



READING AND LANGUAGE ONLINE

Non-Licensure

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

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1) I teach outside of Massachusetts and hold a teaching license from another state, is this program for me?

YES

2) Is the program completely online, or do I need to visit the campus?

The entire 30 credit program can be completed online. However, some courses are also offered on-campus and students may choose to take a mix of online and on campus courses. Visitation to the campus is welcomed.

3) What is the format of a course?

To view the format of a course, go to <http://continuinged.uml.edu/online/tutorial/testdrive.htm> This provides a comprehensive review of a typical online course.

4) Do I need to be a certified teacher to enter this program?

Candidates who seek to enroll in this degree program should hold a teaching license in their own state in a field such as *Early Childhood, Elementary, English, Moderate Special Needs or Teacher of English Language Learners*. Teachers in private schools where licensure is not required may also be eligible if they work in one of the above areas of specialization.

5) I am a certified teacher and work outside of Massachusetts. Is this program recognized by my state for a Reading Specialist License?

Each state has its own licensure requirements. This is a non licensure program and we cannot endorse you for licensure as a result of completing this degree program. This means that we cannot sign any state forms that require us to attest that you have completed a licensure program.

6) I am currently licensed and teaching in Massachusetts, I do not want an additional license, may I apply for this degree?

YES, but please be clear that without completing the practicum requirements in a Massachusetts school you cannot be endorsed for licensure in Massachusetts at a later date. Once you have completed the degree we will not be able to supervise a practicum for you if you change your mind about licensure.

7) How long does it take to complete the degree requirements?

The program takes approximately 2 - 3 years to complete on a part-time basis, taking one or two courses per semester, fall, spring and summer. Candidates have a maximum of five years to complete the degree.

8) What is the cost of taking an online, three credit course? Is financial aid available?

Massachusetts residents and out-of-state residents pay the same fee. Financial aid maybe available to matriculated students enrolled in 6 or more credits per semester. You may contact the Financial Assistance Office at 978-934-4220 for more information. Please see the continuing education website for current pricing.

9) How do I register?

New students must register by completing the form found at http://continuinged.uml.edu/pdf/registration_form.pdf

and fax, mail or deliver it in person to the Registrar's office. Complete registration information is available online at <http://continuinged.uml.edu/general/registration.htm> Returning students register using the ISIS self-service system.

10) When is the application deadline?

We admit students for each semester, fall, spring, and summer. However, in order to be admitted for a particular semester, your materials should be received at least six weeks before that semester begins in order to allow for processing and for the Admissions Committee to act on your application. (see the GSE website-Admissions)

11) What is the application process?

Applications can be found online at: <http://www.uml.edu/grad>. Please note that the Graduate School of Education requires results from the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) to accompany the application packet. Also required for the application are three letters of recommendation, transcripts from all colleges and universities previously attended, and a one to two page statement of purpose.

12) How many credits can I transfer from another institution?

A total of 6 credits may be transferred into the program; however, this decision is made by a faculty committee only after you have been admitted to the program. Once you have been admitted, you may submit an academic petition to request transfer of credits from another accredited institution. You must fill out an academic petition and send a copy of the course syllabus or catalog description along with the official transcripts showing grade earned in the course. Courses taken as part of another degree program are not eligible for transfer. Courses not taken as part of another degree program must have been taken within five years to be eligible for transfer. The academic petition and the appropriate documentation should be sent to the Graduate School of Education, 61 Wilder Street, 5th Floor O'Leary Library, Lowell, MA 01854.

13) Can I take classes before applying officially to the program?

Students may take up to 2 classes (6 credits) prior to submitting a formal application for the program, but are **strongly advised** to first contact the Program Director, Dr. Vera Ossen (vera_ossen@uml.edu). Non-matriculated students run the risk of taking inappropriate courses or courses out-of-sequence which may hinder their progress through the degree.

14) Will I have an advisor?

Yes, your advisor will be assigned once you are admitted to the program. Prior to admission you should contact Dr. Ossen (vera_ossen@uml.edu).

15) Are all courses offered every semester?

No, this is why it is important to contact your advisor prior to registering for a course.

Please see the program of study sheet found at

http://www.uml.edu/gse/Programs_of_Study/Masters/Masters.html

16) Do I have to complete a practicum?

There is no practicum in this non-licensure program.

17) What courses will be offered in the coming semesters?

You can find our course schedule online at: http://www.uml.edu/gse/Course_Schedule.html