

**Master of Education: Literacy Education with Reading Specialist K-12 Endorsement**  
**Department of Curriculum and Instruction**  
**The University of Montana-Missoula**

The Master of Education (M.Ed.) degree in literacy education at The University of Montana supports educators in their goals to earn a master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction and the State of Montana's Reading Specialist K-12 endorsement. Through a comprehensive program of study, candidates prepare for the roles of reading specialist, consultant, and/or literacy coach.

The Phyllis J. Washington College of Education and Human Sciences at The University of Montana is accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) and the Montana State Board of Public Education. Via a reciprocal agreement with the International Reading Association, this program is further endorsed. These accreditations support the institution's initial teacher preparation programs and advanced educator preparation programs.

For questions about the Literacy Education Master of Education option, please contact the following literacy faculty:

Jan LaBonty, Ph.D.  
Office: PJW Education Center 309  
(406) 243-5161  
Jan.LaBonty@mso.umt.edu

Kate Brayko, Ph.D.  
Office: PJW Education Center 308  
(406) 243-4915  
Kate.Brayko@mso.umt.edu

**Admission to Graduate School**

- Complete the online application and submit the \$60 fee to the Graduate School. The application can be found at <http://www.applyweb.com/apply/uomont/menu.html>.
- Submit these additional materials to one of the C&I Graduate Program co-coordinators:
  - o Letter of intent with academic and professional goals and the specific program of study being applied for
  - o Résumé including experiences with children and adolescents
  - o One official copy of transcript from all institutions attended
  - o Initial Background Screening Form, signed and notarized\*
  - o Three letters of recommendation\*
  - o Narrative statement of teaching philosophy, 500 words or more
  - o *If your undergraduate GPA is below a 3.0, you must submit/elect **one** of the following:*
    - GRE scores (Verbal of 400 or higher, Quantitative of 480 or higher, and Writing of 4.0 or higher)
    - MAT score (375 or higher)
    - On-campus interview (day/time to be scheduled at a convenient time)
    - MA/MEd/MS GPA of 3.3 or higher
    - National Board Certification

\*The Initial Background Screening Form and letter of recommendation forms can be found on the Master of Education webpage: <http://www.coehs.umt.edu/currinst/master/admission.html>

Dr. Morgen Alwell, Grad. Prog. Co-Coordinator  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction  
The University of Montana  
32 Campus Drive  
Missoula, MT 59812-6346  
Office: PJW Education Center 306  
Email: [Morgen.Alwell@mso.umt.edu](mailto:Morgen.Alwell@mso.umt.edu)  
Phone: (406) 243-5512

Dr. Matthew Schertz, Grad. Prog. Co-Coordinator  
Department of Curriculum and Instruction  
The University of Montana  
32 Campus Drive  
Missoula, MT 59812-6346  
Office: PJW Education Center 304  
Email: [Matthew.Schertz@mso.umt.edu](mailto:Matthew.Schertz@mso.umt.edu)  
Phone: (406) 243-2163

### Program Course Requirements

To successfully complete the program, candidates must complete the M.Ed. literacy education courses and the M.Ed. core courses. Candidates must also pass a written comprehensive exam. To earn the Reading Specialist K-12 Endorsement, all candidates must take and pass the Praxis II Content Knowledge Test: Reading (test number 0204) with a minimum passing score of 159.

<b>M.Ed. Literacy Education Courses</b>		
<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
C&I 527 EDU 481	Advanced Literacy Strategies in the Content Area <b>OR</b> Content Area Literacy	3
C&I 530	Social-Cultural Foundations of Reading	3
C&I 533 EDU 438	Advanced Diagnosis and Correction of Reading and Writing <b>OR</b> Basic Diagnosis and Correction of Reading and Writing	3
C&I 540	Supervision and Teaching Language Arts	3
C&I 541	Supervision and Teaching Children's Literature and Critical Reading	3
C&I 546	Supervision and Teaching Young Adult Literature and Critical Reading	3
C&I 543 EDU 441	Supervision and Teaching Reading <b>OR</b> Organizing Reading/Writing Programs	3
C&I 557 EDU 456	Advanced Application of Literacy Models <b>OR</b> Application of Literacy Models <i>*C&amp;I533/EDU 438 (C&amp;I 433) is a prerequisite for this capstone course</i>	6
C&I 630	<b>OPTIONAL:</b> Special Topics in Literacy	0-3
<b>Total Credits: 27-30</b>		

<b>M.Ed. Core Courses</b>		
<b>Course Number</b>	<b>Course Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
C&I 501	Curriculum Design, Implementation, and Evaluation	3
C&I 50_	One course in historical (504), comparative (506), social (508), or psychological (510) foundations	3
C&I 514	Education Across Cultures	3
C&I 515	Computers and Other Technological Applications in Education	3
C&I 518	Inclusion and Collaboration	3
C&I 520	Educational Research	3
C&I 596	Professional Project- Independent Study	1
<b>Total Credits: 19</b>		

## **Exit Requirements for the Reading Specialist K-12 Endorsement**

The candidate meets with the literacy education advisor to verify the following:

1. Completion of all required literacy courses (or approved substitutes) with a cumulative grade point average of 3.0;
2. Completion of the Student Assessment Profiles from EDU 456 or C&I 557 with an earned grade of B or better; and
3. Completion of the International Reading Association Professional Reading Standards Competency Checklist.
4. All candidates must take and pass the Praxis II Content Knowledge Test: Reading (test number 0204) with a minimum passing score of 159. See the Licensure Specialist for details.

**Upon successfully completion of the exit requirements, the candidate must meet with the Licensure Specialist to complete necessary paperwork for the State of Montana Reading Specialist K-12 Endorsement.**

## M.Ed. Literacy Education Option: Tentative Program of Study

Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_ ID: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Literacy Courses:</b>	Credits	Taken	Will Take	Grade
C&I 527 Advanced Literacy Strategies in Content Area <b>OR</b> EDU 481 (C&I 427) Content Area Literacy	3			
C&I 530 Social-Cultural Foundations of Reading	3			
C&I 533 Advanced Diag./Corr. of Reading and Writing <b>OR</b> EDU 438 (C&I 433) Literacy Asmnt, Diagnosis, and Instr	3			
C&I 540 Supervision & Teaching of Lang. Arts	3			
C&I 541 Supervision & Teaching Child Lit/Crit. Rdng	3			
C&I 546 Supervision & Teaching YA Lit/Crit Rdng	3			
C&I 543 Supervision and Teaching Reading <b>OR</b> EDU 441 (C&I 435) Organizing Rdng/Writing Progs	3			
C&I 557 Advanced Application of Literacy Models <b>OR</b> EDU 456 (C&I 437) Application of Literacy Models K-12	6			
<b>Optional:</b> C&I 630 Special Topics in Literacy	0-3			
<b>M.Ed. Core Courses:</b>				
C&I 501 Curriculum Design and Implementation	3			
C&I ____ Foundations of Education Course	3			
C&I 514 Education Across Cultures	3			
C&I 515 Computer and Other Tech. Applications	3			
C&I 518 Inclusion and Collaboration	3			
C&I 520 Educational Research	3			
C&I 596 Professional Project	1			
<b>Total Credits (46 required):</b>				

Date for comprehensive exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_