

Reading Education M.Ed.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Department of Teacher Education and Educational Leadership (TEEL) is to prepare students to become Empowered Professionals Making a Difference. Programs are designed to provide students with Knowledge, opportunities to take Action, and Leadership skills in order to produce graduates who are Decision Makers, Problem Solvers, Critical Thinkers, Lifelong Learners, Counselor/Mentors, and Ethical Moral Professionals.

Student Learning Outcomes

UWF Reading Education M.Ed. graduates should be able to do the following:

Content

Apply knowledge of the theoretical, historical, and evidence-based foundations of reading, writing, communication and the integral role of the reading/literacy specialist in schools. (ILA 2017 Standard 1)

Design and implement evidence-based literacy instruction utilizing a variety of digital and print-based materials. (ILA 2017 Standard 2, 5, 7)

Critical Thinking

Select, and use valid, reliable, fair and appropriate assessment tools to screen, diagnose, and measure student literacy achievement. (ILA 2017 Standard 3)

Engage colleagues in personal and systematic reflective practice; support and collaborate with teachers in analyzing, transforming and creating diverse learning experiences to positively impact student learning. (ILA 2017 Standard 4, 6)

Communication

Collaborate with school-based educators in developing and implementing effective literacy instructional practices and curriculum.

Effectively use written and oral communication to advocate for appropriate literacy and language practices to a variety of stakeholders, including administrators, teachers, parents/guardians, and students (ILA 2017 Standard 2, 6)

Integrity/Values

Use foundational knowledge of the field and professional ethics to inform literacy practice, engage in lifelong learning, advance the profession, and provide leadership to promote the success of colleagues and students. (ILA 2017 Standard 1, 6)

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

From the beginning of their studies, master's degree students develop content knowledge, engage in critical thinking activities, communicate with their classmates and professors both orally and in writing, engage in self-reflection, enhance their professional behaviors, learn to manage increasingly complex projects, and refine their interactions related to diverse populations. The knowledge, skills, and dispositions that they develop culminate in the action research capstone experience. Thus, this experience becomes the primary assessment tool in identifying success with the Student Learning Outcomes. Students work individually or in small groups to identify an education problem; research that problem in the current literature; design a study; collect and analyze data related to the design; and then report the findings. The experience is considered successful if the student is able to produce a project acceptable to his faculty mentor who is teaching the action research course.

Student Learning Outcomes (SLO) are based on the legislatively mandated Florida Department of Education 2010 Florida Educator Accomplished Practices (FEAPS) and the Professional Education Unit's Conceptual Framework. The FEAPS are grouped into UWF's domains and are broken into the smaller Student Learning Outcomes seen in the Academic Learning Compacts and the Academic Learning Plans. The SLOs are integrated into individual course activities, "critical tasks", and are assessed through common rubrics.

Progress on the SLOs, FEAPS, and Conceptual Framework Outcomes are monitored through Tk20 Comprehensive Assessment and Reporting System. Collective data are used to track individual student's achievement of the SLOs, FEAPs, and Conceptual Framework Outcomes. Student data are checked at two points in the candidate's program, benchmark and mastery of a particular outcome. These data are aggregated and used in programmatic continuous improvement to affect policy, initial broad curricular changes as needed, and to modify individual course activities and assessments.

Job Prospects for Reading Education M.Ed. Graduates

Florida, the 4th largest school system in the nation, is comprised of over 4,000 public schools situated in 67 public school districts. With a current annual enrollment of almost three million students, Florida continues to have a tremendous need for highly qualified teachers, including a critical need in specific areas. The Reading Education M.Ed. qualifies graduates for state certification in reading, one of the critical shortage areas. This certification is transferable to most areas of the country because of reciprocal agreements between Florida and other states.

The M.Ed. in Reading is designed to enhance the professional skills and knowledge of educators as well as help them move into specialized areas of leadership within the schools and district level positions. This includes positions as reading teachers, reading coaches, district level literacy specialists, and intervention specialists. This degree also prepares graduates for work in the private and non-profit sectors in positions such as consultants in the publishing industry, reading tutors, and program coordinators.

Find out more about Reading Education M.Ed. at UWF:

<https://uwf.edu/ceps/departments/teacher-education-and-educational-leadership/graduate-programs/reading-education-med/>