



University of Utah
Department of Educational Psychology

READING & LITERACY PROGRAM

Fall 2022 Newsletter

Reading & Literacy M.Ed. Coursework Forms:

All master's students should update their coursework form (marking fall classes you took and spring classes you will take) and send to Dr. Claire Son (reading-literacy@utah.edu) no later than December 5th.

Reading and Literacy

Course Information for Spring 2023

Spring M.Ed Courses

For Spring 2023, ED PS is offering the following Reading & Literacy M.Ed courses. M.Ed students and educators register for section 031 through AOCE. (\$600). AOCE changed its policy and you now need to register using the direct URL below.

EDPS 6130-031: Writing Theory and Instruction

Tuesdays 4:35-7:05 pm; IVC (via Zoom & Canvas); Instructor: Dr. Colli Lucas

register at: <https://continue.utah.edu/contracts/EDPS/1234>

EDPS 6728-031 Reading & Literacy Comprehensive Review and Exam Preparation

Wednesdays 4:35-7:05 pm; IVC (via Zoom & Canvas); Instructor: Dr. Clarie Son

If you are planning to take comprehensive exams in Spring 2023, please register for ED PS 6728-031 and email Dr. Claire Son (reading-literacy@utah.edu) by December 5th. Comprehensive exam dates for Spring 2023 will be Friday, March 3 - Monday March 20.

register at: <https://continue.utah.edu/contracts/EDPS1/1234>

(Old endorsement course; also works as an Elective)

EDPS 6842-031 Reading Interventionist Seminar

Thursdays 4:35-7:05 pm; IVC (via Zoom & Canvas); Instructor: Dr. Christy Austin

register at: <https://continue.utah.edu/contracts/EDPS2/1234>

Preview of Summer 2023 Courses (Tentative)

ED PS 6840-031 Vocabulary Theory & Instruction, 7/5/23 - 7/18/23, 8-12 pm

ED PS R&L Elective: Special Topics Summer Seminar on Literacy, 5/T & TH 4:35-7:05 pm

We will have two additional courses offered as in-person at the University of Utah campus, specifically for the Granite School District literacy cohort.

ED PS 6711-031 Foudnation of Literacy, 6/19/23-6/23/23, 9-4 pm

ED PS 6124-031 Adolescent Literature in Schools, 6/26/2-6/30/23, 9-4 pm

Reading and Literacy

Course Information for Summer 2023

Reading and Literacy

Olene Walker Scholarships 2023

Olene Walker Scholarships 2023

The Olene Walker Scholarship application will be open in February 2023! These scholarships for Utah teachers with the cost of Reading & Literacy Core Courses to \$300/course, approximately one-half of the regular rate. Watch your email in February for the application packet. Application material will also be uploaded in <https://ed-psych.utah.edu/grad-programs/reading-literacy-med/tuitionandfinancialaid.php>.

Current Olene Walker Scholarship Recipients

Are you a current Olene Walker Scholarship recipient? Email Dr. Claire Son (reading-literacy@utah.edu) no later than Monday, December 5th with the courses you will be taking in Spring 2023.

- Masters and doctoral programs in Reading and Literacy, Educational Psychology, are now approved to be part of Western Regional Graduate Program (WRGP). Western-region out-of-state students now can attend our graduate program with reduced tuition rate. More information is at: <https://www.wiche.edu/tuition-savings/wrgp/>
- Educational Psychology/Reading and Literacy and the Granite School District achieved an MOU to collaborate in training Granite District Teachers for Secondary Literacy Endorsement. The first Granite Literacy Cohort will begin their training in summer 2023. We are very excited to contribute to rigorous research-based professional education of Utah teachers!
- Student News:
 - o Congratulations, Liz Thackeray Nelson, who successfully defended her dissertation and graduated with a Ph.D
 - o Congratulation, Elise Maxwell (2022 MED), the 2023 Utah Teacher of the Year Finalist!
 - o Ashley Silcox (PhD student) presented "The nature and impact of literacy interest in young children: Comparing teacher, parent, and child report measures" at College of Education Research Fair, April 2022 and received a creative research award.
 - o Tara Pearce (PhD student) presented "Things I wish I'd known as an English teacher: How to better support low readers in the LA classroom," For the Love of Reading Conference, Nov 3-4, 2022

Reading and Literacy Program News

USBE Changes Reading Endorsements

Retiring Endorsement:

USBE will continue to offer the current Reading Endorsement Level 1, Reading Endorsement Level 2 Advanced, and Reading Endorsement Level 2 Interventionist only until June 2023.

(June 30, 2023 is the last day to submit applications for the current reading endorsement that is being retired.)

New Endorsement:

USBE is offering a new Secondary Literacy Interventionist Endorsement and a new K-12 Literacy Specialist Endorsement. RL M.Ed program completes all of the coursework requirements for the new secondary literacy interventionist endorsements. University of Utah R&L Program is currently the one and only higher education institute that is approved by USBE to offer courses for the new secondary literacy endorsement.

Apart from the endorsement, R&L program will continue to offer our outstanding, research-oriented M.Ed degree that provides a strong background in literacy theory and instruction for all educators.

Information on the new secondary literacy endorsement, including purposes and requirement details, can be found here:

These new endorsements are part of the new "Competency-Based Endorsement" system

<https://www.schools.utah.gov/licensing/endorsements?mid=5266&tid=0>

Information on the Secondary Literacy Interventionist:

<https://www.schools.utah.gov/file/e582d2fc-3a47-4025-9cfd-e0afe0acc95>

Impact for Current Students:

How Do These Changes Affect Current Students in the the RL M. Ed Program seeking the Reading Level 1, Level 2 Advanced and Level 2 Interventionist Endorsements?

- All current M.Ed students need to have their coursework forms checked and approved by the program director.
- If your coursework form is approved, you will be able to complete the coursework for their desired Reading Endorsement Level 1, Reading Endorsement Level 2 Advanced, or Reading Endorsement Level 2 Interventionist courses before June 2023.
- Students who change from their recently approved coursework plan may not be able to complete the coursework at the U of U and may need to seek out an alternative. Contact Dr. Son if you have questions.
- (Current students admitted since spring 2022 are expected to pursue a new secondary literacy endorsement)

Alumni Interview

Elise Maxwell

Bonneville Elementary School, SLC

"I began teaching in 2014, after graduating with a degree in Elementary Education. During my first few years of teaching, I realized that my practices in reading and literacy instruction had a lot of room for growth. At the recommendation of a friend who had graduated from the program, I applied to the Reading and Literacy Master's of Education program. The M.Ed. program was life- and career-changing. The coursework provided a strong foundation in not only the current research about reading and literacy but also taught skills that enabled me to be a lifelong learner and evaluate research myself. Every course I took deepened my understanding of how students learn and I walked away with an array of practices I could immediately implement to support the students in my classroom. I feel significantly more confident in my ability to select texts and teaching strategies. I also feel more capable when supporting and collaborating with other teachers. The program was the perfect blend of research and practice that I needed to grow as a teacher."

-Elise Maxwell
2022 M.Ed. Reading and Literacy Graduate
2023 Utah Teacher of the Year Finalist

Program Information Sessions

R&L program will be hosting three online information sessions to share information about the Reading and Literacy programs, admission process, and endorsements. Please share the news with your colleagues and other prospective students.

Thursday, November 17, 2022 @ 5:00pm MST

Wednesday, February 1, 2023 @5:00pm MST

Monday, March 13, 2023 @ 5:00pm MST

Zoom information for all three sessions:

<https://utah-health.zoom.us/j/97816690885?pwd=RHU0b2x1STF1NmNmcXZsdjVaY0Y5dz09>

Meeting ID: 978 1669 0885

Passcode: 638057

