University of Arizona

Graduate Certificate in Reading Instruction

I. Certificate name and description:

- Post-baccalaureate Certificate in Reading Instruction
- Managing department college, department, and oversight committee membership.
  College of Education
  Department of Language, Reading & Culture
  Curriculum Committee
- Affiliated with the Master’s program in Language, Reading & Culture, and the State of Arizona Endorsement in Reading.

II. Certificate Requirements –

- Certificate requirements: **No less than 15 credit hours.**

- The following courses are required: LRC 505, 507 (or 557), 537, 635, and 3 credit hours of supervised practice. The online managed practicum will permit students to submit videotape evidence of their tutoring practice in several modes for review and feedback. Online submission, FTP, or land shipment of videotape will meet this requirement.

- Students seeking an Arizona Reading Endorsement must possess a valid Arizona Teaching Certificate.

- All courses will be offered on line. Currently LRC 507 is offered as an online course using D2L.

- Student Learning Outcomes - **Students who complete the LRC Reading Certification Program are qualified Reading Specialists, able to assist literacy learners of all ages, pre-K to adult. Graduates will understand the nature of the struggling reader and how to offer quality instruction, be familiar with theoretical bases for reading instruction, and through guided practice, be experienced in tutoring struggling readers.**
  - Knowledge of the foundations of reading and writing processes and instruction.
  - Knowledge of a wide range of instructional practices, approaches, methods, and curriculum materials to support reading and writing instruction.
  - Knowledge of and capacity to use a variety of assessment tools and practices to plan effective instruction.
• Integration of knowledge and dispositions of instructional practices, curricular materials, assessment and evaluation to create a literate environment that fosters both reading and writing.

• View professional development as a career-long effort and responsibility.

III  Student Admittance/Advising/Completion –

• A Bachelors degree or equivalent is required for admission.

• A concurrent enrollment in a degree program is available.

• University credit is available but not required.

• A maximum of 6 credit hours from another recognized institution of higher learning may be accepted toward this certificate.

• An LRC staff person will coordinate online student advising with Drs. Anders and Wortman as responsible faculty.

• A student MAY transfer up to 12 credits earned in the LRC Certificate program toward an LRC degree program.

IV. Certificate and Student Outcomes

• Provide a plan and frequency for assessing the intended certificate outcomes both for students and the certificate.

Student progress in the LRC Certification program will be monitored by staff and faculty. The grading system and close contact with instructors will help to guide the student through the program. Follow-up contact will be maintained to determine professional advancement and direction. Individual courses will be taught using a course management system like D2L, which has built in tools for tracking student progress in each course. The Online advising system will help keep track of students progress through the certificate program.

V. Is there sufficient student demand for the certificate?

An estimated 20 to 40 students per year will wish to participate. On campus courses are usually filled in the Reading program.

• Will there be any collaboration with other departments or universities to maximize resources?  **Not at this time.**

• Program demand/need.

Reading instruction is a high priority in many communities that are struggling to bring their students’ literacy skills up to the mandated standards of NCLB. The LRC Certification program in Reading is based on the courses that make up the State of Arizona Reading Endorsement, which is based on the mandate of the legislature. These courses are also part of the LRC graduate program in Reading. Both the
Certificate and the endorsement are part of the teachers’ career ladder track to professional advancement.

VI. Expected Faculty and Resource Requirements

- List the name, rank, highest degree and estimate of level of involvement of all current faculty who will participate in the program.
  
  Patricia Anders, Ph.D. Professor and Department Head. Instructor LRC 505
  Robert Wortman, Ph.D. Associate Lecturer. Instructor LRC 507
  Yetta Goodman, Ph.D., Regents professor Emeritus. Instructor LRC 538
  David Yaden, Jr. Ph.D., Professor, LRC. Instructor LRC 537.

  Faculty will teach their respective courses or supervise adjunct instructors.

- Describe additional faculty needed for the first three years of the certificate.
  
  Adjunct instructors supported by tuition and fees may be required to meet the needs of this program.

- Give the present numbers of FTE students and FTE faculty in the department or unit in which the certificate is offered.

  There are approximately 40 students in LRC who take the Reading focus and about 20 of these get their State Reading Endorsement. LRC has at present 10 full-time tenured and tenure-eligible faculty members.

  The LRC Online Reading Certificate program is designed for distance learning students in remote areas in the state. The regular schedule face-to-face LRC Reading courses will continue to be offered in Tucson. Local students may opt to pay for the convenience of the online courses.

- Give the proposed numbers of FTE students and FTE faculty for the next three years in the department or unit in which the certificate is offered.

  We are predicting level values for students and, over the next few years, an increase in LRC faculty FTE.

VII. Submit a supporting letter from the college dean and department head verifying that the proposed certificate has received faculty approval through appropriate procedures and that the unit has the resources to support the certificate as proposed.

  Letter attached.