



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY™

Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education



certificate in
reading instruction

www.eiu.edu/~elegrad



Certificate Program Mission

The Certificate in Reading Instruction is designed for educators who hold a valid teaching certificate, have previously completed coursework in developmental reading methods and want to further develop their professional knowledge and skills in regard to teaching reading to students (i.e., pre-school to grade 12). Although this certificate does not result in the Reading Teacher Endorsement with the state of Illinois, these graduate courses in reading may be applied toward the requirements for the Reading Teacher Endorsement in Illinois, including a graduate-level practicum.

Certificate Admission Requirements

This certificate is available to certified teachers who can provide documentation of prior coursework in reading methods (e.g., ELE 3280: Developmental Reading in the Elementary School - three hours or ELE 3281: Developmental Reading in Early Childhood - three hours). To be eligible for admission to the certificate program, applicants must meet all of the requirements for admission to the Graduate School that include verification of a baccalaureate degree from an accredited institution approved by Eastern Illinois University. In addition, documentation of a minimum undergraduate cumulative grade point average of 3.0 within the last 60 hours of undergraduate study (or 3.0 GPA in the first 12 hours of graduate coursework) is required. The applicant must submit an application for admission to the Graduate School and an application for admission to the certificate program through the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education.

Certificate Study Plan

A certificate study plan must be approved by the graduate coordinator in the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education and be filed with the Graduate School no later than the 10th day of classes during the last semester in which the student is enrolled in courses counting toward the graduate certificate.

Certificate Course/Curriculum Requirements

The Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education Certificate in Reading Instruction requires 18 semester hours of study, including both required and elective courses. Total Credits: 18

Required Courses (Required Credits - 15)

- ELE 5260: Advanced Developmental Reading - three hours
- ELE 5600: Diagnosis of Reading Problems - three hours
- ELE 5610: Remediation of Reading Problems - three hours
- ELE 5620: Remedial Reading Practicum - three hours
- ELE/MLE 5270: Content Area Literacy Instruction - three hours

Elective Courses (Elective Credits - 3)

- ELE 4880: Diagnostic/Prescriptive Reading - three hours
- ENG 4903: Young Adult Literature - three hours
- ENG 4905: Studies in Children's Literature - three hours
- ELE 5400: Special Issues in Children's Literature - three hours
- ELE 5990: Independent Study in Children's Literature - three hours

NOTE: In special circumstances, other courses may be used as elective credit if approved by the graduate coordinator in the Department of Early Childhood, Elementary and Middle Level Education.

Courses Applicable Toward a Specific Concurrent or Future Degree Program

Upon approval from the graduate coordinator, the 15 required graduate course credits completed for the certificate program may be applied to a master's degree in elementary education at Eastern Illinois University to fulfill requirements for the emphasis in reading. All courses applied to the certificate or degree program must be completed within the six-year time limit. All other regulations established by the Graduate School pertaining to degree study will be applicable to the courses if used toward a concurrent or future degree program.

EIU seniors may enroll for courses under the reserve graduate credit option, but will be required to meet the standard admission requirements to be admitted to the certificate program after completion of the baccalaureate degree. Meeting the requirement to take courses under the reserve graduate credit option does not guarantee admission to the certificate program or the master's degree in elementary education.