



The Instructional Leadership MEd program in literacy, language, and culture (LLC) provides students with high-quality advanced study in literacy education and is committed to understanding and fostering students' literacy and language development from early childhood through high school. The program is intended for students who wish to further their knowledge of (a) literacy learning and instruction in elementary and secondary school classrooms and alternative settings, (b) literacy research and its impact on practice, and (c) literacy leadership and policy issues. The LLC master's program is thoroughly grounded in the realities of classrooms and schools, especially in urban settings, while also providing a deep theoretical understanding of the field, which prepares graduates for leadership positions at the school or district level and provides a solid foundation for even more advanced work in the field.

PROGRAM FACULTY

With three members of the Reading Hall of Fame and dynamic professors who have established national reputations early in their careers, UIC boasts one of the top literacy education faculties in the country. LLC faculty are widely published, and their books and articles are among the most often cited in the field. They have been instrumental in setting federal, state, and local educational policies and have teaching backgrounds in elementary, middle, and secondary education. Students have the opportunity to obtain first-hand experience in cutting-edge literacy work taking place in preschool, school, or alternative settings. Close collaboration with Chicago Public Schools enables the program to draw from the expertise of UIC graduates teaching and leading in CPS schools with predominantly African American and Latino student populations.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

The Instructional Leadership MEd program in literacy, language, and culture requires a minimum of 39 semester hours of course work. Students work toward one of three strands. Strand A: Classroom Literacy Instruction; Strand B: Reading Specialist; or Strand C: Literacy Studies. A comprehensive examination covering all course work in literacy must be passed upon completion of the required courses.

CERTIFICATIONS

Students who successfully complete Strand B are eligible for the Type 10 Certificate, which provides ISBE Reading Specialist certification for those who teach in K-12 classroom settings. Students who successfully complete Strand A requirements are eligible for the State of Illinois Reading Endorsement. Please contact the Council for Teacher Education (CTE) at 312-355-0714 for a list of available endorsements and approvals.

SPECIAL PROGRAM FEATURE

UIC Reading Clinic: The UIC Reading Clinic offers high-quality, affordable, individual tutoring for struggling readers of all ages, provided by LLC MEd students preparing to be reading specialists. The clinic's efforts focus around three goals: outreach, research, and training. Aligned with the mission of the college, the clinic has developed a reading intervention model that is specifically focused on the needs of students of color in grades 4-12.

RESULTS

LLC graduates fulfill a number of roles in the Chicago area and nationwide. Some have remained in the classroom using their advanced skills to better prepare children for the literacy demands of society. Many have become reading specialists or coaches, working with teachers in their schools and districts. Others have opened their own private tutoring agencies or have gone into educational policy positions in local government. A number of graduates have matriculated in PhD programs, including at UIC. In all of these career paths, students have gone on to take leadership roles in professional organizations such as the Illinois Reading Council or International Reading Association; publish articles and book chapters; and make presentations at local, state, and national educational conferences on the teaching of literacy.

CONTACT INFO

Dr. William Teale	Ann Valenta
Program Coordinator	MEd Programs Advisor
312-996-4669	312-355-0575
wteale@uic.edu	agarci@uic.edu