



Master of Arts in Reading Education K-12

Program Overview

The Master of Arts in Reading Education K-12 program at the University of South Florida Sarasota-Manatee has a mission to instill in our graduates an understanding of the complexities of literacies across the life span. We seek to accomplish this goal by preparing our students in the areas of teaching-leadership, research-scholarship, reading teachers, supervisors, stronger teachers of reading, or leaders in public and private educational environments.

Professional certification in a teaching area (or graduation from a state-approved certification degree program in education) is required for admission. Students who do not hold any teaching certification should consider the Master of Arts in Teaching Elementary Education program.

Class Meeting Times & Class Schedule

The program is designed to accommodate candidates in cohorts. The cohort model allows candidates to proceed through a sequence of courses that build skills, knowledge and a deep understanding of literacy processes, how children's literacy grows, and how to teach effectively. Cohorts begin each summer. Fall and spring entrants are permitted, but require special advisement for proper course sequence. Two courses per semester may be taken to complete the program over six semesters. Courses are scheduled in the evening for fall and spring semesters. In summer semesters, courses may be offered during the day or evening.

Non-degree Students

Applicants may take up to 12 hours of course work at USF as a non-degree seeking student. No more than 12 hours of credit can be counted toward the official master's program. Students must meet the admission requirements to apply to the program.

Admission Requirements

- Hold a bachelor's degree or higher in Education (or closely related field), from a regionally accredited university (or international equivalent)
- Have earned a 3.0 (4.0 scale) average or better GPA in upper division coursework of the baccalaureate degree or have earned a graduate degree with a 3.5 GPA from a regionally accredited institution.
- Hold a valid professional educator certificate in Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, Secondary Education with a concentration in English or provide proof of eligibility for Florida professional educator certification through either completion of a Bachelor's degree or higher from a state approved degree program, or through a letter of eligibility from FLDOE
- Provide a letter of interest (brief letter describing experience in education, reason for applying to this program, areas of interest in literacy studies, goals for this program)
- Sole-authored professional writing sample (or a paper from a course)
- Two (2) letters of professional recommendation
- Resume

Graduate Application Instructions

Applications should be submitted online at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/>. Click "Application" and follow steps to apply.

Applications should include the following:

- \$30.00 application fee. This fee is required of all applicants including USF graduates.
- GRE test scores taken within the last 5 years, if required. You may submit your application without your GRE score, but please include the date you plan to take the test.
- One (1) official transcript from all institutions of higher learning where the applicant has earned a degree; If you are applying while still completing an undergraduate degree, you must submit transcripts of at least six (6) semesters of completed undergraduate work. It is not necessary to send USF transcripts.
- Submit one of the following: GKT, CLAST, Praxis 1, or GRE of 1000. Students who are admitted with anything other than GKT or CLAST taken before July 1, 2002 must take GKT as an exit requirement.
- Documentation of ESOL State Endorsement OR State Certification plus 120 hours of inservice training.
- Clear copy of professional teaching certificate.
- Supportive documentation outlined above to include: letter of interest, sole-authored writing sample or paper from a course, 2 letters of recommendation and current resume

Cost of the Program

The cost of tuition can be found at: <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/uco/cashaccounting/tuition.asp>.

Application Deadline

Summer: March 1

Required Courses

Pre- or Co-requisite courses for students who do not hold a professional Elementary teaching certificate. If Reading prerequisites are required, they must be completed before enrolling in graduate level Reading courses.

Summer 1

- RED 6449 Literacy and Technology (3)
- RED 6749 History and Foundations of Reading (3)

Fall 1

- RED 6544 Cognition, Comprehension, and Content Area Reading: Remediation of Reading Problems (3)
- RED 6540 Assessment in Literacy (3)

Spring 1

- EDF 6481 Foundations of Educational Research (3)
- LAE 6316 Trends in Literature in a Diverse Society (3)

Summer 2

- RED 6545 Issues in Vocabulary and Word Study (3)
- RED 6247 District and School Level Supervision in Reading (3)
Transition Point Project (Staff Development on Area of Literacy Instruction)

Fall 2

- LAE 6315 Writing and Writers: Trends and Issues (3)
- RED 6748 Teacher Research Methods in Reading

Spring 2

- RED 6846 Practicum in Reading (3)
- TSL 5085 ESOL I (if needed) May be waived if student has documentation of State ESOL Endorsement OR State ESOL Certification *plus* 120 hours of inservice training.
Transition Point Project (Research)

EXIT CRITERIA FOR GRADUATION, including CERTIFICATION EXAMS AS REQUIRED: All students must pass the Professional Education Test and Reading K-12 subtest. General Knowledge Test is required unless student has passing CLAST scores taken before July 1, 2002 or is already professionally certified (copy of professional certificate required for waiver).

Transfers: Only 8 semester hours or 3 courses may be transferred from another accredited university. These courses must be pre-approved by the program advisor and the faculty advisor.

Responsibilities After Admission

- Must take at least one course during the semester of admission or file for a Deferment of Admission.
- File a Planned Program of Study in the first semester with your Program Advisor.
- Maintain a 3.0 GPA in all graduate coursework taken at USF, even outside your program.
- Take Reading Subject Area Exam of FTCE.
- Attend a Transition Point Project orientation.
- Submit Application to Graduate to your Advisor during the first week of the semester you plan to graduate.
- Courses should not be older than 5 years at graduation.
- Minimum enrollment: You must be enrolled in at least 6 credits per 3 semesters. You must be enrolled in at least 2 graduate hours in the semester you submit a transition point project. You must be enrolled in at least 2 hours in the semester you graduate.

Admissions contact person at USFSM is:

Jo Lynn Raudebaugh, Admissions Advisor

8350 N. Tamiami Trail, SMC C107

Sarasota, FL 34243

Telephone: 941-359-4330/Email: jraudeba@sar.usf.edu

Academic Advisor at USFSM is:

Diane Lewis, Graduate Program Specialist

8350 N. Tamiami Trail, SMC B 323

Sarasota, FL 34243

Telephone: 941-359-4217/Email: dlewis@sar.usf.edu

Note: Changes in Florida State Teacher Preparation Programs may result in program changes. Students must closely monitor program requirements. Students are responsible for all information listed in the University graduate catalog.

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USF Sarasota-Manatee is an Equal Opportunity/Equal Access/Affirmative Action Institution. The University of South Florida is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools to award degrees at the baccalaureate, master's, specialist and doctoral levels, including the Doctor of Medicine.