

## Master of Education Special Education Reading Specialist



### Program Description

This program has at its focus preparation in the area of reading and reading disabilities. It defines the knowledge and skills necessary for effective assessment, instruction and leadership in the field of reading. Licensure tracks respond to the needs of school districts by preparing specialists in leadership roles, as well as to the needs of students with a wide range of abilities.

The Reading Specialist/Reading program provides candidates with a rigorous, research based curriculum as well as a range of assessment, teaching and staff development opportunities. Candidates may follow one of the following tracks:

- M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading Specialist. This track prepares candidates for Reading Specialist licensure. Appropriate initial teaching license is required for entry into this track.
- M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading-All Levels. This track does not lead to Reading Specialist licensure. Initial license or permission of Program Chair is required for entry into this track.
- Certificate in Reading Specialist (Initial License Only) (without M.Ed for those who already hold a master's). Initial license in early childhood, elementary, middle school, or special education is required for entry into this track.

Note: Candidates who seek licensure will receive preparation for the state license examination: Initial Licensure: Reading Specialist.

This program has been approved by NCATE through the International Reading Association and by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

### Program Prerequisites

- Children or Young Adult Literature Course
- Child Development (or equivalent)
- Principles and Practices of Teaching Reading (or equivalent)
- Depending on the track of interest:
  - o M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading Specialist (i.e., leads to licensure): Initial teaching license required
  - o M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading-All Levels (i.e., does not lead to licensure): Initial teaching license or permission of Program Chair required
  - o Certificate in Reading Specialist (Initial License Only): Initial teaching license and master's degree required (this program does not lead to a master's degree).

### Admissions Resources

E-mail: [gceadvisor@fsc.edu](mailto:gceadvisor@fsc.edu)  
Web site: [www.fsc.edu/gce](http://www.fsc.edu/gce)

For E-Advising



[fsc.edu/gce/virtualadvisor](http://fsc.edu/gce/virtualadvisor)

### Program of Study

#### M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading Specialist (Initial Licensure)

SPED/	8300	Language Development, Differences and Disorders	3 S.H.
READ	7016	Understanding the Structure of the English Language	3 S.H.
SPED/	7017	The Psychology of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/	8017	Specialized Reading Approaches	3 S.H.
SPED/	8018	Reading Disabilities and the Assessment of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/	8019	The Assessment of Writing Skills and Writing Disabilities	3 S.H.
SPED/	9100	Research in Reading Education	3 S.H.
SPED/	9101	Practicum: Reading Specialist	3 S.H.
SPED/	9102	The Reading Specialist: Leadership Roles	3 S.H.
SPED/	9104	Reading Specialist Practicum Seminar	3 S.H.
		Two Approved Electives	6 S.H.
		<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>36 S.H.</b>

**M.Ed. in Special Education: Reading Specialist  
(Non-Licensure)**

SPED 8300	Language Development, Differences and Disorders	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 7016	Understanding the Structure of the English Language	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 7017	The Psychology of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8017	Specialized Reading Approaches	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8018	Reading Disabilities and the Assessment of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8019	The Assessment of Writing Skills and Writing Disabilities	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 9100	Research in Reading Education	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 9102	The Reading Specialist: Leadership Roles	3 S.H.
SPED 9500	Independent Study: Comprehensive Culminating Experience	3 S.H.
	Three Approved Electives	9 S.H.
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>36 S.H.</b>

**Certificate in Reading Specialist (Initial License Only)**

Initial teaching license and master's degree required  
(this program does not lead to a master's degree)

SPED 8300	Language Development, Differences and Disorders	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 7016	Understanding the Structure of the English Language	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 7017	The Psychology of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8017	Specialized Reading Approaches	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8018	Reading Disabilities and the Assessment of Reading	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 8019	The Assessment of Writing Skills and Writing Disabilities	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 9102	The Reading Specialist: Leadership Roles	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 9101	Practicum: Reading Specialist	3 S.H.
SPED/ READ 9104	Reading Specialist Practicum Seminar	3 S.H.
	<b>Total Credits</b>	<b>27 S.H.</b>

**Library Services: The Amelia V. Gallucci-Cirio Library**

The Library is located in the Hammond Building and provides daily services.

**Web Site**

The Fitchburg State Library maintains a home page ([www.fsc.edu/library](http://www.fsc.edu/library)) on the Internet to provide information about the library such as hours, online reference services, research inquiries, and access to the library's catalog.

**Online Resources**

The library maintains subscriptions to electronic journals and databases that include indexes and abstracts; access to thousands of electronic journals with full-text articles; reference titles; and relevant subject based web-sites. They are available from the library home page and from off campus.

**Materials Collection**

The library houses an extensive collection of materials to support course work and faculty needs, including approximately 238,000 books, 1,000 print periodical subscriptions, and the complete ERIC document collection (online and microfilm).

**Reference Services**

The reference desk provides service daily. You can also call the Reference Desk (978) 665-3223 or stop by the library for assistance.

In addition to our Reading Specialist track, we also offer a Master of Education, Special Education in Severe Disabilities, Moderate Disabilities and Guided Studies.

For more information on these programs,  
please email [gceadvisor@fsc.edu](mailto:gceadvisor@fsc.edu)  
or visit [www.fsc.edu/gce](http://www.fsc.edu/gce).