



## Graduate Certificate in Literacy

The Curriculum and Instruction department offers the graduate certificate in Literacy. The graduate certificate in Literacy provides graduate level studies in literacy for educators who wish to a) advance their knowledge and skills of teaching literacy in the classroom, and b) integrate literacy into all content areas. It provides advanced study for teachers and educators seeking lead positions in buildings where literacy is a focus for federal legislation and state accreditation.

### Certificate Requirements:

To meet the varied needs of elementary and secondary teachers, two strands are provided: (1) early childhood/elementary, and (2) middle level/secondary. In each strand, students must take 15 hours of coursework; 9 hours of required coursework and 6 hours of electives. No more than 5 hours can be included that are graded S/U.

#### *Early Childhood/Elementary Strand:*

Required courses (9 hours)

- CI 705 (3) Knowledge and Beliefs about Reading
- CI 714 (3) Reading Instruction and Assessment
- CI 734 (3) Literature-Based Reading Programs

#### *Middle Level/Secondary Strand:*

Required courses (9 hours)

- CI 705 (3) Knowledge and Beliefs about Reading
- CI 615 (3) Learning and Reading Strategies
- CI 714 (3) Reading Instruction and Assessment

*Electives for both strands:* (6 hours) to be chosen in consultation with program coordinator

#### Completion process:

1. Students who are already admitted to an appropriate Graduate category and who are interested in pursuing a graduate certificate must declare their intent to do so by filling out the online Declaration of Intent to Pursue a Graduate Certificate form at [www.wichita.edu/GrCertIntent](http://www.wichita.edu/GrCertIntent)
2. Graduate School staff will then verify eligibility for the certificate with that program area, and add the appropriate codes to the student record to indicate their intent to pursue the certificate.
3. In the semester the certificate requirements are met students must:
  - Prepare (with graduate advisor) and submit (to the Graduate School) a Plan of Study (for the certificate).
  - Submit an Application for Graduate Certificate, along with the \$15.00 filing fee, online through the Graduation Links channel in the *myWSU* portal, no later than the 20<sup>th</sup> day of classes for the fall or spring semester or the 10<sup>th</sup> day of classes for the summer semester.

Note:

- A cumulative grade point average of 3.000 must be maintained for all courses comprising the certificate program with no grades lower than that which generate 2.0 grade points.
- Substitutions and transfer work are generally not allowed for graduate certificates.

### **Admission Requirements:**

Students seeking this graduate certificate program must be admitted to the Graduate School in either degree bound status, or non-degree Category A status. International students will not be issued an I-20 for pursuing a certificate program only. They may obtain a certificate only while concurrently pursuing a graduate degree. Students who have a previous graduate admission status should contact the Graduate School to determine if they need to apply for admission to an appropriate status, or simply need to reactivate their enrollment file, and declare their intent to pursue a graduate certificate.

Degree Admission – The student must have earned a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution or a recognized institution in another country whose requirements for the bachelor's degree are substantially equivalent to an American four-year bachelor's degree. The student must also have a grade point average of at least 2.750 based upon the last 60 hours of course work (or nearest semester or term break to this), including any post-bachelor's graduate work, and no more than 9 hours of background deficiencies in the desired field. Some programs may require a higher minimum grade point average, as well as additional supporting materials. Visit [www.wichita.edu/gradprograms](http://www.wichita.edu/gradprograms) for details on any departmental requirements.

Non-Degree, Category A – Students who already possess a graduate degree and who do not wish to pursue a second degree, or who wish to only pursue a graduate certificate should apply for non-degree, Category A admission. Admission to this category requires the applicant to either hold a graduate degree from a regionally accredited institution or recognized institution in another country, OR if the applicant does not hold a graduate degree, he or she must meet the same requirements as if they were applying for a degree program.

Details on how to apply for admission can be found online:

Domestic Applicants: [www.wichita.edu/grdoappinfo](http://www.wichita.edu/grdoappinfo)

International Applicants: [www.wichita.edu/grinappinfo](http://www.wichita.edu/grinappinfo)

**NOTE:** When applying for admission please indicate in the Additional Information field that you are interested in pursuing this specific certificate, so your file can be coded appropriately.

Certificate programs are not eligible for Title IV (federal financial aid) funding unless the certificate is part of the degree program you are pursuing or the certificate has been specified as a Gainful Employment (aid eligible) program. This certificate has not been specified as a Gainful Employment program.

### **For more information:**

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**Apply On-Line to Graduate School:** [www.wichita.edu/apply](http://www.wichita.edu/apply)