

MEd – Curriculum & Instruction

Area of Emphasis: Literacy

Educators will strengthen their knowledge, instructional skills and abilities for effective teaching of reading, the development of reading programs and literacy coaching at the elementary and secondary school levels. This area of emphasis also prepares individuals for literacy work in community colleges, industry, adult education programs, commercial education centers and private practice.

The M.Ed. in C&I with a literacy area of emphasis does not lead to a reading specialist endorsement by the VDOE. In order to be endorsed as a reading specialist, a candidate must be accepted into the [M.Ed. in Reading Education](#) program which is a separate, 30-hour graduate degree program.

All Curriculum & Instruction MEd students are required to take five classes in the Curriculum & Instruction (C&I) core (15 hours) and five classes in an area of emphasis. The C&I core classes consists of four pillars—instruction, curriculum, assessment, and diversity. Students must successfully pass a comprehensive exam which is embedded in a culminating C&I course (EDIS 6880).



SCHOOL of EDUCATION
and HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Course Descriptions

Required Courses:

EDIS 7700: Reading Foundations for Diverse Learners

Reading comprehension requires the development of many subcomponent skills. This course will cover the fundamentals of reading development from emergent literacy through adolescent readers. Particular attention will be drawn toward understanding reading development theory, historical context of reading development and policy, as well as how federal policy impacts reading assessment and instruction.

EDIS 7710: Reading in the Content Area

Familiarizes teachers with literacy instruction linked to content subjects, with an emphasis on how teachers in the upper elem., middle, & secondary grades can facilitate comprehension of nonfiction sources. Topics include practical assessments, evidence-based instruction in technical vocabulary & comprehension, affective and multicultural issues, writing in content areas, & technology.

EDIS 5270 Teaching Reading and Writing for ELLs

This course is designed for educators of children who are learning English as a second language. Theory is grounded in researched practices for teaching reading with an understanding of the challenges facing non-English native speakers.

Elective Courses- Select Two with Advisor:

EDIS 7720: Understanding the Code: Phonics, Phonological Awareness and Orthography

Understanding the Code provides students with a deep understanding of the code and why building this knowledge across a child's reading development is crucial. Students will learn how phoneme awareness and phonics lead to automatic word recognition, why we spell the way we do, and how the meaning layer of language supports decoding, spelling, and vocabulary.

EDIS 7310: Children's Literature

This course focuses on the many genres of children's literature created for the PreK-6th grade child and the place of literature in the language arts program. Students learn to assess literacy quality; they also learn a range of instructional techniques designed to support a literature curriculum.

EDIS 5410: Young Adult Literature

As an interpretive community, students read the latest and greatest young adult literature, practice reading as writers, learn to motivate reluctant readers by applying strategic reading techniques and critical frameworks, as well as develop individualized multi-genre and multicultural reading programs.

EDIS 5435: Writing Across the Curriculum

Designed to be a collaborative effort to explore writing as a process to discover how writing across the curriculum can enhance each discipline within our schools. Writing to learn using quick write strategies, learning logs, as well as, using technology will be considered. Focuses on ways to design and implement writing strategies across the curriculum within the framework of a writing workshop.

Recommended Plan of Study

Literacy Area of Emphasis

Recommended Plan (Coursework Only)	Offered	Requirement(s) Filled	Credits
Suggested plan: Please see your advisor for specifics. Students need to check their SIS Advising Reports to verify program completion progress.			
Semester 1 (Fall)			
EDIS 5025: Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	Fall, Spring, Summer	C&I Core: Instruction (required)	3
EDIS 7700: Reading Foundations for Diverse Learners	Fall, Spring, Summer	Focus: Literacy	3
Semester 2 (Spring)			
EDIS 6200: Principles of Curriculum Design	Fall, Spring, Summer	C&I Core: Curriculum	3
EDIS 5720: Reading and Writing for ELLs or EDIS 7710	Spring, Summer	Focus: Literacy	3
Semester 3 (Summer)			
EDIS 7710: Reading and Writing in the Content Areas Or EDIS 5720 (Spr, Sum)	Fall, Spring, Summer	Focus: Literacy	3
EDIS 5422: Cross-Cultural Education for Diverse Learners	Fall, Spring, Summer	C&I Core: Diversity	3
Semester 4 (Fall)			
EDIS 6220: Assessment of Curriculum: K-12	Fall, Spring	C&I Core: Assessment	3
Elective Choice #1	Fall, Spring, Summer	Focus: Literacy	3
Semester 5 (Spring)			
EDIS 6880: Master Comprehensive in Curriculum and Instruction	Fall, Spring, Summer	C&I Core: Culminating Class	3
Elective Choice #2	Fall	Focus: Literacy	3
Total Credits			30