

Licensure ONLY: Reading Specialist and Dyslexia

Degree Plan- 19 Credit Hours total

Concentration Courses:

EL 721 Science of Reading I- 3 Credit Hours

This course focuses on reading instruction and its connection to language arts within the Science of Reading framework. Emphasis is on literacy acquisition, developmental progression, and evidence-based practices like phonics and fluency. Students will explore key theories, research, and ways to create literacy-rich environments.

EL 723 Science of Reading II- 3 Credit Hours

This course explores reading as an integrated part of the curriculum, covering structured literacy, multisensory instruction, vocabulary, comprehension, writing, and spelling. It emphasizes evidence-based strategies, adapting instruction for diverse learners, and using technology and assessments to foster lifelong reading and learning.

EL 821 Literacy Practices & Dyslexia in the Classroom- 3 Credit Hours

This course equips teachers with skills to create literacy-rich environments that engage all students, focusing on standards, curriculum, instruction, and assessment. It covers state literacy standards, dyslexia fundamentals, and explores language domains, literacy development, and the phonology-orthography connection in the science of reading, while valuing societal differences.

EL 823 Analysis of Reading Assessment & Instruction 3 Credit Hours

(Prerequisites, EL 721 and EL 723) This course is designed to provide the reading specialist or classroom teacher with the knowledge, skills, and processes to assess and analyze reading performance and provide effective research-based instruction for the primary, intermediate, and advance level readers (preK-12th grade levels).

EL 827 Assessing and Instructing Learners: Literacy Practicum- 3 Credit Hours

(Prerequisite EL 823 and Instructor Permission) Students will apply knowledge and skills from EL 823 by working with a reader with a reading disability. The student will gather materials, tutor and assess a student for a minimum of 25 hours, and write a diagnostic/prescriptive summary.

Capstone Courses:**EL 828 Instructional Leadership and Coaching- 2 Credit Hours**

This course focuses on the theory and instruction of leadership and coaching across all disciplines. Course activities and assignments will allow students to broadly view effective roles of the coach/leader in the schools and apply the content to a specific subject area (literacy, math, STEM, etc.). This course is a prerequisite for EL829, Literacy and Coaching Practicum.

EL 829 Leadership and Coaching Practicum – 2 Credit Hours

(Prerequisite: EL 828 and Instructor Permission) Each student will participate in practical experiences related to professional leadership and coaching roles in the selected field of study. The course serves as the capstone for the instructional specialist degree.