

Teaching Literacy (birth – grade 6): Focus on Classroom Teaching

- Broaden your preparation for developing reading, language arts, and literacy curriculum of your classroom
- Earn your master's degree while you teach
- Experience small classes, attentive faculty, and extensive advisement

The Master's Degree Program

This 45-credit program leads to Teaching Literacy certification (birth through grade 6). This program sequence is especially designed for individuals who are recent recipients of initial or provisional certification in Childhood Education or Early Childhood Education and who are seeking a master's degree in Literacy. This program is right for you if you are hoping to gain a deeper understanding of the reading and writing process, and to recognize when children are having difficulty with the normal process of learning to read and write.

Course work and field experience will give you the opportunity to develop a knowledge base for working with native English speakers, English language learners, and children with special needs from a broad range of cultural and socio-economic backgrounds. Particular emphasis is placed on helping you understand the links between assessment and instruction, develop a wide repertoire of teaching strategies, and learn to address the academic, intellectual and emotional strengths and needs of children in your classroom.

The program views reading, writing, and language development as integrated processes. Course work and field experiences are designed to help you to work both independently and collaboratively with other teachers, parents, and other professionals to meet the needs of diverse learners.

Certification

You will earn professional New York State certification in Teaching Literacy (birth through grade 6), preparing you to work as a classroom teacher with a focus on literacy or as a specialist in the area of reading, writing, and language arts. If you hold initial certification in New York State in teacher education, this master's degree will lead to permanent or professional certification in your first certification area.

Why Bank Street College?

Bank Street's graduate program has been hailed by the Commission on Teaching and America's Future as one of only three exemplary graduate programs in teacher preparation.

Bank Street has long had a reputation for providing outstanding programs in education. We offer small classes; an experienced, knowledgeable faculty dedicated to working with graduate students; and extensive supervision and advisement in educational settings.

We are committed to education that is based on sound developmental principles and on diverse opportunities for learning through experience. Further, we believe in profound possibilities for growth, development and change both in the graduate students who become part of the Bank Street community and in the children and families we serve.

212-875-4404

**Office of Graduate Admissions
Bank Street College Graduate School of Education
610 West 112th Street, New York, NY 10025
www.bankstreet.edu
e-mail: gradcourses@bankstreet.edu**

Bank Street®



Course Requirements

EDUC 500 or EDUC 800	Child Development or The Social Worlds of Childhood [Prerequisite: EDUC 500 or EDUC 501 or permission of instructor]	3 3
EDUC 505	Language Acquisition and Learning in a Linguistically Diverse Society	2
EDUC 536	Foundations: The Influence of Culture and Politics on Literacy Theory and Practice	2
EDUC 563 or EDUC 567 or EDUC 568	<i>1 or 2 of the following to be selected in consultation with advisor:</i> The Teaching of Reading, Writing, and Language Arts (Grades K–3) or Teaching Reading and Writing in the Content Areas for Elementary and Middle School Classrooms or Teaching Literacy in the Elementary Grades (Grades 2–6)	3 3 3
EDUC 564 or EDUC 565	Language, Literature and Emergent Literacy (A Focus on Grades N–3) or Children’s Literature in a Balanced Reading Program (A Focus on Grades 3–8)	3 3
EDUC 576	Writing in the Elementary Grades	2
EDUC 807	Communication Disorders in School Age Children [Prerequisite: EDUC 505; or EDUC 561 and EDUC 870]	2
EDUC 808	The Study of Children in Diverse and Inclusive Educational Settings through Observation and Recording [Prerequisite: EDUC 500 or EDUC 800 or permission of the instructor]	3
EDUC 860	Reading and Writing Problems of Children and Youth with Special Needs [Prerequisites: EDUC 505; EDUC 563 or EDUC 567 or EDUC 568]	3
EDUC 862	Formal Testing: Observation and Assessment [Prerequisite: EDUC 860]	3
EDUC 867	The Teacher’s Role in the Development of Reading Comprehension: Strategic Teaching (Grades K–6) [Prerequisite: EDUC 563 or EDUC 567 or EDUC 568 or permission of the instructor]	1
EDUC 868	Current Topics in Reading and Writing Difficulties in Multicultural Classrooms: Approaches to Decoding [Prerequisite: EDUC 860]	2
EDUC 871	Writing Case/Progress Reports [Corequisite: EDUC 941 or EDUC 942]	1
	Electives as needed to complete the program	0-3
EDUC 941	Teaching Literacy Supervised Fieldwork/Student Teaching/Advisement (2 semesters, concurrent with EDUC 871) [Pre- or corequisite: EDUC 860]	12
	Integrative Master’s Project	0
	Total	45

Supervised Fieldwork/Student Teaching/Advisement

During one academic year, while you take courses, you will gain teaching experience and intensive advisory support through supervised fieldwork/advisement. Fieldwork will include experiences designing and implementing individual, small group, and whole class instruction. Classroom teachers may use their own classroom as their primary fieldwork site, but this experience must be supplemented with additional supervised instructional experience under the supervision of a reading or literacy specialist that documents their competency working with a broader range of children within the certification category.

Throughout your year of supervised fieldwork/advisement, your advisor will visit you in your setting each month. You will meet individually twice a month with your Bank Street advisor, and you will gather with a small, supportive peer group once a week throughout the fall and spring terms. The year of supervision and advisement is central to your professional growth and development as you become a successful educator.

Integrative Master’s Project

Before graduating, you will complete an independent study (master’s thesis), mentored directed essay, seminar-based master’s project, or portfolio. Your choice will depend on your own goals and learning style. This project allows you to pursue an area of particular interest to you, or to weave together the threads and understandings of your Bank Street graduate experience.

Admissions Requirements

Applicants to the Literacy program who seek certification as reading specialists in Teaching Literacy must have initial certification in teaching.

Call the Offices of Graduate Admissions (212-875-4404) and Financial Aid (212-875-4408) for more information.