has changed. My eyes have been opened and there is no turning back. Aside from gaining a new family, the things I value most from the program are learning socially just and promising practices. This program has taught me how to be a change maker and will most definitely impact our youth and community.

- Donna Machette, Graduate Student
Admission Requirements

- A baccalaureate degree from an accredited university with a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in last 60 hours of coursework
- Be in good standing with the last institution attended
- Completion of 18 undergraduate credit hours in education or related field (including 12 upper-division level hours)**

** Applicants without adequate undergraduate hours in education may be required to complete background courses as a condition of admission. If assigned, these are required in addition to the minimum number of hours for the degree.

How to Apply

Apply through the UTSA Graduate School

✉️ graduateschool.utsa.edu

Send all USPS mail (transcripts, etc.) to:

The University of Texas at San Antonio
Attn: The Graduate School
One UTSA Circle
San Antonio, TX 78249

Send electronic transcripts to:

✉️ graduateadmissions@utsa.edu

Financial Aid and Scholarships

To apply, complete the Free Application for Federal Student Assistance (FAFSA)

✉️ fafsa.ed.gov

Graduate assistantship positions available within the college (average of 19 hours per week)

Additional graduate student scholarship information:

✉️ graduateschool.utsa.edu/funding
✉️ utsa.edu/scholarships
✉️ education.utsa.edu/current_students/scholarships