



Master of Science in Education
Major in Reading
Pennsylvania Reading Specialist Certificate
Online Graduate Education for Today's Teacher



Become a Leader. Cultivate L

MASTER'S DEGREE: MAJOR IN READING WITH A PA READING SPECIALIST CERTIFICATE

Government initiatives focus on high quality education for all children, and a key component is achieving grade-level goals for student reading in primary and secondary school. The online Reading graduate program provides **PreK-12 teachers** with a comprehensive literacy curriculum that addresses diverse learning needs. Courses focus on literacy assessment, vocabulary and comprehension, developing reading and writing across curricula, and literacy leadership and coaching.

LEARN HOW TO:

- Plan, administer, score, and interpret a variety of **literary assessments**
- **Advance student writing** through vocabulary development
- Improve literacy at all levels and **across all content areas**
- Increase **student appreciation for literature** through a variety of genres
- **Evaluate effective materials** for literacy instruction
- **Become an agent for change** in your school's literacy program



literacy Growth.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS

Together, the National Institute for Professional Practice and Wilkes University offer online graduate degrees and programs to educators nationwide. A master's degree from Wilkes University carries the prestige of a nationally respected and accredited university. With a fully dedicated staff and attentive faculty, you receive personal and individual support unparalleled by any other institution.

National Institute for Professional Practice

The National Institute for Professional Practice is an innovative educational organization founded in response to the needs of today's educators. The National Institute offers several online master's degrees and programs that provide educators with tools and strategies needed to make real and lasting changes in their classrooms. Through strategic alliances with nationally recognized experts and organizations, the degrees and certificates from the National Institute offer a revolutionary learning experience.

Wilkes University

Founded in 1933 in Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania, Wilkes University has a rich history of prestige and honor. A nationally recognized independent university, it boasts comprehensive undergraduate and graduate programs with both traditional and online courses, Middle States accreditation, and a focus on community and lifelong learning.

BECOME A PART OF AN ELITE COMMUNITY—ENROLL ONLINE TODAY!

Join many dedicated teachers and educators who already enjoy the benefits of an online master's degree in Reading and a PA Reading Specialist Certification. Call for more information or complete your application online.



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COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

A master's degree from Wilkes University gives you an opportunity to advance your professional career. Complete the courses below to earn your degree in as little as two years!

EDAM 5060: Foundation of Language and Literacy Acquisition (3 credits)

Introduction to the foundation of language and literacy acquisition focusing on the components of a comprehensive literacy program, early reading skills, and classroom environment. Explore historical perspectives in reading instruction, the importance of developing early reading skills, and best practices for developing a classroom environment that fosters early literacy development.

Prerequisite: None

EDAM 5061: Assessing Literacy (3 credits)

This course begins with an introduction to the basic elements of assessing literacy. Explore several areas of assessment related to core competencies in literacy including emergent literacy, oral reading and fluency, comprehension and strategic knowledge, and determining affective factors. Practice interpreting and evaluating a variety of literacy assessments. For the culminating activity, you will select a student who has been struggling with reading and develop a reading profile for this student.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5062: Vocabulary and Comprehension Development (3 credits)

Use research-based strategies to develop vocabulary and comprehension. You will be introduced to the vocabulary-comprehension connection and how recognizing genre and literary and informational elements of text improves comprehension. Practice selecting, implementing, and evaluating appropriate strategies for use with text comprehension instruction.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5063: Developing Reading Through Writing (3 credits)

Focus on how the processes of reading and writing are interrelated. Course documents and activities will help you understand the reading-writing connection and apply instructional strategies and assessment techniques to develop students' writing.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5064: Instructional Strategies to Support Independent Readers (3 credits)

Develop an understanding of instructional practices for supporting your students as independent readers and apply that knowledge in the following areas: Guided Reading, Matching Texts with Readers, Independent Reading, and Literature Study. During the culminating activity, you will develop a comprehensive weekly schedule incorporating the key components of a reading block.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDSP 501: Special Education Methodology I with Field Experience (3 credits)

Address the development, implementation, and monitoring of individualized management, instructional, curricular, and environmental strategies and adaptations for students with special needs. Pedagogical recommendations and research-based effective teaching practices are reinforced from prerequisite courses. Emphasis is placed on a needs-based model incorporating the cognitive, language, attentional, affective, physical, and sensory needs of higher incident populations (learning disabilities, mild mental retardation, speech disorders, and behavioral challenges) within included settings, resource room, segregated and learning support environment. A 15-hour field experience component facilitates direct interaction with special needs learners, supplemented by cooperative discussions of experiential applications to course content.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

ESL 506 : Teaching the Four Skills: Reading, Writing, Listening, and Speaking (3 credits)

An introduction to the most important concepts of teaching English to second language learners with assignments to be completed in the field. Examine the teaching of reading, writing, listening, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary. Learn how to assess student needs, develop syllabi, and design supplemental materials. Emerge from the class with a number of high quality lesson plans. Apply theory by designing practical English as a Second Language lessons.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5065: Literacy Leadership and Coaching (3 credits)

Explore three areas of expertise required of all 21st century reading specialists: instruction, leadership, and assessment. Study and practice leadership principles related to conducting meetings, providing professional development, and literacy coaching. In addition, you will investigate the responsibilities of the reading specialist through writing proposals, developing external partnerships, and becoming an agent of change for a school's literacy program.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5066: Accommodations and Adaptations in Literacy for Diverse Learners (3 credits)

Explore the dimensions of literacy and the analytic process to prepare for differentiation of instruction. Use a problem-solving model guided by inquiry, resulting in learning activities that address a child's specific literacy needs. Expand your repertoire for supporting students as literacy learners and utilize techniques in this course to provide instruction for a wide range of talents and abilities in your classrooms.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5033: Reading and Writing Across the Curriculum (3 credits)

Develop and refine your students' skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening through the design of integrative experiences in content area instruction that are both student-centered and performance-based.

Prerequisite: EDAM 5060

EDAM 5067: Reading Specialist Internship (6 credits)

This culminating experience prepares you for the role of reading specialist while working in an instructional setting under the supervision of a licensed reading specialist. You will implement reading programs, plan interventions, and apply a range of reading assessments and instructional strategies in the diagnosis and remediation of reading problems. You will also be able to demonstrate the ability to manage the instructional environment and effectively communicate to promote the development of literacy.

Prerequisites: EDAM 5060, EDAM 5061, EDAM 5062, EDAM 5063, EDAM 5064, EDSP 501, ESL 506, EDAM 5065, EDAM 5066, EDAM 5033

Why Choose Us?

Online graduate degrees and programs from the National Institute for Professional Practice and Wilkes University provide rich content, strategies, and resources to develop practical skills you can apply today to get results tomorrow. Because our Reading master's degree and Reading Specialist Certificate focus on **real classroom skills**, courses are available exclusively to **active certified teachers** currently teaching in a classroom.

ADVANTAGES

- **Flexible online setting** – choose when and where you access coursework
- **Small class size** – participate in small groups with only 5 to 10 students per class
- **Personal coaching** – personalized feedback from course instructors committed to your success
- **Immediate, real-world application** – learn practical skills and apply them to your classroom immediately
- **Enhance student performance** – develop techniques to help you thrive in an environment where teacher effectiveness is tied to student performance

POWERFUL RESOURCES

- **Online videos** of other professionals provide examples of how to apply theory to practice
- **Personal coaching** from dedicated faculty creates a safe environment for learning
- **Social networking** with a diverse peer group moves communication and collaboration beyond the classroom
- **Engaging activities** can be directly implemented in the classroom for immediate results

*I was nervous about taking classes online,
but everything was laid out so well
that it quickly put my anxieties at ease!*

— L. Fulton
Teacher



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