

Application Instructions: MA in Language and Literacy

Program Description

The Master of Arts in Language and Literacy is designed for the administrator, the classroom teacher, and the specialist teacher of language and literacy for all types of children, youth, and adults. The program includes required courses in Professional Education and selected courses in language and literacy.

This degree:

- prepares teachers to work with students with reading difficulties.
- prepares teachers for language and literacy leadership roles at school and district levels.
- offers graduate students opportunity to work with people with reading difficulties in a clinical setting.
- encourages graduate students to gain new insights into current research in the field of language and literacy.

Sacramento State's Master of Arts in Language and Literacy is a 30-unit graduate program designed for administrators, classroom teachers, or specialist teachers of language and literacy for pre-kindergarten through adults. You will receive field experience and a venue to research your own literacy, as well as find answers to many of the literacy questions that plague all effective reading teachers. Coursework includes clinical experience with extreme reading difficulties.

As a graduate student in the Language and Literacy Masters program, you will:

- Develop research-based skills and knowledge related to the teaching of reading and writing to learners of diverse backgrounds
- Apply knowledge about the role of academic language, motivation, background knowledge, concept information and vocabulary development in reading and writing
- Use initial and ongoing assessment as the basis of reading instruction
- Demonstrate proficiency in understanding literacy-related research
- Understand the context for global literacy discourse as we examine multi-literacies to enhance learning
- Know how to apply literacy strategies to instruction, to assess learning, and to share this knowledge with practitioners

Minimum Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student requires:

- a baccalaureate degree;
- a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 units attempted;

Applicants who have deficiencies in admission requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be admitted with conditionally classified graduate status. Any deficiencies will be noted on a written response to the student's admission application.

Admission Procedures

Prospective graduate students must submit the following:

- Resume: Please include current and past employment or relevant professional activities related to work with children and/or adults in the area of education and/or literacy.
- Personal Statement: A personal statement of 2 pages which addresses why the applicant wants to enter this Masters program in Language and Literacy and which shares 3-4 personal qualities or attributes which highlight candidate's educational goals in pursuit of a Masters Degree in Language and Literacy.
- An essay: Please articulate your reasons for applying for the Master's in Language and Literacy at CSUS and your interest in using this degree for your career or involvement in the community. Include a specific important issue in literacy (reading or language arts with adults, adolescents, or children) and why
- Optional: a valid Teaching Credential or advisor or Department approval for waiving this requirement;
- Optional: GRE scores
- Two letters of recommendation from people who are not related and who have knowledge of work you have done as a student and/or colleague.
- One set of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, *other than Sacramento State*; official electronic transcripts sent directly from colleges/universities to gradtranscripts@csus.edu or sealed official hard copy transcripts sent to:

Office of Graduate Studies
California State University, Sacramento
Riverfront Center, Room 215, MS 6112
6000 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95819

Applicants who have deficiencies in admission requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be admitted with conditionally classified graduate status. Any deficiencies will be noted on a written response to the student's admission application.

Documents Page in Quadrant IV

Required:

- Resume: Please include teaching or relevant teaching experiences
- Personal Statement:
- An essay: Please articulate your reasons for applying for the Master's in Language and Literacy at CSUS and your interest in using this degree for your career or involvement in the community. Include a specific important issue in literacy (reading or language arts with adults, adolescents, or children) and why

Optional:

GRE scores
A valid California Teaching Credential

Letter of Recommendations Page in Quadrant IV

Directions: Two letters of recommendation are required from people for whom you worked, but no family members, please, a resume, a two page personal statement, and an essay